

US. POSTAGE
PAID
GLASTONBURY CITIZEN, INC.

P.O. BOX 373, GLASTONBURY, CT, 06033

POSTAL CUSTOMER
LOCAL

PRESORTED STANDARD



RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

Volume 47, Number 08

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

March 10, 2023



Hey Now, You're an All-Star... East Hampton sixth-graders Gianna LaFleur (left) and Mia DonAroma were voted as basketball All-Stars. It was the first time in five years that East Hampton has produced youth basketball players who competed in the state's All-Star game held on Monday, Feb. 20 in Woodbridge. Andy LeBlanc, the sixth grade head coach in East Hampton, said the duo was voted to the All-Star game by their teammates because "they consistently show passion for the game, work hard in practice and exemplify what it means to be a great teammate. It's an honor to coach them and watch them grow in their basketball journey."

EH Murder Victim's Family Gets Closure

By Jack Lakowsky

In a grave marked "Unknown" in Granby, Mass., rests the remains of Patricia Ann Tucker, an East Hampton woman murdered in 1978.

Her identity was undiscovered until this week.

Tucker was murdered by a gunshot to the head, according to Massachusetts police. Her husband, Gerald Coleman, did not report her disappearance and is a person of interest in the killing; however, police said, he died in prison in 1996, serving time for a separate rape charge.

Tucker, whose last name was listed as Coleman at the time of her death, was born in July 1950. She was 28 when she was murdered.

Officially, though, Tucker's killer has yet to be definitively identified.

Before her identification, Tucker was known as "Granby Girl," a nickname given to her by Massachusetts media at the time police found her body. Her remains were found in November 1978, "buried under leaves on a logging road" in Granby.

"While it's satisfying to finally know who 'Granby Girl' actually was, the investigation won't stop until we identify her killer and bring the family an additional measure of closure and justice," Massachusetts First Assistant District Attorney Steven E. Gagne said this week. "This investigation has spanned decades, and will continue until each and every possible lead is explored."

After the discovery of Tucker's remains, the Massachusetts office of the Chief Medical Examiner ruled that the cause of death was a bullet wound to the temple and the manner of death was homicide. The office estimated that she had been dead since about June of 1978 and that she was between 19 and 27 years old.

For 20 years, Tucker's grave marker was a wooden cross. Granby locals set up a fund in 1998 to give her a proper headstone, which reads "Unknown: In God's Care," - with the date of her burial.

Determining Tucker's identity, however, proved troublesome in the decades that followed, until recent advances in DNA technology opened new and promising avenues. About two years ago, Massachusetts authorities engaged the services of Othram, a private forensic laboratory based in Houston, Texas.

Othram obtained Tucker's DNA profile and, through forensic genetic genealogy, identified a woman in Maryland who was likely related to her. Police contacted that woman, who in turn led them to Tucker's adult son, Matthew Dale. Comparison of his DNA to Tucker's DNA resulted in a 100 percent parent/child match. Dale was just 5 years old when his mother disappeared.

Subsequent investigation revealed that Tucker was married to Gerald Coleman at the time of her death. The two were married in 1977 in Middletown, and lived along the eastern shore of Lake Pocotopaug in East Hampton at the time of her death.

Gerald Coleman never reported his wife missing, and died in a Massachusetts state prison in 1996.

During a press conference announcing the development in the case, Gagne read the following statement from Dale:

"First, I would like to say thank you to everyone in trying to identify my mother and wrapping your arms around her, especially the community of Granby. Thank you for never giving up."

See Family Gets Closure, page 33

'As Journalists, We Should Always Be Learning'

By Michael Sinkewicz

Growing up, Shruti Rajkumar wasn't sure what career to pursue or what major to commit to at school. But, she loved writing.

During her time at Bacon Academy High School in Colchester, Rajkumar ultimately landed on journalism, a decision influenced by the 2016 election and how the media covered and disseminated crucial information.

After graduating in 2018, Rajkumar embarked on a journey of advocacy and reporting, landing premier gigs and sharing impactful stories, often amplifying marginalized groups. Her career has included working for a number of outlets, including NPR. Currently, Rajkumar is a breaking news reporter for HuffPost (formerly known as The Huffington Post).

Her first significant learning experience came almost immediately after high school, when

she attended a two-week summer course with The School of The New York Times in New York City. Rajkumar received valuable insight from accomplished journalists and learned about travel journalism, and the accessibility of certain places.

From there, Rajkumar enrolled at Emerson College, where she would graduate in 2022 with a B.S. in journalism. She said her time at Emerson shaped her perspective and provided further direction on the type of work she wanted to investigate further.

Her sophomore year, Rajkumar began contributing to the school newspaper, The Berkeley Beacon. However, it became evident that the overall vision of the paper wasn't aligned with her own perspective. Certain topics and stories, such as those pertaining to students of color,

were not receiving proper recognition, she said.

"You can see which groups of people get the spotlight," Rajkumar said. "Some communities weren't getting the attention they deserved."

Her time with the newspaper concluded during her junior year, after a Black editor was "mistreated." The editor left the paper, and many other staff members "quit in solidarity," including Rajkumar.

"That flipped a switch," she recalled, adding that the problems within the news industry were becoming clear. "I was realizing how bad the culture in journalism can be. It made me angry and I wanted to fix it, but I didn't know how."

Her passion and commitment to advocacy, and its role in journalism, was solidified. She served as the vice president, and later as presi-

See As Journalists, page 33

Inside...

Portland
'Once Upon a Mattress' Comingpg 10

Hebron
11% Budget Increase Proposedpg 16

Colchester
Man Charged in Bolton Killingpg 24

East Hampton
B-Ball Falls to Wolcottpg 27

Andover
Andover's Own Radio Anchorpg 30

Regional
Obituariespgs 32-33



Mark Toledo



FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS



860-301-2339

Over 37 Years of Experience Working for You



View All Listings on MarkToledo.com



★★★★★
Look up my Zillow reviews and find out firsthand what my clients say about me.

Search online:
"Mark Toledo Realtor Zillow Reviews"



BHHS BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices | New England Properties

GLOCK DAY SALES EVENT

Saturday, March 11TH, 2023

9:00am-5:00pm



- MEET GLOCK FACTORY REP
- GLOCK ARMORERS ON SITE
- ZERO28 CUSTOM HOLSTER ON SITE
- DISTRIBUTOR ON SITE FOR SPECIAL ORDERS
- HOLOSUN FACTORY REP

ALL GLOCKS SOLD AT LOWEST PRICES OF THE YEAR!



- ENTER DRAWING TO WIN ONE OF 2 FREE GLOCKS
- GLOCK NIGHT SIGHTS INSTALLED FROM \$89.00
- FREE GLOCK SWAG
- FREE GLOCK RANGE KIT WITH EVERY GLOCK PISTOL PURCHASED (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)

STOREWIDE SAVINGS ON EVERYTHING!!!

VETERAN OWNED & OPERATED

860.788.3974 centralCTarms.com



CENTRAL
CONNECTICUT ARMS

- CT/MA/UT Permit Classes
- Advanced Training
- New & Used Guns
- Class II Dealer
- Manufacturer

"We AIM to please"

130 Marlborough Street, Portland, CT

More Than \$1M for School Mental Health Workers

By Jack Lakowsky

Last week the state announced \$1 million in aid to school mental health workers in the Middlesex area, about half of which is coming to local schools.

Portland schools are set to get about \$316,000, and the state tagged about \$238,000 for East Hampton schools.

The State Department of Education has awarded \$5 million from their American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to 20 school districts in Connecticut over three years for the purpose of hiring and maintaining school mental health workers (SMHW) for school years 2023-2025.

The money will be dispersed over the next three years. East Haddam schools also received a chunk of change, about \$271,000.

“For several years now, my colleagues and I have prioritized providing greater support for children’s mental health, especially since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said state Sen. Norm Needleman (D-33) said in a release. Needleman serves East Hampton and Portland.

“Last year, as part of comprehensive legislation that I supported to expand health services in schools, we directed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds – approved by Congress in 2021 – to help school districts hire and retain school mental health workers. Schools with a high rate of student use of mental health services and a high ratio of students to school mental health workers.”

The grants were awarded to districts that applied for the money and qualified. Ninety-two districts submitted proposals for the funding.

East Hampton Public Schools will use the funds for an additional school psychologist.

“This much-needed position will be funded at 100% for the first two years and 70% in year three, in accordance with the award parameters,” said East Hampton Superintendent of Schools Paul Smith.

The total three-year award for this position to East Hampton Schools is \$238,121. This position was funded this current school year through a different grant but was slated to be cut in the 2023-24 budget proposal by the superintendent. This grant now secures the position for an additional 3 years.

Portland schools superintendent Charles Britton told the *Rivereast* his district’s getting two payments of \$117,000 in two years, and then a third of \$70,000, for which, he said, he “couldn’t be more grateful.”

Britton said the money’s going toward hiring a full-time social worker for Portland Middle School. Right now, the town’s middle and high schools share a social worker. Needs are met, but the employee is in high demand and spread thin.

“Having that level of support, I can’t overstate how important it is,” said Britton. “What this helps us do is we now have social worker and psychologists and counselors available to

all schools.”

With resources both in-district and outside of it, Britton said Portland families and students have a robust and reliable mental health support network.

Administered by the Connecticut State Department of Education, the School Mental Health Workers Grant is funded by money the state received from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which was approved by Congress in 2021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is the first of three rounds of grants aimed at increasing the number of mental health workers in schools that are being administered by the state using ARPA funding. A second round – the School Mental Health Specialists Grant – will soon provide grants totaling \$15 million. A third grant program will provide \$8 million to summer camps and school-based summer programming for mental health support.

Awards for each district under this first round range between \$101,973 and \$324,000. Priority was given to districts with a high ratio of students to school mental health workers and a

high rate of student use of school mental health services.

Gov. Ned Lamont said, “Connecticut continues to provide critical resources to hire school mental health workers, which is especially important today because of the effects of the pandemic and social isolation on our children and teachers.

“These grants are an important step in our mission to ensure that all children and educators in our state have access to the mental health services they need to succeed and thrive,” he added.

Connecticut Education Commissioner Charlene M. Russell-Tucker said, “The pandemic affected Connecticut students not only academically but socially and emotionally as well, and we are committed helping schools provide important mental health services to their students, families, and staff.

“This investment will help our schools hire additional school counselors, social workers, and school psychologists, and we are proud to support this important work that address the non-academic barriers to learning.”

Renewable Scholarships Available

Residents of Andover, East Hampton, Hebron, Marlborough and Portland can apply for American Savings Foundation scholarships. These renewable scholarships can be used at a range of four-year colleges and universities, two-year colleges, and at accredited technical and vocational programs.

The foundation is accepting applications from high school seniors, college students and nontraditional adult students who will be enrolled for the 2023-24 academic year. Students can apply online at www.asfdn.org, and applications are due March 31. The website also has links to other area scholarship programs as well

as resources for learning about financial aid.

Scholarships are awarded primarily based on financial need, with consideration given to academic performance, community involvement, and other indications of a strong desire to achieve goals through education. Current high school seniors must be ranked in the top third of their graduating class or have a 2.5 GPA or higher. Current college students must be maintaining a 2.5 GPA or higher.

For more information and to apply, students and parents can visit www.asfdn.org or call the foundation at 860-827-2556.

Scholarships Available for Area Students

Carl Guild and Associates has announced its community scholarship program for local high school seniors entering college in the fall.

There are six \$1,000 scholarships given, one each in East Hampton, Portland, Colchester, East Haddam, Glastonbury and the RHAM district. There are no restrictions or qualifications; all resident seniors can apply.

Deadline for applications is April 1. Visit www.carlguild.com/scholarship for an application, ask your school’s guidance counselor for one.

College Fair

Xavier and Mercy high schools will hold a special College Fair Wednesday, April 5, from 6-7:30 p.m., at Xavier, located at 181 Randolph Rd.

There will be over 100 college representatives in attendance for the night, and Xavier and Mercy encourage students in grades 9-11 from all over the state to attend.

From the State Senator’s Desk....

The high cost of energy in Connecticut is something that’s on everyone’s minds these days, and for good reason. Energy bills are higher than ever, and folks are frustrated about the quality of the service they’re receiving in exchange for those costs.

That’s why I’m happy to tell you about Senate Bill 7, which seeks to directly find cost reductions and savings, in both the short- and long-term, for the people of Connecticut. It gets rid of policies that are consumer-unfriendly, encourages and endorses steps toward financial benefits for many residents and will strengthen consumers’ ability to fight back against some utilities’ actions.

Most importantly, Senate Bill 7 goes after the utility companies that continue to see record levels of profit as we pay more this winter. If enacted, it would prevent utilities from passing the costs of lobbying, charitable contributions and attending rate hearings onto consumers. For too long, this has been a loophole that allows utilities to take advantage of their customers. I’m looking forward to closing it.

Additionally, this bill seeks to draw more attention to executive and officer pay at utility companies, and seeks to claw back money for residents. If standard service rates were to increase by 10% or more with a rate change, the state would request an amount equal to officer and executive pay as a bill credit for customers.

Another feature of the legislation involves emphasizing the decoupling of electric and gas sales and company revenue. This disincentivizes companies from trying to increase sales for increased profits; such policies negatively impact consumers. The bill further would allow the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority the ability to review economic conditions, like inflation and consumer interest, in implementing a rate hike.

Finally, and perhaps most interesting, is a provision that would provide increased legal funding for residential and small business groups to contest proposed rate increases. Groups that can demonstrate financial hardship would be eligible to utilize up to \$200,000 in compensation to hire attorneys and expert witnesses to participate in proposed rate hearings. This would sharply even the playing field for consumers to fight back against rate increases, providing increased support for them to contest proposals and hopefully help reduce costs for consumers.

My colleagues on the Energy and Technology Committee know our state’s energy situation needs improvement. We’re committed to fighting for this bill for years to come in support of our constituents.

**State Sen. Norm Needleman
D-33rd District**

Note: The 33rd District includes the Rivereast towns of Colchester, East Hampton and Portland.

LIKE US ON Facebook 
RivereastNewsBulletin

HUGE WINTER SALE!!!


Parts & Service
451 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, CT
just off rt 2
860-603-2368

Fornarelli's
LUNCH – HAPPY HOUR
DINNER SPECIALS – DRINK SPECIALS
DOWNSTAIRS LOUNGE

Fresh Fish Fridays for Lent – Lunch & Dinner 

LIVE MUSIC
in the downstairs lounge
Friday, 3/10, 8-11PM
“Barstool Diplomats”

ST. PATRICK’S DAY PARTY
Friday, March 17th 

— Gift Cards Available —
Live Music Thurs. Fri. & Sat.
Fornarelli's 112 Halls Hill Road, Colchester
860-531-9160
www.fornarellis.com

A&R ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC
Radon Specialists since 1995

 Radon Mitigation & Testing
Specializing in Air & Water Systems

Licensed, Certified & Insured **FREE QUOTES**

www.arenvironmental.com

Serving CT & MA **860-742-6767**

GLASTONBURY ANIMAL HOSPITAL
of MARLBOROUGH

NOW OPEN!

Always Accepting New Patients & Clients!

21 South Main Street
Marlborough, CT 06447
860-295-3939
Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-3pm

From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

It's basically a silly popularity contest, but it was pretty cool to see two *Rivereast* pizza joints make the Top Sixteen in WFSB-Channel 3's March Madness-themed "Pizza Play-offs."

Of all the pizza places across the state, WFSB viewers selected two from *Rivereast* land as among the 16 best: Rossini's in East Hampton and Colchester Pizza in, well, Colchester. In fact, the two squared off this past Monday, to see who would advance in the tournament.

Folks had all day Monday to cast their votes – and in the end, Rossini's won, and will move on to the Top Eight.

Congrats to Rossini's for advancing to the final eight – and really, congrats to both eateries for having made it this far. You obviously have some loyal customers!

Do you live in East Hampton or Portland and are seeking work? If so, this might be right up your alley.

The Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce – which includes East Hampton and Portland – is again offering the "Professional Training & Development Program." The free program starts later this month.

The Middlesex County Professional Training & Development Program was developed and dedicated to those persons lacking office skills training, with the objective of training participants with new skills that are marketable in today's demanding labor market including the latest in technology, soft skills assessment, and personal growth to each participant in our program while giving them the tools to obtain employment.

A Job Coach is provided for participants and provides case management services to

participants who are at high risk, are experiencing hardships, or have been discharged from employment due to social problems.

This workforce development program has trained over 2,000 people since its inception in 1986 and has received many awards along the way, including a Presidential Citation and The Governor's Laurel Award.

Classes offered include: Career and Personal Coaching; Grant-Writing/Access to Funding; Strategic Leadership/Managing Yourself and Leading Others; Social Media/Personal and Business Adaption; Entrepreneurial Success/Taking Your Idea Over the Finish Line; and Google Suite (Docs, Slides, Sheets, etc.)

A virtual orientation session will take place for all interested participants and instructors on Thursday, March 30, from 5:30-6:30 p.m., via Zoom. For more information, visit www.middlesexchamber.com and click on "For Business" tab.

To schedule a pre-course appointment, or for more information, please contact Lorenzo Marshall at 860-347-6924 or lorenzo@middlesexchamber.com.

Don't forget to move those clocks ahead before you go to bed Saturday night! Yes, daylight saving time is upon us. Is it a gimmick? Sure, but it's a great gimmick. I'd gladly trade the hour of daylight in the morning for an extra hour of daylight at night. I don't know about you, but I find driving home from work in the dark to be rather.....dreary.

One of the best things George W. Bush did as president was extend daylight saving time so that it runs now from mid-March through mid-November, as opposed to mid-April through mid-October. But I'm greedy; I want

Editor's Desk continued on page 5



Cops and the Cubs... East Hampton's Cub Scout Pack 57 was visited by East Hampton Police officers Mateusz Sokolowski and Vincent Garofalo at the February pack meeting. The scouts learned about the duties of a police officer, the equipment they carry with them, and were reminded about how to help keep themselves safe. The pack presented the East Hampton Police Department with goodie bags as a "thank you" for their service to the community.

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

Another Mayoral Candidate

To the Editor:

Hartford has another new candidate for mayor. His plans to reduce crime are the same old worthless ones that have been ineffective in the past. He wants to add another 150 police officers in the city. Police officers investigate and arrest those that have committed crimes. They may postpone a crime but prevent very few crimes. If a person is about to commit a crime and sees a police officer in the area he will just wait until that officer leaves.

Police officers do a good job but lately their work is compromised by liberal politicians and judges. A police officer can now be arrested for attempting to prevent a crime.

If a person is in the act of committing a crime and is resisting arrest that should deprive that individual of all his rights! He will not likely to get hurt if he does as he is told. It's that simple. If he is resisting arrest why should a police officer be punished for trying to stop a criminal?

Frank Blume – Colchester

It Seems So Distant

To the Editor:

The Earth is white. Trees, and in particular the spruces, accent the winter landscape like exclamation points. A light snow is falling and spring seems so distant.

In a nearby vine, the male house finch is warbling away in search of a mate. The male wren proclaimed winter to be over with his treetop wandering song. The spring brain in the local population of many avian species is turning into a spring frame of mind, seeking out mates. And

snow is lightly falling.

Just a few days ago, when I found evidence of spring soil by the worm castings, robins piped forth proclaiming the presence of subterranean meals and yes, the same urge to pair up for the oncoming nesting season.

Bluebirds have made their appearance at the suet. The males are a more brilliant blue against the pure white background. Cardinals are now brighter and more colorfully feathered.

Nature is gearing up for the coming of spring in the bird world. They know without the aid of either calendar or smart phone that a seasonal change is coming. Their ancient clock, the sun, is consistent enough to mark the days with increasing light and more angular intensity.

Once the peepers start their rusty-voiced croaking, I too will get into the spirit of spring. But, the birds are doing a very fine job of priming me for that not-to-distant day. Yet, on a day such as today, it seems so distant.

Alison Walck – East Hampton

Options for Marlborough

To the Editor:

For the last 25 years, I have been honored to have served Marlborough in various capacities including time on the Board of Education, Board of Assessment Appeals, and for the last 12 years, as a member of the Board of Finance. In addition to elected office, I have found fulfillment from service on the Marlborough PTO back in the 90s and more recently as President of the Executive Board of the Florence Lord Senior Housing Facility and as a long-time member and officer of the Marlborough Lions Club.

Bulletin Board

I recently had my seasonal bout with the February stomach bug and spent a most unpleasant night on the bathroom floor. If I sound matter-of-fact about it now, I wasn't at the time. Sunday morning, as I weakly searched in the back of the refrigerator for ginger ale, my wife (keeping a safe distance) asked if I was feeling any better.

"Better than a dead possum," I said. "But less sprightly than a live one."

"You were pretty sick," she observed. "I wish you would've let me help you. It was awful listening to you retch. All I heard all night was, 'Oh, God,' 'Oh, God,' 'Oh, God.'"

"Sorry if I kept you up," I replied with a most unapologetic belch.

"Did He answer?" she said.

"Did who answer?"

"God. Did He answer your pathetic pleas for divine intervention?"

"If He did, He sure took His sweet time about it," I said. "For a while there, I thought I was going to die. Not that I'm not grateful to be on the road to recovery," I added hastily. "I mean, I realize He's pretty busy these days. What with Ukraine and the murder rate in Chicago and everybody hating everybody who doesn't agree with them on what the country's favorite breakfast cereal should be and all."

"Maybe He didn't recognize your number."

"What, like there's caller ID on pleas to Heaven?"

"Well, let's be honest. You usually don't call on Him unless you're facing some petty personal catastrophe."

"That's not true. I'm not that self-absorbed. Furthermore, none of my personal catastrophes are petty."

"Who did you call when the car wouldn't start a couple of weeks ago?"

"Triple A?"

"Before that."

"I don't remember."

"I distinctly remember that you said, 'C'mon, God. Not today. Give me a break,'" followed by, 'Start, you blankety-blank.'"

"Just to be clear, that 'blankety-blank' remark was a reference to the damn car. I don't want there to be any confusion about that. I've experienced enough pestilence for the time being. And, by the way, over the past year I have repeatedly called on God to smite down that guy Jason who calls three times a day trying to sell us some phony solar energy plan. So, He should be quite familiar with my caller ID."

"You realize this 'Jason' character is just a computer-generated robocall?"

"I don't care. There's a special place in Hell for that persistent little SOB and the sooner he takes up residence, the better."

"Well, obviously you're feeling better if you're back to consigning the multitudes who annoy you to the various levels of Hell. That's a good thing, I guess, though I'm not sure it's particularly healthy from a spiritual point of view."

"Thank you. You know, as I was lying there on the floor staring at the bottom of the toilet and wondering, 'Why me?' and getting no answer, I had sort of a revelation."

"That you should maybe turn the light on before using the bathroom in the middle of the night?"

"No. Actually, it occurred to me that if God is all-inclusive, perhaps I wasn't referring to Him by the proper pronoun. Maybe I should be referring to Him as 'They' instead of 'He' and 'Them' instead of 'Him.' I mean, maybe They was annoyed with me. Is that right? They was annoyed? It doesn't sound very grammatical."

"I doubt if God particularly cares about pronouns," replied my wife. "But personally, I've always been partial to 'She.'"

Go figure.

Jim Hallas

Rivereast Hours of Operation

The offices of the *Rivereast News Bulletin* and *Glastonbury Citizen*, located at 87 Nutmeg Lane, Glastonbury, are open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and can be reached at 860-633-4691. The *Rivereast* can be reached any time via email at bulletin@glcitizen.com.

RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

Published Every Friday by The Glastonbury Citizen

87 Nutmeg Lane • Glastonbury, CT 06033

Telephone (860) 633-4691 • Fax: (860) 657-3258

Email: bulletin@glcitizen.com

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 373 • Glastonbury, CT 06033

Email classified line ads to nancy@glcitizen.com.

Email Legal Notices to legals@glcitizen.com

and call 860-633-4691 to pay with MC or VISA.

Kevin and Pat Rarey, Publishers

Art Department

Josh Howard—Office Manager, Sports Editor

Jeanne Giovann, Julie Kristoff

Mike Thompson, Editor

and Julie Misuraca

Staff Reporters:

Advertising Representatives:

Jack Lakowsky—East Hampton, Portland & Marlborough

Jason Baran, ext. 231 • jason@glcitizen.com

Michael Sinkewicz—Colchester, Hebron & Andover

Lisa Sniotka, ext. 232 • lisa@glcitizen.com

PUBLISHER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL ANY ADVERTISEMENT AT ANY TIME

Standard Mail – Postage Permit #1092 at Hartford, CT • Glastonbury Citizen (USPS-219-360)

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

Letter Writers: Letters must be submitted by Tuesdays noon. Email is preferred; send to bulletin@glcitizen.com. Letters must be 300 words or less. All letters must be signed, and include the writer's town of residence and daytime contact phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are subject to editing for grammar, spelling and clarity. Writers are reminded to be civil; 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.

(860) 633-4691 — bulletin@glcitizen.com

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

There are a lot of ways we can serve our community and I am pleased to announce that I and others are embarking on a new avenue, which is the creation of the Marlborough Independent Party Slate Committee (IPSC). The IPSC will afford people a third option when it comes time to elect candidates to Town offices in November.

I, and others who plan to run on this ticket, will be dedicated to providing Marlborough with totally transparent representation, while encouraging the public to be informed and involved.

To that end, the IPSC has been running a survey to gauge the importance of various topics in the eyes of our voters. I hope you took the time to complete the survey, which only takes a few minutes. The survey, which will be wrapping up soon, is on the Independent Party Slate Committee of Marlborough Facebook page and on our web site at MarliParty.com.

I thank you again for your past support and I look forward to your continued trust as a candidate on this November's ballot.

Ken Hjulstrom – Marlborough

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

Retribution Fantasy?

To the Editor:

Trump continues with his lies at CPAC. He is either self-deluded, has a mental disorder or is purposely and knowingly pushing insurrectionist themes. Like other would-be autocrats he has attacked the courts, the voting system, the press, and all who disagree with his outlandish rants.

He claims that he will run for office even if he is indicted. The man is a clear and present danger to our democratic society.

Autocracy is on the rise: Belarus, Florida, and Netanyahu's Israel. Destroy the press and the courts, and democracy will fail.

Ed Gyllenhammer – Portland

Current News Preferred

To the Editor:

Typically, when Mr. Lakowsky publishes his incredibly biased articles, I shake my head and move on. However, I cannot let last week's article about the East Hampton BOE budget slide without clarifying some important information. Almost the entire article was dedicated to last year's budget meeting. What good does copying and pasting last year's budget article do to keep the members of the community informed on current events? Since Mr. Lakowsky failed to perform his standard job duty, let me provide my free service to his editor by informing the public about what really happened: The Board of Education voted to increase funding for sup-

plies, part-time positions, and supported the continuity of the biking club at the high school (which is a far-reaching program).

The Board of Education laboriously reviews the proposed budget and takes into consideration multiple factors. Is \$4K in supplies any match for the \$25K motioned last year? Of course not! As an advocate for education, I'm not proud of that. I wish we could magically provide funding for every single request made by every administrator in the district. I also wish it wouldn't impact taxpayers, but back down to Earth I come... The hard truth is that inflation is out of control (which also impacts municipal budgets), and state mandates are disgustingly out of control. The task of complying with unfunded (or underfunded) mandates while simultaneously meeting the educational programming needs of the district's learners is high on every BOE's list of priorities. Seeing neighboring districts, like Colchester, coming in at a 10% increase makes it clear that East Hampton is not an outlier when it comes to the challenges that face education budgets.

Maybe Mr. Lakowsky can write a new (not copy/pasted) article about the unsustainable mandates every district is suffering from.

Christina Tamaro-Dzagan – East Hampton

Note: Tamaro-Dzagan is chairperson of the East Hampton Board of Education, but said she is writing "as an individual advocate for education."

Fox Knew

To the Editor:

Post-election in November 2020, text from Ingram to Carlson and Hannity: "Sydney Powell is a bit nuts, sorry, but she is." Carlson told his producer, Alex Pfeiffer, "Sydney Powell is lying. I did not believe it for one second." Still, they continued to promote the big lies of the MAGA republicans.

Now, Dominion is suing Fox for \$1.6B over the lies that Fox told viewers about Dominion voting systems. As part of the discovery process, a trove of emails, texts and deposition transcripts were entered into the courts' records, and some have been released to the public.

In 2020, after Fox became the first network to call Arizona for Biden, Trump supporters began turning to networks farther on the right like OAN and Newsmax. Dominion claims that Fox News began a race to calm the former president's fan base.

"These people [Giuliani, Powell] should be watched, if skeptically," Murdoch wrote, according to the brief. "Trump will concede eventually, and we should concentrate on Georgia, helping any way we can. We don't want to antagonize Trump further, but Giuliani taken with a large grain of salt. Everything at stake here." "This Dominion sh__ is going to give me a

f__ing aneurysm — as many times as I've told Laura it's BS, she sees sh__ posters and trump tweeting about it," Tommy Firth said.

"They [Fox executives] saw Fox as insufficiently supportive of Trump, because Fox was the first network to declare that Trump lost Arizona," the lawsuit by Dominion alleged. "So, Fox set out to lure viewers back — including Trump himself — by intentionally and falsely blaming Dominion for Trump's loss for rigging the election (with their voting machines)."

Fox have always been an arm to the Republican Party. They put Trump and the almighty dollar above telling their audience the truth and now we have the proof.

Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

Do the Right Thing

To the Editor:

I write to join my fellow East Hampton citizens in support of the East Hampton Ambulance Association's continued struggle with the Town Council for necessary resources to continue serving our town. I refer to Jack Lakowsky's article in the March 3 edition of the *News Bulletin* which outlines the most recent exchange of the association and the council in a long string of attempts to deal with a serious public safety issue. I am distressed not only by the council's months-long foot-dragging in solving a relatively straight-forward issue, but particularly by the contentious nature of the discussions. There is no place for this behavior in our town, and especially at the table of our town councilors.

What is factual is that the volunteers of the ambulance association have provided, and know how to provide, caring, efficient and life-saving services to the people of East Hampton. We have trusted them, quite literally, with our lives. I think we can trust their plan to continue their selfless and critical services into the future. Frankly, many have "careers" of public service which eclipse even those on our public boards. These are public servants who should be listened to and worked with. Random council comments of private conversations with external providers are not helpful; they are premature at best, and generally hurtful and counterproductive.

I believe that councilors Pete Brown and Tim Feegel have the right take on this issue: trust the association's plan and work with them going forward. We should all remember the maxim that "you don't change a good horse midstream." This is especially true when lives, themselves, are at risk.

I ask the council to do the right thing and adopt the ambulance association's recommendations.

For all of us.

Rich Knotek – East Hampton

Commendable

To the Editor:

I would like to commend Mike Thompson for accepting responsibility in publishing a poem recently submitted by Don Nowsch from Marlborough. Mike endured the public outcry of this unfortunate error, he implemented changes to avoid it from happening again and in the process, reminded us of his character.

I'm also relieved to see that so many within the *Rivereast* community chose to express their outrage against this type of hatred and demanded journalistic integrity in our community. The truth is, remaining silent in such situations is equivalent to complicity. To that end, I'm not surprised with the silence from *Rivereast* Trumppublicans. Not one of them submitted an opinion condemning this atrocious letter from Don Nowsch. The one weak exception being Colin McNamera, who instead of speaking out against the issue, chose to peddle fears of government conspiracies.

We hear and see these warped ideologies every day. They reveal their lack of character in these pages every week. From denouncing history, science, and education to banning books about other races, genders, and religions from our libraries. They mistrust our government, and democracy. They oppose women's reproductive rights, and reasonable gun legislation. They mock compassion, empathy, and compromise. Therefore, it shouldn't come as any surprise that hate speech, violence, mass shootings, racial intolerance, insurrection, and letters advocating for assassination have become acceptable norms for them. The result is a wrathful, grievance-filled paranoia that is leaching into our communities.

The radicalized right has consistently reminded us of their character. Those who wrote letters last week expressed theirs, and Mike Thompson has shown his. The remaining question is whether Mr. Nowsch will apologize and reveal his true character. This is one time I hope he proves us all wrong.

Joe Stevens – Hebron

Finance Board Partisanship

To the Editor:

At last week's Board of Selectmen special meeting a question arose about setting a date for a special referendum to add additional funding for the new senior center building project. Our first selectman stated that it was budget season, and he conducted a poll of the Board of Finance whether to hold the senior center referendum before the budget referendums or after the budget referendums. He stated that the senior center referendum would be held after the budget

See Letters, page 6

Editor's Desk continued from page 4

it all. I want this extra hour of daylight at night to last all year.

The Senate does too, as last year it voted to make daylight saving time a year-long thing. Alas, the bill — called the Sunshine Protection Act — languished in the House, with 2022 drawing to a close and no vote on whether to send the legislation to President Biden's desk for signing.

I hope the measure is taken up again this year, and advanced. Night shouldn't start at 4:30 p.m. It's time to put this nonsense behind us.

To quote Pebbles and Bamm-Bamm (if you know, you know): let the sun shine in.

See you next week.

COMPLETE KITCHEN & BATH REMODELING

We've relocated to Oak Street!

CHRISTINO KITCHENS, LLC

860.430.2661
160 Oak Street #210
Glastonbury, CT 06033
www.christinokitchens.com
Lic. #HIC0660016

VISIT OUR NEW SHOWROOM!

WOOD & WOOD

SEAMLESS GUTTERS

PRESENTS...
SUDOKU
WENEEDGUTTERS.COM
860.563.8820

Gutters
Downspouts
Leaf Protection
Fascia
Heating Wires
Cleanings

2		9	1				5	
3							7	
					5			
						2	8	3
				4	9			
1	8		7				4	
		6		9				
						5	2	
		1		6	7			

Looking to partner with realtors and management companies to help with your projects. Call us today!

Stuart L. Jablon, D.P.M.

"BOARD CERTIFIED" Podiatrist — Foot Specialist

Our Office Is Now A ConnectiCare, United Healthcare, Aetna, Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare, Blue Cross / Blue Shield, Cigna Participating Provider.

"MEDICARE ASSIGNMENT ACCEPTED"

Complete Medical & Surgical Treatment of the Foot

- Sports Medicine • Geriatric Foot Care • Diabetic Foot Care • Arthritic Feet
- Skin Conditions • Flat Feet • Heel Pain • Fractures/Dislocations • Sprains/Strains
- Bunions • Hammertoes • Infections • Fungus Nails • Plantar Warts

By Appointment Only: **(860) 295-8791**
9-B South Main Street, Marlborough, CT
www.stuartjablondpm.com

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

★ Letters cont. from page 5

referendums. Being a member of the Board of Finance, I asked him who he had polled, and he was reluctant to answer. After asking him again, he stated in an annoyed voice the names of the four Republican members of the board, which included the Board of Finance chairperson.

Mike Egan and myself are Democratic members on the Board of Finance and we were never polled on this matter. When polling the Board of Finance, it is customary to poll all of the Board of Finance members. Mike Egan and I were available, and no attempt was made to contact us. This appears to be nothing short of partisan politics.

But even more important and concerning is that such an important issue as the senior center additional funding should be debated in the public view with public input. It's a lot easier to make decisions without public scrutiny.

Our first selectman's campaign promised transparency and no back-door deals. This appears to have broken both of those campaign promises.

Michael Hayes – Colchester

Note: Hayes is a member of the Colchester Board of Finance, but said he is speaking as a citizen.

Support the EHAA

To the Editor:

The East Hampton Ambulance Association (EHAA) has a long and proud history in East Hampton. In 1953 the town felt it was important to support and develop an emergency medical service. They created the East Hampton Volunteer Ambulance Association. The new service was run by a small group of volunteers known

as "First Aiders."

Today we still operate from our building on Middletown Avenue and we hold firm to our original motto, "Neighbors Helping Neighbors"! We currently house two ambulances, with a third arriving in 2023. Today our members respond to approximately 1,000 calls per year. The three-bay facility is well-equipped to serve as a regional center for emergency personnel in times of disaster, complete with communication capabilities, dorm rooms, generator, a full kitchen and other stand-by emergency equipment.

We are committed to serve the 65+ adults of East Hampton. This group is growing annually and needs our help and services. When a caller identifies a situation as a significant life threat, cardiac arrest, choking, stroke, serious motor vehicle crash, shooting, stabbing, unconscious victim and overdose, the regional paramedic is also dispatched. This service creates a special bond with our regional paramedics and East Hampton Police.

I understand the anxiety of calling 911. Once the call is made, you wait and hope that a local member of the EHAA arrives. When they do... it is a great relief to see a friend or neighbor at the door.

There are so many more reasons that East Hampton should support and keep their Ambulance Association. We are small town and proud to say that we are connected and care about our citizens. Partnering with the town and working together is a goal, that will create a strong relationship with our neighbors and elected officials.

**Respectfully,
Barbara Moore
East Hampton Ambulance Association**

The Least I Could Do

To the Editor:

My name is Donald Scranton and I am currently a member of East Hampton Ambulance Association. I had joined EHAA originally to learn skills that could save someone's life along with giving back to my community in another aspect as I was already a member of East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department. I felt that it was the least I could do to help out my friends and family, who live in the town I grew up in.

As a grandson of a past deputy fire chief for Middletown and past Fire Marshal for East Hampton whom I am named after, I've always strived to follow in his footsteps despite him passing away when I was just under 2 years old. I continue to hear the stories about how he gave so much to the community he served and I have the opportunity to accomplish this while providing a positive impact on the East Hampton community.

I have responded to a variety of calls in the town of East Hampton, from minor injuries to life threatening, but I know every time I show up, someone dialed 911 as they needed help. And as my family lives in town, and as a resident of this town, I would want the same care provided to my family and treat them the same way.

Over the last few years, I had the unfortunate opportunity to have a family member transported to the hospital after experiencing a medical emergency, so I know what it feels like on the other side during a stressful moment, but our ambulance showed up and I knew I could trust my neighbors and friends to provide the best care with a familiar face on board.

Donald Scranton – East Hampton

Hopes for Future Support

To the Editor:

"It's easier to cut your neighbor's lawn."

In 2001, I read a story about a patient from CVH who went to a fair in Middletown and stabbed a 12-year-old girl to death as her mother and bystanders watched. After reading this I decided I'm not going to be a bystander. I have been spending 12 hours a week for the last 18 years serving the town of East Hampton as a volunteer EMT. During that time, I have helped hundreds of townspeople in one way or another, saved three lives and delivered a baby. I do this for the town and the people who live here as a small way to give back to the community. Believe me, sometimes when the tone goes off at 3 a.m. I'm not smiling as I'm responding in the cold, wet, rainy weather, but nevertheless, I know a person needs help.

Times, dynamics and procedures have changed throughout the years and will continue changing, but what I have not seen change is the heart and compassion of the people serving in the EHAA. With over 1,100 calls per year, members handle roughly 95% of them.

Some people think this is not good enough. From their window, they believe it is done better by selling off EHAA to Middlesex Hospital. This does not guarantee better service, especially when it comes to second calls. What it does mean is the town will be locked into a service that will not be able to go back to the town if it doesn't work out, unless it's at a substantial cost to the people who live here.

This association has supported the town of East Hampton for 70 years. I hope to see the town will continue support EHAA.

**Dean Brown – East Hampton
EHAA Member**

ENTERTAINMENT

GUNG HO
Chinese and Japanese Restaurant
Family Owned & Operated Since 1986

CALL FOR TAKE OUT



Vietnamese Noodle Soup (Phở)
Available Every Day

Call (860) 537-3862
for Reservations & Take Out
36 Main Street, Colchester
— Junction of Rt. 85 & Rt. 16 —

We are located across from the beautiful
Colchester Town Green & next to the Cragin Library.
HOURS: Sun-Thurs 11AM-10PM, Fri & Sat 11AM-11PM



The Dublin
Beef & Seafood Company



RATED TOP 10 RESTAURANTS!

From our butchers to your plate,
for a freshness you can taste.

The Dublin... Often Imitated,
Never Duplicated

Area's Best Burgers & Wings!

Don't spend your St. Patrick's Day in just any old pub...
Get your Irish on at the Dublin!

St. Patrick's Day Party Headquarters

- Bagpipers 3:30-4:30pm
- Driving Rt. 9 starts at 5 till 8:30pm
- Enjoy the very best **Corned Beef & Cabbage** all day!

Open 7 days a week at 11am
42 E. High St., Rt. 66, East Hampton
860.365.5238

Gift Cards Available

visit us at WWW.THE-DUBLIN.COM for daily specials & upcoming events

Wi-Fi

FARRELLS
Restaurant & Caterers



Friday, 3/17
Bagpipers 4-5:00PM
Irish DJ Pete & Chris

Takeout must be pre-ordered
by 3/16 for pick up on 3/17
To order, call 860-342-4589

Friday, March 17th
Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
Served w/ potatoes, carrots,
Irish Soda Bread

ALSO SERVING:
Corned Beef Reubens
Corned Beef Sandwiches
Corned Beef Egg Rolls
Irish Potato Skins

245 MARLBOROUGH ST., RT. 66, PORTLAND, CT
www.farrellsrestaurant.com • 860-342-4589

EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD HAS A *Naturehood*



DiscoverTheForest.org

Ad Council

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

East Hampton Ambulance

To the Editor:
 If you were having a heart attack or had been in a head-on collision, and emergency response time was of the essence, would you want the ambulance coming from Middletown, Durham or even farther away, just because it might save a few tax dollars? Or would our local police first responders, trained EMS and EMT from just around the corner be preferred? As for me, the quicker, the better, as East Hampton has come to rely on for 70 years. Times have changed since 1953, both with funding for ambulance service and with the difficulty to recruit members. But the dedication of our Ambulance Corps has not.
 We now may find it necessary to pay for more of these vital services. Our Ambulance Association has requested a budget line item in a plan for the next seven years to fund a portion of operating costs. At the last council meeting, a civil discussion and explanation of emergency services began, but the tone became ugly as chairman Mark Philhower laid out "his" vision, selling our ambulance service to Middlesex Healthcare. More concerned with lowering taxes than our quality-of-life or emergency needs of our citizens, he was adamant that no way he or the Council majority include \$173,000 budget requested, because under his plan, there would be no cost. Conveniently he forgets – two fully equipped ambulances as well as the town-owned headquarters on Route 16 would go to Middlesex as a condition of the deal – a \$2.0 million giveaway! No cost? Give me a break!
 Mr. Philhower is out of touch with the real needs of this community. Check the facts. Go to www.easthamptonct.org, TC minutes, Feb. 28. Scroll the audio 35 minutes into the meeting. Hear for yourself – then decide.
Dean Markham – East Hampton

ing endless lies and propaganda. Fox News masquerades as a news organization, a wolf in sheep's clothing, while nefariously plotting the demise of majority rule. They vilify Democratic leaders and helped incite their viewers to violence, attacking our nation's capital. The opinions of Newsch, Denley, and Prentice need to be known, so that the peaceful law-abiding majority are 'called to arms' in the next election, to protect democracy with votes instead of spears and shields.
 Should we fail, allowing Trumpist, far-right conservative Republicans to usurp power, then do not feign surprise when a neo-Nazi, anti-science, racist, anti-democratic minority upends what we cherish. Their guns, gerrymandered districts, secessionist tendencies, conservative SCOTUS and military dominance are capable of rending America. Even now, Fox News and other conservative media avoid mentioning the depth of lies they promoted, hoping to retain their duped viewers. We should respect *Rivereast* editor Mike Thompson, who publishes truths.
Edmund Smith – Andover

Why I Volunteer

To the Editor:
 I became an EMT with the East Hampton Ambulance Association (EHAA) 15 years ago when I took the EMT class with my daughter. I just wanted to be a volunteer EMT in East Hampton. The EHAA membership requirement is to volunteer 24 hours each month. Because there were so many devoted volunteer EMTs 15 years ago, I recall having trouble finding open time slots on the schedule to get in my 24 hours. Volunteerism has drastically changed since I started as an EMT with this organization. Now,

there are many open slots on the schedule. While I'm happy to volunteer 40-50 hours each month, many open time slots remain. I am certain there are few organizations where people volunteer 10-20 hours of their time every week.
 Volunteer EMTs are a devoted group of people with a commitment to help neighbors and community in times of need. Patients in the back of the ambulance are incredibly scared of their health situation. After addressing their immediate medical needs, I take great pride in talking to and calming the patient, assuring them they are in good care, and on their way to a hospital where talented staff will address their medical needs. Almost always, patients return the favor with genuine, heartfelt thanks.
 This is why I continue to volunteer as an EMT for the East Hampton Ambulance Association, and I hope the organization continues to exist and grow for years to come.
**Mark Kimball, EMT
 East Hampton**

Hope to Never Stop

To the Editor:
 I first joined East Hampton Ambulance to gain experience in the healthcare field as I began college. Five years later, I have remained as a member because of the second family I have gained. EHAA has provided me with not only ample opportunities to learn and grow as a healthcare provider, but as an individual as well. The association has taught me the importance of community; through being there for my community when someone is in need and calling 911, to going to different community events to give back.
 Being a member of EHAA is something I hope I never have to stop doing.
Madison Starr – East Hampton

Grateful

To the Editor:
 My name is Kim Danaher and I am a member of the East Hampton Ambulance Association. I joined the ambulance initially to help keep up my skills and help my community. My husband is also a member of EHAA for 17+ years, so I was excited to join and respond with him. I am a resident of Haddam Neck, which is also provided service from EHAA. I am grateful to have been able to care for many friends and give them the comfort of a familiar face during their time of need. I have grown to love the association and its members during these past six years. We are all committed to providing the best care possible to our town and its residents. I look forward to be able to continue helping and giving back to our towns for many years to come.
Kim Danaher – Haddam Neck

More Transparency Please

To the Editor:
 I believe that the Town of Marlborough should announce their public meetings and public site walks in a more transparent manner. At present, it is difficult to know when meetings and site walks are taking place unless one actively seeks them out by writing to town officials or calling the town hall. The town website was recently overhauled so that now the pdf files of the meeting agendas and the minutes are in a long list that hopefully will soon be by date – at the moment they are all listed as 2023-02-27 which means opening them one by one to find the one you want.
 I believe that citizens of Marlborough should have several ways to know when there is an
See Letters, page 8

International Women's Day

To the Editor:
 From amrevmuseum.org, "Women voted in Revolutionary America, over a hundred years before the United States Constitution guaranteed that right to women nationally.
 The 1776 New Jersey State Constitution referred to voters as "they," and statutes passed in 1790 and 1797 defined voters as "he or she." This opened the electorate to free property owners, Black and white, male and female, in New Jersey. This lasted until 1807, when a new state law said only white men could vote."
 From docsteach.org, "In 1888 H.J. Res. 159 proposed a constitutional amendment to grant women the right to vote and hold public office if they were widows or spinsters and owned property." From article 16 section 1 of said proposed amendment, "That the rights of any widows or spinster, who is a property holder, and a citizen of the United States, to vote and hold office, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state."
 From Wikipedia, "1869 - Territory of Wyoming: full suffrage for women. 1870 - Utah Territory passed a law granting women's suffrage, later repealed by Edmunds – Tucker act in 1887."
 Headline from *The Economist*, "Societies that treat women badly are poorer and less stable, sub-heading, Oppressing women not only hurts women; it also hurts men."
 International Women's Day (uh-oh it has socialist roots, Lenin declared Woman's Day an official Soviet holiday in 1917) was March 8. For those that read this, I thank you and I'm sorry for what we've done to treat you as less than and not equal to.
**Respectfully Submitted,
 Eric Manning – Andover**

A Clarion Call

To the Editor:
 Don Newsch's wishful letter imagining President Biden's assassination was published Feb. 24th. Last week, outraged readers castigated *Rivereast* Editor Thompson for publishing it. Might these readers instead consider that publication a clarion call? In medieval times, when an enemy approached, a loud, clear, recognizable horn (clarion) alerted citizens to that danger, inciting them to arms and defense of homes and loved ones. Is this not what the editor did, to awaken us to the danger at our own gates? Readers going to establishments that broadcast Fox News, can ask conservative patrons their opinions of President Biden, Nancy Pelosi, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Governor Lamont and other Democrats. One will learn many more fellow citizens harbor deep, visceral hates, and wish them dead.
 Ancient Troy fell after ignorantly taking in the enemies' Trojan Horse. Today, millions of Americans ignorantly let Fox News into their homes, and are now brainwashed from absorb-

ENTERTAINMENT

Gina Marie's
 Restaurant & Catering Service
 Pizzas • Gluten Free Items
 Beer/Wine • Catering
 — On-Line Ordering —
www.ginamariesct.com

Try one of our freshly ground in-house

Steak Burgers

\$200 OFF Any Large Pizza

Offer good w/ this ad till 3/31/23. Pick-Up & Takeout Only.
 Try one of our other 10 Gourmet Pizzas

71 Main Street, Rt. 66 Hebron, CT **860-228-9375**

Portofinos
 Italian Restaurant

246 New Britain Rd, Kensington, • 860-826-6374

You Deserve a Great Meal!

We specialize in Southern and Northern Italian cuisine. Everything at Portofinos is prepared using only the freshest ingredients and made from original recipes. Our menu includes many traditional as well as a variety of unique dishes. We also offer daily specials for lunch and dinner.

Hours: Mon. 11am-8:30pm,
 Tue. Closed, Wed. & Thur. 11am-9pm,
 Fri. & Sat. 11am-9:30pm,
 Sun. 11am-8pm

Lunch & Dinner menu
www.portofinosrestaurantct.com

- Dine In
- Outside Patio Open
- Take Out

Order: 860-826-6374
 (No Minimum)

Shrimp & Pasta
 Salad
 Filet Mignon
 Pizza

We are following strict COVID-19 safety guidelines to ensure your safety.
 CT12-29-22

OZ N BONES
 SOME KINDA KICK ASS BBQ AND SIDES

Visit our restaurant at:
**43 Hayward Ave.
 Colchester, CT**

Our authentic & artisan original barbeque recipes, are made fresh from scratch.

OPEN FOR LUNCH!

SAINT PATRICK SPECIALS!
 Served all next week and next weekend.

Pastrami Reuben featuring our Housemade Pastrami, Smoked Shrimp Po-Boy for Lent.
FEATURED BEERS ON TAP:
 Guinness, These Guy's Thames River Red, Hop Culture, and many more!

Find out just how kick-ass BBQ can be!!

Dine In • Take Out • Catering • Outdoor Seating

(860) 537-3355
oznbonesbbq.com

@oznbonesbbq

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

★ *Letters cont. from page 7*

upcoming meeting or site walk of interest. My sister, who lives in Annapolis, Md., tells me that a sign is put up in front of properties when there is an upcoming scheduled site walk. A friend who lives in Old Saybrook tells me that her town offers an e-blast of upcoming meetings that residents can voluntarily sign up for.

I saw a CT DEEP site walk listed in January on the Town of Marlborough's website – but not the site walk sponsored by the Zoning Commission of Marlborough. In this periodical, the *Rivereast*, under “Legals,” some meetings are listed, but not public site walks. Why all this secrecy? If a meeting or a site walk is public, the public should be informed.

I propose that the Town of Marlborough decide on a systematic way of letting the public know of upcoming meetings and site walks, there should be more than one method, and the Town should let the Marlborough residents know about their system of communication.

Sincerely,
Christi Moraga
Resident of Marlborough
and Citizen of the World

I Appreciate the Service

To the Editor:

I ride with East Hampton EMS because I can do long 12-hour shifts and stay overnight if needed since I do not live in town. They do re-certification for free as long as you are an active member. They also allow me to teach CPR in the building which is perfect for parking, and the restrooms. I like that I can stay active with my skills here as not every place allows EMRs into their association.

This is the first place that I have volunteered at that has a kitchen and nice living quarters with amenities. The town has excellent mom-and-pop restaurants, which is rare these days to see. The town also has its fair share of various medical emergencies. I have made great friends at the association that will last a lifetime. I hope to continue all going forward as I appreciate the service.

Sarah Lam – Hamden

Personal, Professional Commitment

To the Editor:

My name is Barbara Sargent. I live in East Hampton and have lived here all my life. I joined East Hampton Ambulance 37 years ago and am an Emergency Medical Responder and a driver. I joined this organization to give back to the town and I continue to do so. I feel appreciated that with the capacity that I serve many of the residents I am called to help know me and they are put at ease when somebody they know is there. It is very rewarding when you assist somebody and then later you are notified that what you contributed as part of the EMS team gives them a positive outcome.

We are an organization that provides both a personal, as well as professional commitment to our job. It is very important that our organization continues to serve our residents.

Barbara Sargent – East Hampton

Fair and Equitable

To the Editor:

With a supermajority holding the power in Connecticut, lawmaking has become a cake walk for party leadership and their pet projects. It is no secret that Hartford is coming for small towns in Connecticut to reshape zoning to be equitable and fair. What does that mean? Who determines what is fair or equitable? The citizens ultimately pay for the cake, so these are very fair questions.

There are winners and losers in the game of policymaking. A cluster of bills will directly affect small towns and single family residents if passed into law. Property taxes will soar. Municipalities will be at the mercy of the State and its bureaucracy. A bureaucracy which is built on an ideology that lacks an understanding of fiscal reality, and for the diversity of life in towns across Connecticut.

Fortunately there is bipartisan opposition to this cluster of bills, but it will take a major push from the public to stop them. We are about to trade affordable living already being lived, actually struggling in this inflation, and trade that affordability according to the government's standards. This is unsustainable and will create hardship in our small towns and communities across the State of Connecticut in the name of “fair share,” inclusivity, and equity.

To read the rest, please visit The Sparks Report Substack at tinyurl.com/2bruk9eh.

Jennifer Sparks – Portland

Belltown History

To the Editor:

On March 12th I will have 33 years as East Hampton, Cobalt, and Middle Haddam's official town historian. I am just as passionate about the history of my town today, as I was back then, if not more.

Over the years, I have learned a great deal about the town. Mainly by listening to other people, research, my own personal experiences, etc...

However, there is always more to learn as a true historian doesn't know everything.

Often, I can be found at the East Hampton Public Library, of course researching local history. If anyone has a history question, and think I can be of any help, please feel free to stop by the library to talk with me or call me at 860-267-9074.

I look forward to seeing the next 33+ years of East Hamptons town history.

Sincerely,
James (Jay) Hansen – East Hampton

Slightly Encouraged

To the Editor:

As Americans, two of the many unalienable rights that we are guaranteed are the right to a free press and the right to free speech. A press that is untethered by politics and government interference and the right of every citizen to speak without fear of intimidation and retaliation. However, the authors of the Constitution cautioned that with these rights that there are responsibilities that needed to be exercised and abided by both the press and every citizen.

It is highly unfortunate that it took the publishing an egregious letter to the editor in this newspaper, that caused the “lightning bolt” for them to finally realize that they had allowed an unhealthy environment to overwhelm their publication.

The editor noted in his apology in the March 3rd edition “that the letters had gotten out of hand in recent months.” I have been a resident of the Town of Hebron for over 40 years and regular reader of the newspaper and that is not a correct statement.

A review of the letters to the editors that have not only been published most recently, but going back for many years demonstrate that there never was any real editorial policing, screening, and scrutinizing of what was allowed to be published.

However, I am slightly encouraged by the new editorial commitment. This is especially true for those of us who have authored letters over the years to which we were responded to with demeaning, denigrating and disparaging comments. Assailing not our ideas but rather assaulting us on a personal and professional basis, with some bordering on libel.

In addition to this new policy, we would encourage that same diligence be employed in fact verification in news articles and that they are devoid of editorialization; that headlines and sub-headlines throughout the newspaper be neutral and unbiased.

Richard B. Steiner – Hebron

Note: Steiner is a member of the Hebron Public Building Committee, but is speaking as an individual.

Graham Crackers

To the Editor:

“Everybody won and nobody lost. The producers had fun, the musicians had fun and the public had fun.” – William Graham

Here in Hebron, Kinney Road may have lost Scenic Road designation, but what we gained is more fun and more important. We've gained unity, insight and direct access to the wealth of intelligence residing in our like-minded neighborhoods, while making friends to last a lifetime.

People ask, “Is clean water a human right or a privilege?” Good question. While clean water remains painfully political, unsafe water is devastating and highly stressful. In the face of residents clearly stressed-out by threats to their water, remaining natural resources and living environments, Hebron's Board of Selectmen blindly press on.

Paul Cuban has this to say about stress: “Be nice. Nice sells. Nice is one of the easiest assets you can have in your company. You always want to be in a position where you are reducing stress for all your stakeholders. Reducing stress, I think, is the greatest underpinning to interactions with people, employees, customers, whatever it may be.”

For the past 20 years we have shared Kinney Road with friends and family. The more insightful the person, the stronger the reactions we get. Generally we hear “Wow!”, “Fantastic” and

“What a great story.” A group of stonemasons has considered using Kinney Road as a story in their newsletter. From tree-huggers to clean water advocates, historians, bird watchers, land trust personal, environmentalists, even college professors, all have positive reactions. One resident suggested it might be okay for PW, however, after experiencing the vast wetlands, quickly recanted, confessing their personal preference for safe well water.

Residents need to decide, now, the long-term direction of Hebron: conservation, including land, water and natural resources, or irreversible exploitation? #save17

Jean Tulumieri – Amston

Keep People Informed

To the Editor:

In my opinion, the first selectman of Colchester and the chair of the Board of Finance are avoiding presenting taxpayers with a clear picture of the town's spending. They've decided to work behind the scenes to obstruct and prevent public meetings about the senior center. They say taxpayers aren't smart enough to vote on the town budget, the education budget, and the senior center spending at the same time. What an insulting excuse.

Give citizens of Colchester a clear picture of what's going on, and let us vote. Have public discussions. Talk more, not less, and keep people informed.

John Farrell – Colchester

Double Standards

To the Editor:

Assassinations have long been a political tool used to silent dissent and usurp power. They have been part of the American political scene since our inception.

Things really ramped up with the Kennedy assassination, as that was a successful coup d'etat that transformed the direction of our country and we have never recovered.

The fact that people are outraged by some goof's poem but seem to carry on “business as usual” when actual assassinations occur is a great example of a double standard. There is no transparency or accountability when it comes to the ensuing investigations.

And as a result, the entrenched power structure becomes emboldened to commit more assassinations.

The journalists at the annual White House press dinner have a good laugh when Bush jokes about the undiscovered location of WMDs or Obama quips about how good he is at killing people with predator drones, but nothing ever happens...except some hearty laughter from the audience. Millions of lives lost, wedding parties are blown apart with the body parts of women and children and we wonder what's on TV tonight.

Many of the assassinations since JFK have alleged ties to intelligence agencies as well as lawsuits pointing to government involvement; examples would be Malcolm X, MLK Jr, and RFK. The state uses assassination as one of the tools in their tool box to deal with people challenging the status quo... but for some reason we tacitly allow it by our silence and just try and just forget it.

Many celebrities, pop culture icons, and writers have said that a Trump assassination is just what this country needs...even saying it aloud on TV. I never hear any outrage from the left when that happens...no boycotts, no righteous indignations...just audience laughter and sideways smirks.

Colin McNamara – Marlborough

Thank You, Readers

To the Editor:

Thank you to the readers who called out the *Rivereast* for its baffling decision to publish – let's just call it the “poem.” I don't need to say any more than what was said by others who explained why this creepy doggerel was obviously inappropriate even for a forum that had already resembled a print version of 8kun.

My wife was also disgusted and had considered writing a letter to the editor, but my advice was, “Don't step into Crazy Town.” I didn't see any good in showing up on the radar of a pack of angry cranks who spend their free time being nasty to their neighbors. But I am glad that others demanded better of our paper.

We need responsible local journalism in our communities. We need a local paper to keep us informed of upcoming events, to hold our elected officials accountable, and to celebrate the accomplishments of our families and neighbors. The Reader Forum should be a space for an exchange of ideas on a variety of subjects, including how our tax dollars are spent and the role

of government in our communities. Certainly, it is appropriate to critique the decisions of our elected officials and to debate opposing views, but these discussions should be conducted with respect. I'll admit there were times I read the Reader Forum just to chuckle at the crazies, but the mudslinging and unhinged rants aren't doing us any favors as a society. The loudest, least informed, and nastiest are chasing all the grownups out of the conversation.

Of course, the readers can only respond to what the editors of the *Rivereast* choose to print. I respect Mike Thompson for publishing an apology without excuses, assuming some editorial responsibility, and setting rules for what is printed on the pages of our local paper. Maybe he would not have made this decision if his readers had not demanded better, but it is the right decision, and it is right for the readers to reclaim this forum as a space for civility and sanity.

Ken Harvill – Marlborough

We Need This Paper

To the Editor:

It was good to see some new writers in the Readers Forum, even if it was to cry foul. Bring your tired, angry, happy, Debbie Downer or whatever, for good or bad, and write in, if only in song. We need this paper; all the others wrote their own obit and are no more. Print is passe. Some find it a part of life and death (only time I know someone died) that shouldn't be wrenched away by asset-stealing rich smart kids. We should celebrate this paper; it's all we got.

So the poem Don wrote got people going; he comes from good local stock and meant little harm. In case you haven't noticed, Marjorie Taylor Greene said if she was in charge of J6 (not Trump) we would have been armed and we would have won. Yeah! That would mean a lot of dead people to take the presidency back because it was stolen. Have you gotten the Fox memo? There is no Santa Claus, Trump got thumped in the election, when people are told there is no Santa Claus they can write hurtful things. Thank goodness Mike will print them.

Tim Rinell – East Hampton

Procrastination Week

To the Editor:

Procrastination. We all do it from time to time. This week is Procrastination Week and we residents at Complete Care at Harrington Court wanted to share what we have procrastinated on in our life.

Mary M.: “One year, I didn't want to take down my Christmas tree so I left it up until the next Christmas.”

Tom F.: “I procrastinated in asking my wife to marry me. I thought she didn't want to get married but when I asked she said, ‘What took you so long?’ We were married until she passed away and had two beautiful children together.”

Michael E.: “Everyone procrastinates. It's a normal part of life. But some people have it down to a science.”

We hope that sharing some of our procrastination secrets with you helps you realize that you are not alone. Even us older and wiser people have procrastinated and we turned out fine.

Happy Procrastination Week!

Mary McMurray, Tom Foley
and Michael Erardy,
on behalf of the residents of
Complete Care at Harrington Court

Thank You, *Rivereast*

To the Editor:

In February, the *Rivereast* published a letter threatening the president that it shouldn't have. As one letter writer said of this mistake, “do better,” which is good advice for us all. Despite this, I believe the *Rivereast* is a great local newspaper. It has served our community well. The reporting, especially by Mr. Sinkewicz, is first rate. And, its letters section is the embodiment of our First Amendment rights.

Last week's letter from Selectman Thiele attacking the *Rivereast* was telling. She implied that the *Rivereast* deliberately published this letter because of its bias against Democrats. Sure! The *Rivereast* found a way to express its secret anti-Democratic agenda – never before found anytime, anywhere – by publishing a wacko letter from octogenarian bar owner from East Hampton.

She stated the *Rivereast* “bent the rules” publishing “...letters with personal attacks against Democrats...when they should not have.” So, the rule is no criticism of Selectman Thiele and her friends. Duly noted. She stated, “...letters written by Democrats... were not published...”

See Letters, page 34

Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland

YFS News & Notes

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

Afterschool Drop-In & Draw: Tuesday, March 14, from 2:30-4:30 p.m., at the Buck-Foreman Community Center (BFCC), 265 Main St. This is a time for students to come after school and do some semi-structured art. Come when you want, and stay as long as you want.

Youth & Parent LGBTQ+ Support-Style Groups: Wednesday, March 15, from 6-8 p.m., at Portland Library. There are separate groups for LGBTQ+ youth and parents of those youth, co-facilitated by Q+ and local volunteers.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

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

Kids' Blast After School Program: Mondays-Fridays, 3-6 p.m., at Brownstone Intermediate School, for grades K-6. Cost to attend is \$18 a day. Children who live or attend school in Portland may participate. Bussing is provided from Valley View and Gildersleeve schools.

Tai Chi for Long Life: Through April 29. Wednesdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m., and Saturdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m., at Buck-Foreman Community Center. Drop-in fee is \$7 per session.

Boat America – Online Boating Safety Course: April 18 and 19, 6:30-9 p.m., and April 25, 6:30-9:30 p.m. This eight-hour course is taught by qualified members of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, and completion will give you the knowledge and a Completion Certificate needed to obtain a boater's license/certification in many states. All classes held via Zoom. Cost: \$65.

Second Chance Heartsaver CPR/AED/First Aid Course: Saturday, March 25, 12:30-

Drop-In & Draw Arts & Crafts: Friday, March 17, 10:30-11:30 a.m., at BFCC. This month, make handprint shamrocks.

Youth Services Advisory Board: Tuesday, March 21, 4:30-6 p.m., at BFCC. This is a town-appointed advisory board that is open to the public.

Prevention & Wellness Council: Wednesday, March 22, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at BFCC. All are invited to come help work as a community on youth substance use prevention and positive mental health. If interested in joining, contact Revicki or just show up.

Youth & Adult Leadership Training: Session 1 is postponed. Contact Revicki for more information.

Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 1, 10 a.m., at the Route 17 Portland Rec Complex.

Youth LGBTQ+ Drop-In Night: Wednesday, April 5, from 6-8 p.m.

3:30 p.m., at BFCC. This is a course designed for the general public or lay rescuers whose job requires a first aid course completion card (such as restaurant workers, coaches, members of church organizations, or teachers). Fee: \$95/residents, \$105/non-residents.

Skyhawks Multi-Sport Program: Saturdays, April 15-May 13, at Riverfront Park, for ages 2-5. Times vary by age. This soccer, baseball and basketball class uses age-appropriate games and activities to explore balance, hand/eye coordination, fitness, sport skills and child development. Cost: \$75 for residents, \$85 for non-residents.

Ladies Beginner Golf Lessons: Mondays, April 24-May 22, 6-7 p.m., at the Portland West golf course. Taught by PGA Golf Professional Gerry D'Amora, this course will be on the basics of golf. Cost is \$140 for residents, \$150 for non-residents.

Junior Golf Workshops: Tuesdays, May 9-30, for grades K-8, at Portland West. Times vary by grade level. This workshop is designed to acquaint participants with the game of golf. Cost is \$95 for residents, \$105 for non-residents.

Museum Celebrates Woman's History

As part of Woman's History Month, the Ruth Callander House Museum of Portland History will host local author Alain Munkittrick, who will sign his new book *Historic Houses of the Connecticut River Valley*, on Sunday, March 12, from 2-4 p.m. The museum is located at 492 Main St.

While the book highlights many architecturally significant houses in the four states that border the river, it is also full of stories

about the people who lived in these homes. There are several stories of prominent woman and their accomplishments, including a judge who advocated for woman, workers and prisoners; an author of the best-selling American novel in the 19th century and a woman who helped draft and was instrumental in the passage of a law that guaranteed Connecticut woman equal property rights.

Portland Library News & Notes

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

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Masks are optional.

Tax Forms: The library has copies of 1040 and 1040-SR tax forms. Find a federal instruction booklet and a state tax form. You may also request printing of other forms and instructions.

Youth Programs: Drop-In Playdates: Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., through May 25. Ages birth through 5 and their caregivers are invited to come for an hour of socialization and open play with the library's story room toys. No registration required.

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

Renaissance Days: Thursdays at 3:30 p.m., March 16 and 23, for grades K-2. Get ready to go on a noble quest to gather ancient coins, fashion a dragon for a jousting tournament, prepare a Renaissance Days snack, and more. Space is limited.

Celebrate National Mario Day!: March 10 is known as National Mario Day because of the date's resemblance to Nintendo's most famous character. There will be a scavenger hunt and Mario-themed crafts available in the children's department throughout the day.

Teen Event: National Pi Day: Monday, March 13, 3:30 p.m. Kids will make their own pies.

LGBTQ+ Social and Support Groups: The

library, in conjunction with Portland Youth and Family Services, QPlus and Health Care Advocates International (HCAI) will be hosting social and support groups for LGBTQ+ youth beginning in March. 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.

Adult Programs: Seed Library: Now available for garden enthusiasts, whether beginner or seasoned. You will find free seeds available for your garden. Sign them out to help the library know what is "hot" and to keep up the inventory. For more information, call Jan Nocek at 860-342-6771. Have some leftover seeds? Donations are welcome.

Women's History Month Program: Rosie the Riveter: Wednesday, March 15, at 6 p.m., in the Mary Flood Room. This is a Connecticut Historical Society presentation about the iconic Rosie and women's contributions and roles in World War II.

Mystery Lovers Book Club: Tuesday, March 21, 1 p.m. *Tuesday Mooney Talks to Ghosts* by Kate Racculia will be discussed.

Book Discussions: Mystery Lovers Book Club – March: Tuesday, March 21, 1 p.m. *Tuesday Mooney Talks to Ghosts* by Kate Racculia will be discussed. **TAB:** Tuesday, April 4, 1 p.m. *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell will be discussed. **1st Thursday Night Book Club:** Thursday, April 6, 6:30 p.m. *Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman will be discussed.

Mystery Lovers Book Club – April: Tuesday, April 18, 1 p.m. *Under the Harrow* by Flynn Berry will be discussed.

From the Superintendent's Desk...

Did you know that March is Connecticut Board of Education Appreciation Month?

We all know the old aphorism "It takes a village to raise a child." In a similar sense, it takes the commitment and investment of many, many hands to provide our children with the multi-faceted, individualized, highest-quality education they will each need and that they each deserve in order to grow from inquisitive children to principled young persons to upstanding adult citizens capable of guiding our world into an ever-brighter future for all.

At the very heart of each school district is a Board of Education, a group of unpaid and elected volunteers whose commitments to our educational system, our communities, our students, and our families compel them to selflessly serve. In this service, they sacrifice time with their own loved ones to serve the needs of others. They provide and defend for our teachers the ceaseless support and resources needed to reach and grow every child. With great care, they steward the funds of our taxpayers through our schools to maximum effect and efficiency, guaranteeing the integrity of the diploma our high school graduates receive and the experiences that lead to that proudest moment.

During and between meetings, they invest countless hours learning and adjudicating issues that affect our schools, students and families. In true collaboration, they work together, with school leaders, and with their constituents towards innovative solutions that work for all. Without excuse, they dedicate themselves in word and action to ensuring that our facilities are safe, inspiring spaces where there are no limits for kids. Board of Education members are champions for children, pillars of their community, and living testaments to the power of democracy in sustaining and advancing public education – perhaps the single most important American right of all.

During this month of appreciation, please join me in taking a moment to express heartfelt appreciation and thanks to school board members across the State of Connecticut. Your time, dedication, and year-round effort means so much to so many. In the Portland Public Schools, we give deep and endless thanks to our particularly wonderful board members: Laurel Steinhauer, Stacey Benham, Tim Lavoy, Dave Murphy, Kim Nagy-Maruschock, Meg Scata, and Sarah Spear. In this month and in every month, your service makes differences beyond compare. Thank you!

Charles Britton
Portland Superintendent of Schools

Food Bank, Foodshare Truck

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

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

The lower level of the senior center was recently dedicated to Ruth and Nunzi Maio for

their years of service as Food Bank coordinators.

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

The next Foodshare visit is Monday, March 13, at 1 p.m.

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. Sunday worship is at 10 a.m. Nursery care and church school take place every Sunday during the worship. The building is accessible. The worship service is livestreamed as well as available for later viewing on the church's YouTube channel; search on YouTube for First Church of Portland CT.

On Sunday, March 12, the 10 a.m. worship will be led by the church's new interim minister, the Rev. Julie Olmsted. Her sermon is titled, "Thirsty!" Coffee hour follows the service.

First Church will hold a Soup and Bread Supper and Program on Wednesdays, March 15, 22 and 29. The supper begins at 6 p.m. and the pro-

gram is from 6:30-7:30 pm. The program will be led by Olmsted and is based on the hymn "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross." All are welcome to attend.

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

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

Senior Center News & Notes

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

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

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

Foodshare: Monday, March 13, 1 p.m.

Next Week's Programs: Monday: Light Aerobics, 9:30 a.m.; Syncocize II Dance Fitness, 10:30 a.m.; **Tuesday:** Bears on a Journey, 9:30-11 a.m. – making fleece teddy bears for cancer patients; donations are sought of light fleece, one yard or more for making teddy bears for cancer patients throughout Connecticut. If you would like to donate, call 860-342-0809; Watercolor Lessons, 9:30 a.m.-noon – to register, email bivenne@yahoo.com; Hearing Clinic, 11 a.m.; Coupons for Troops, 1-4 p.m.; setback,

1 p.m. **Wednesday:** AARP Tax Preparation, appointments from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (last appointment at noon, to register call Lynn or Alexis at 860-342-6760); Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m., multipurpose room. **Thursday:** Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Mahjong, 12:30 p.m.; Scrabble, 1 p.m. **Friday:** Light aerobics, 9:30 a.m.; Tech class by Camille and Marley from Portland High School, 10:30 a.m.

Trip: Tuesday, March 14: Trip to the Aqua Turf for a St. Paddy's Day celebration and meal. The trip is sold out; this is merely a reminder.

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

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

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

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

Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland

PHS Goes 'Once Upon a Mattress'

By Jack Lakowsky

The Portland High School Drama Club loves its redheads.

Following last year's stunning and vivid performance of *The Little Mermaid*, the PHS Drama Club is now putting on the lesser-known musical romp *Once Upon a Mattress*, early productions of which started the career of a young Carol Burnett, a redhead as famous as Ariel the mermaid.

This week the *Rivereast* caught up with director Elisha Millerd and some cast members about putting on yet another exciting show, the club's second fully in-person production since the onset of the pandemic.

The show was recently announced on Portland schools' newly minted Facebook pages.

"PHS is thrilled to announce that ticket sales are now live for this year's production of *Once Upon a Mattress*! Our students have been working incredibly hard, and we cannot wait for them to perform! We hope to see you there!"

Showtimes are Friday, March 17, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 18, at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased at pms-musical.ticketleap.com/mattress. Discounts are available for seniors, students and youngsters. Tickets will also be available at the door – with a slight caveat. Those purchasing online have the ability to select their seats ahead of time, while those buying tickets at the door will have their seats assigned.

To add to the fun, at the 1 p.m. show on Sat-

urday, March 18, the club will be offering a cookie decorating ticket add-on. For five bucks you can decorate your own castle cookie and meet the cast before the matinee performance of the show.

Tickets are limited and can be purchased online.

The original *Once Upon a Mattress*, starring a 20-year-old Carol Burnett, opened in November 1959, and ran for 460 performances, according to Playbill.

In this musical version of the fairytale *The Princess and the Pea*, protagonist Princess Winifred is an ungainly, brash girl competing for the hand of Prince Dauntless, whose domineering mother Queen Aggravain has declared he must marry a "true" princess before anyone else in the kingdom can marry.

Aggravain's husband, King Sextimus, lacks the ability to speak, and the role is entirely pantomimed – an interesting challenge for PHS senior Cole Bates, cast in his first musical acting role as the silent king. He was previously involved in the stage crew.

Bates is an artist and an athlete, a soccer captain who ranked in the top ten players at last year's Shoreline Conference.

Bates, who said he's "not a terribly strong singer", said the role requires no line memorization, but putting emotion into a purely physical role was its own interesting task.

"I really have to express myself," he said, "I

would like to think I'm the comedic relief.

"I think people are really gonna enjoy it," he said of the show.

Bates said he stuck to the character as written and added his own bit of spice to the character, bringing high energy to a role that demands nothing less.

Bates's castmate and fellow senior Camille Kopacz plays the king's devious wife, Queen Aggravain. She said it's a departure from her previous roles, when she was normally the comedic relief.

"I'm more mean this year," she said, adding, "mean is easy."

Despite their starkly different personalities Kopacz still brings herself to the role, identifying with the queen, a trick any adept actor uses. Kopacz said she and Bates make scene partners, the couple's comedic toxicity energizing their shared scenes.

She said every role was perfectly cast, including herself. She originally went for the lead but said the queen suits her more than just fine.

The show is PHS teacher Millerd's directo-

rial debut.

Millerd said *Mattress* is a more straightforward show than *Mermaid*, allowing for real development of performance without the extra work of complex sets and intricate costumes.

"It's been a nice change having something a little low-key but still super fun," she said.

"The kids are doing a really great job; they've had their music memorized for weeks."

Millerd said the club chose the show for its casting flexibility. A small school like Portland has even smaller clubs, so choosing shows that can work with this is essential. *Mattress*, for example, has roles leaning mostly-female, which worked with the club's current make-up.

Millerd said some of the roles were gender-swapped, an especially helpful trick when you've got a small cast.

Millerd said the show holds true, for the most part, to modern standards. A few things were tweaked but the outspoken and just-maybe-a-little-off-kilter female lead can meet the expectations of an audience some 60+ years after the show debuted.

Book Sale, Read & Recycle

The Friends of the Portland Library is selling art books – including books on master artists, Impressionism, both French and American, and art collections in museums around the world – as well as puzzles, games, DVDs, and of course fiction, romance, teen and children's used books, all at the Second-Hand Prose Bookshop at Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave.

The sale takes place during regular library hours. Books are 50 cents for paperbacks and children's books, \$1 for trade paperbacks and \$2 for hardcover. DVDs are 50 cents each disc and puzzles and games are \$2 unless marked otherwise.

Also, the Friends of the Portland Library's Read and Recycle program will accept donations on Saturday, March 25, from 10 a.m.-noon in the Mary Flood Room of the library.

The Friends welcome donations of gently used books, puzzles, CDs, DVDs and games. No textbooks, business books, computer books, self-help books, VHS videos or magazines, please. All donated items must be in "sellable" condition; the Friends cannot accept items that are dirty, moldy or in poor condition.

Donations must be dropped off at the library's side door, and volunteers will be available to receive the donations. Donations are tax-deductible and acknowledgement forms will be available. Donated items are sold at various Friends' book sales held throughout the year, and all proceeds are used to support programs of the Portland Library.

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

Register Now for Town-Wide Tag Sale

The Portland Historical Society's 27th annual Town-Wide Tag Sale will be Saturday, May 13, rain or shine – and online registration and payment for tag sales is now open. Visit the society's website at www.portlandhistsoc.org and click on the link (the big yellow banner) to register – just follow the instructions online.

Registration sheets will be included in the society's March newsletter and will also be available in the barrel on the front steps of the Ruth Callander House Museum of Portland History, located at 492 Main St., later this month. Completed paper registration sheets along with payment should be mailed to the society at P.O. Box 98, Portland CT 06480.

The donation to the society for a spot on the Tag Sale Map is \$20 until March 31; the registration fee during April will be \$25. Registration for sales will close April 30. Portland resi-

dents who sign up will be assigned a spot on the society's official Tag Sale Map issued for that day listing the sale locations and types of items featured at each one.

Local businesses and organizations can support the society by purchasing an advertising spot on the tag sale map. Past advertisers will receive an email with information about this year's map in the next two weeks. New businesses can email the society for information at portlandhistry@gmail.com. Tag Sale ad spots are approximately the size of a business card and cost \$25. Map sponsorships can also be purchased online.

The annual Town-Wide Tag Sale is the main fundraiser for the Society. Proceeds help to maintain the museum and to further the mission to collect, preserve and share Portland's history.

Portland Exchange Offering Scholarship

Again this year the Portland Exchange Club will offer the \$1,000 John W. Goodrich Scholarship to any Portland resident senior going on to a higher education institution after graduation.

For the scholarship the Exchange Club is looking for the student with the most outstanding record of community service as well as good academic achievement and participation in extracurricular activities.

Applications are available at the Portland High School Counseling Center and online at www.portlandexchange.org/john-w-goodrich-scholarship. Deadline for applications is April 15.

Vocal Chords Awarding Scholarships

The executive board of the Portland-based Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords is offering college scholarships.

Scholarships will be awarded to students from Middlesex County pursuing a career in nursing or music who have been accepted at an accredited college or university. The review committee will consider academic records, extracurricular and community service activities, the student's ability to articulate his/her career goals and the recommendations of references.

The \$1,000 scholarships will be paid directly to the recipients at the Spring Concert at Portland High School, Saturday, April 29, at 7 p.m., at Portland High School. Applications are available at the school guidance office or by calling Dianne at 860-344-0743. Deadline is Friday, March 24. Visit vocalchords20.org for more information.



Thank You for Your Service... The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords group recently celebrated their 33rd anniversary. Members receiving awards for years of service are as follows (with years of service noted in parentheses): first row, Val Greco (25), Lillian Muzik (30), Lee Hart (25); second row, Richard Hanks (5), Lisa Palladino (5), Cathy Riley (5), Madeline Fazzino (10), Lee Harris (10); third row, Jan Baker (5), Chris Bassette (5), Sue Setterberg (5), John Sullivan (5).



Wood Pellets
&
Bio Bricks
NOW IN STOCK!

Ready for
Pick-Up or Delivery

CALL TODAY!

East Hampton **ACE Hardware**
Route 66, East Hampton
(860) 267-7943
OPEN: Mon-Wed 8-6;
Thurs & Fri 8-7; Sat 8-6; Sun 9-5

Portland Home
& Hardware
724 Portland Cobalt Rd.
Route 66, Portland
(860) 342-4847
OPEN: Mon-Fri 8-6;
Sat 8-5; Sun 9-2

DiMauro Oil Company, LLC

Heating Oil – Diesel Fuel – Kerosene

24 Hour Emergency Burner Service

Pre-Buy Price Protection Plans Budget Plans
Service Contracts Senior Citizen Discount
Automatic Delivery Volume Discount
Prompt Delivery On-Site Diesel Delivery



(860) 342-2969



CT Reg # HOD. 596

Portland

Portland
COLLISION
"We Meet By Accident"

FULL SERVICE AUTO BODY REPAIR

1621 Portland Cobalt Rd. (Rt. 66)
Portland, CT 06480

Grayson Mountain
860-342-1520
www.portlandcollisionllc.com



Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland • Portland

From the First Selectman's Desk...

On Tuesday, March 14, I will be presenting the first selectman's proposed budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 to the Board of Selectmen and taxpayers. The public hearing will be held at 7 p.m. in the Library Media Center of Portland High School and also livestreamed on YouTube (a clickable link can be found on the public hearing notice). Superintendent Britton will also be on hand to present the Board of Education's adopted budget as well. I encourage all residents and taxpayers to attend. You can view the proposed budget in the town clerk's office during regular business hours and online at www.portlandct.org/budgets.

In working on this year's budget, I set out to continue to meet the town's operational needs while adjusting to a record-high inflationary period. The budget, as it is currently proposed, calls for a 2.96% increase in the mill rate from the current fiscal year. The next step is for the budget to go before the Board of Selectmen for their review and possible changes.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or comments. You can reach me by email at rcurley@portlandct.org or by phone at 860-342-6715.

Respectfully,
Ryan Curley
Portland First Selectman

Soccer Club Spring Registration

PSC Spring Travel and Rec Division Registration is now open. Visit clubs.bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub for the registration site, or contact PSC President Chad Wilson at nosliw.dahc@gmail.com.

Travel Details: Players with birth years from 2008-14. Registration deadline is Sunday, March 5. Cost is \$170. Practices are twice per week, with up to two weekend games against other towns. The season starts in early April and ends mid-June.

Rec Details: Players with birth years 2014-

19. Registration deadline is Sunday, April 16. Birth year determines division. Cost: pre-K is \$60, Dribblers and Kickers is \$75. Pre-K and Dribblers play on Saturday mornings only. Kickers play Saturday morning games and practice Wednesday evenings. All Rec activities are held at the Portland Rec Complex on Gospel Lane. The Rec season runs from April 22-June 10.

Note: late registrations are not guaranteed participation.

Trinity Episcopal Church News

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Zion Lutheran Church News

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

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

On Sundays during Lent, an episode of *The Chosen* will be shown in the lounge at 10:30 a.m., following worship.

On Wednesdays during Lent, all are invited for a repeat showing of *The Chosen* episode at

6 p.m., followed by Compline, Night Prayer at approximately 7 p.m. Compline will also be livestreamed on Facebook.

Throughout Lent, Zion will collect items for Portland Food Bank. The requested items include: March 12, paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, napkins); March 19, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, dental floss; March 26, deodorant, feminine products; and April 2, shaving cream, hand lotion, and body lotion.

Also, individuals who wish to purchase memorial lilies are encouraged to call the church or check zionlutheranportland.org for an 'In Memoriam' form. Forms should be submitted by April 2. Lilies are \$10 each and may be picked up from the church after Easter services on April 9.

The community is welcome to participate in any or all worship services and special events. For more information about any church activities, or if in need of pastoral assistance, call 860-342-2860, email zion.lutheran@snet.net, or visit zionlutheranportland.org. Sara Stall-Ryan is pastor.

Project Graduation Clothing Drive

Have some clothes you no longer need? Donate them to Portland High School Project Graduation's Used Clothing Drive. Collection dates are March 21 and 22. Drop off your bags under the tent in the bus loop at Portland High School.

The following items will be accepted: clothing for men, women and children, shoes (please bag shoes separately), clothing accessories, belts, hats, scarves, handbags, gloves, and soft household items like towels, blankets, pillows, quilts, comforters, and curtains.

All proceeds raised go toward providing PHS seniors with a safe, drug- and alcohol-free celebration on graduation night.

For more information, email tlosado@yahoo.com.

Opportunities for Public Service

The Portland Democratic Town Committee (DTC) is informing Portland residents interested in becoming involved in their community that there are various opportunities to serve on a board, commission, or committee. This includes both elected and appointed positions.

Any registered voter in Portland may be considered. More information is available at www.portlandct.org under 'boards and commissions.' Individuals interested in serving on a board, commission or committee should send an email to nominations.portlandct@gmail.com.

The DTC holds regular monthly meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month. For more information about the DTC, send an email to portlandctdtc@gmail.com and follow on Facebook @Portland Democratic Town Committee.



Taking a Tour... State Rep. Christie Carpino (R-33) and Portland First Selectman Ryan Curley recently toured a local recycling facility. The elected officials learned about the sorting process, which features state-of-the-art equipment to differentiate the various types of recyclables including glass, plastic, and paper. As the State of Connecticut examines various means to reduce waste and augment sustainable means of recycling, Carpino and Curley have been appointed by the speaker of the house to serve on a bipartisan Summit on Municipal Waste Management charged with examining ways to ensure waste is properly disposed.

Chancellor's Honor Roll

Mia Lapinski of Portland was named to the fall 2022 Chancellor's Honor Roll at the University of Mississippi.

Dean's List

Nicholas Hasselman of Portland made the fall 2022 Dean's List at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I.

PIANO TUNER
Tuning, Repairs & Cleaning
Contact **TED WILLIAMS**
Certified by Hartt School of Music
(860) 228-0309
www.ConnecticutPianoTuning.com

Fowler's Auto Wrecking - Belltown Recycling
CALL: 860-267-7140
Refurbished Batteries All Makes & Models 6 Month Warranty \$45.00 - \$55.00 \$15.00 Core Charge
CALL US TODAY

LIKE US ON Facebook
RivereastNewsBulletin

SYMMETRY PHYSICAL THERAPY
Individualized Rehabilitation:
Our treatments are evidence-based, one-on-one and 100% of the session is with a licensed physical therapist. Our interventions integrate manual therapy, therapeutic exercise, patient education and movement modification in order to meet your therapy goals.
Keith Arcari MSPT UConn '00 Manual Therapy Certified
Kelly Coleman DPT UNE '18
To request a visit, call or visit: www.symmetryusa.net
No Referral Needed!!!
860-788-7976
270 Main Street, Portland, CT
www.SymmetryUSA.net

Tire Sale! Check out our tire prices!
COMPLETE TRANSMISSION SERVICE AND AUTO REPAIR
• Domestic
• Standard
• Automatic Cars
• Light Trucks
• 4x4
PORTLAND TRANSMISSION
25 SILVER STREET, PORTLAND
860-342-4273



Helping in Honduras... Paulette Chung of Vernon, Alan Hurst of East Hampton and Lois Knapp of Vermont are shown here, with the *Rivereast*, during a volunteer service trip in Tela Honduras.

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.



Going on Safari... Michael Chotkowski from Marlborough recently traveled to Johannesburg, South Africa on business and was able to visit the Pilanesberg National Park and was fortunate to see various wildlife including elephants, lions, giraffes and other exotic animals. Of course he brought along the *Rivereast*!



A Trip to Turkey!... Helen and Douglas Bonoff of East Hampton recently visited the Celsius Library in the very ancient city of Ephesus, Turkey.



Rivereast Goes to Guam... Kristin Oberiano of Portland took this photo while on the other side of the world in Tumon Bay in Guam while on vacation visiting family. The paper logged 20 hours of flight time (30 hours of travel time) on Oberiano's way to Guam!

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

\$25 GIFT CARD

Campagna
Restaurant & Lounge

Fine Italian & American Cuisine
151 Marlborough Street (Rt 66), Portland

Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough

Selectmen Respond to BOF Lawsuit Demands

By Jack Lakowsky

In response to demands for more information about a \$250,000 lawsuit the town must pay from the local finance board, Marlborough Board of Selectmen Chair Deb Bourbeau and Interim Town Manager Amy Traversa addressed several complaints.

The lawsuit goes back years, filed when Traversa was first selectperson, naming both Traversa and the town as defendants. A former employee filed suit claiming the town violated medical leave laws, denying the employee accommodations for his tinnitus and other issues.

In a 3-1 vote last month, the board voted to pay the \$250,000 over two years, despite a public vote where the public said it did not want the board doing so. What the vote stopped was the town paying it with a special appropriation, however; the town must still pay it, and now the BOS is seeking other means.

One of those ways is taking \$60,000 from the town's contingency fund. The selectboard and Traversa, saying they were following legal advice, erroneously believed they could use the \$60,000 without first clearing it with board of finance.

After further analysis, the town learned it does in fact need finance board approval.

In a letter, finance board chair Mike Natri said the board was looking for requesting for several pieces of information, including math used to determine what money to take from which departments and how much, as well as a town attorney's legal opinion a corrective action plan to "prevent future lawsuits."

Towards the end of February Bourbeau replied.

Bourbeau goes back to Feb. 8, when the proposed town operations budget was presented to the selectboard. She wrote the BOS unanimously approved the 2023-24 budget, which included \$127,500 as a second payment to settle the suit; the town hopes to make its first payment this year.

Then, on Feb. 10, Bourbeau said the selectboard met again to discuss the litigation, at that time deciding to use \$110,000 from the current budget and the \$127,500 from the "legal" line item.

Bourbeau detailed from where town officials planned to take the money; \$60,000 from contingency, \$30,000 from an unfilled mechanic's position and another \$20,000 from public works.

Bourbeau said the town spoke with its attorneys about the plan to fund the settlement, and they, the lawyers, thought the town's plan reasonable. Bourbeau said the board of selectmen did not ask for official legal opinions.

Then Bourbeau's letter says the town's attorney suggested seeking an appropriation from the board of finance, though this seems to contradict an earlier claim by Traversa who, in a February finance board meeting and before learning the selectboard did indeed need BOF approval, said she was simply notifying the finance board of the move, not asking its permission.

The smaller transfers, the \$30,000 and the \$20,000, do not need finance board approvals,

Bourbeau wrote.

Selectmen and finance board members met March 1 to discuss the money, and in that meeting the finance board, in a 4-2 vote, gave selectmen the go-ahead to pay the money as it planned. Finance board members Ken Hjulstrom and Robert Mirabel voted against it.

According to meeting minutes had the vote failed, interim manager Traversa said the town would need to find the money from other, smaller accounts. Because it's a court order the town has no choice but to pay the money, no matter the obstacles it encounters, whether locals and/or town boards want it paid or not.

In the letter Bourbeau also addressed the requested "corrective action plan."

"[This request] assumes facts that are simply untrue," wrote Bourbeau. "Legal advice was sought – and responsibly followed – during each interaction and regarding every decision up to and including the termination of the employee."

"There are 6,000 pages of documents related to this case available for review; to date, not one person has to do so. Other than the current and former members of the [selectboard] who have been advised on the facts of this case, nobody else is qualified to form an opinion on this case."

In a February finance board meeting Hjulstrom accused Traversa, and by extension selectmen, of being surreptitious about the process, trying to "sneak" the money by.

The case goes back to the 2010s, during Traversa's time as first selectman. A Public Works employee filed suit, naming Traversa and the town as defendants, for violating his rights under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), when Traversa did not grant the employee leave or accommodations to deal with his ailments.

The employee, James Foley, sued the town a few years ago for violating the FMLA, naming the town and Traversa, who was first selectman at the time of Foley's employment, as defendants.

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

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

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

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

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

Soon after, court documents show, Foley filled out the form, with further information from his physician saying Foley was "unable to perform" his duties "due to the condition". The letter asked

Foley get a leave of absence and, upon returning, work a lighter schedule to care for his condition. Tinnitus makes it difficult for him to hear and sleep, court documents read. The doctor said Foley needed to avoid long-term noise exposure.

Once again, Traversa resisted.

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

Then, after receiving even more information, the town denied Foley's request for leave, saying his "current condition does not satisfy the criteria set forth under the FMLA..." Traversa said Foley was given OSHA-safe ear protection, a claim Foley denied.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Traversa replied asking for more information, then eventually granted this request under the condition Foley "did not currently require time off to care for his mother."

Sending another email, Traversa told Foley he

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

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

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

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

On Aug. 7, 2018, Foley was absent for treatment. Traversa emailed his union rep saying his remaining sick time did not cover his 8-hour shift, and that she was investigating whether to discipline Foley.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lions Club Raffleing Kayak

Once again, the Marlborough Lions Club will raffle off a 10-foot Ascend kayak with paddle and a one-year rental of a kayak rack at Marlborough's Blish Park. Note that use of the rack at Blish Park is limited to Marlborough residents, but the raffle for the kayak is open to everyone.

Raffle tickets are \$20 each. Tickets will be sold at various locations through May 28 or can be purchased from Marlborough Lions Club

4th Friday at the Arts Café

The Kenn Morr Band will be playing at Marlborough Arts Center's 4th Friday at the Arts Café on Friday, March 24.

Although centered in Colebrook, and well-known in the region, they are also known internationally with record sales and airplay in the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

The band bills itself as an alternative folk/rock band. The group's latest album is *Open Field*, and a clip can be heard on the arts center's website at www.marlbrougharts.org. Morr is lead singer and on various guitars; there

members. Proceeds will support the Lions.

The raffle drawing will take place at Blish Park Sunday, May 28, following the annual 5K 'Round the Lake Road Race. You do not need to be present to win.

For more information regarding this opportunity and to purchase raffle tickets, call Lions Club President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or Lions Jean Paul Bolduc at 860-798-2054 or Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116.

is also Tom Hagymasi on strings, Pat Ryan on bass, and Tido Holtkamp on percussion.

Admission at the door is \$10/person. Doors open at 7 p.m., with the concert at 7:30 p.m. BYOWine. Masks are suggested but not required.

The Marlborough Arts Center is a nonprofit center for the arts located at 231 North Main St., in an historic building that is handicapped-accessible. There is on-site parking. For more information, visit www.marlbrougharts.org or call 860-295-9389 and a member of the Board of Directors will return your call.

Lions Eyeglass and Hearing Aid Collection

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

The Marlborough Lions drop boxes are located at Town Hall, Liberty Bank, the Marlborough Senior Center and at the office of Dr. Steven Rafalowsky on Saner Road. The Lions collect the eyeglasses and hearing aids all year

long, but on March 12, Lions clubs from all over Connecticut will be meeting to turn in the collected items. Eyeglass cases are also appreciated.

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

'Aging with Purpose' Speaker Event

The Marlborough Commission on Aging, in collaboration with Marlborough Senior Center, invites all to the second of four "Aging with Purpose" speaker events hosted by Goodwin University in East Hartford.

"Spirituality and Community: the Link Between Aging and Social and Spiritual Connections" will be presented by the Rev. Tracy Mehr-Muska from noon-1 p.m. Thursday, March 16. If interested in attending this free event, please sign up with Vi Schwarzmann, by calling 860-295-6209. A van will leave

from the senior center to attend the event.

This event is also available via Zoom by registering with Goodwin, by using the link at tinyurl.com/mr4b9vyf.

Future events in the "Aging with Purpose" series will be offered April 6 and May 16.

For more information about the Commission on Aging, call Colleen Kaplan at 860-918-5705. The commission meets every third Wednesday of the month at 11 a.m. at Town Hall.

Richmond Library News & Notes

Richmond Memorial Library, located at 15 School Drive, has announced the following programs and events. For more information or to register, call 860-295-6210 or email richmondprograms@gmail.com.

Books for Babies: Town families with children ages birth up to 12 months are invited to stop into the library to pick up a Books for Babies Box and register for your baby's first library card. Advance registration is required and can be done online. At least one parent must have a library card but that can be done at the same time.

Babytime: Fridays at 10 a.m., for ages 0-18 months and their caregivers. This is a baby-centered storytime with songs, rhymes, lap bounces and a story. Registration is recommended but drop-ins are welcome if space allows.

Digital Microscope Kit: Did you know the library has four digital microscope kits that can be checked out for a three-week loan period?

Each kit contains one pluggable USB 2.0 digital microscope with a versatile observation stand and two sets of 25 prepared microscope slides. These kits have been donated in memory of Audrey Skorski.

Zoom Storytime: Mondays at 10 a.m. through April 3, for children ages 2-5. Register online.

Lego Club: Tuesday, March 21, 4 p.m. Ages 4 and up are invited to come for STEM-based challenges involving Legos. Registration is recommended but not required. The club meets every other Tuesday.

Kids Crafting Club: Meets every other Tuesday at 4 p.m. Future dates: March 14 and 28. Registration required.

Tween and Teen Crafters Club: Fridays at 4 p.m. through March 31, for ages 10 and up. Bring a craft project you're working on; there will also be projects available to make. Registration is recommended but not required.

Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough

Town Details Five-Year Capital Needs Plan

By Jack Lakowsky

Last week, as part of the town's ongoing budget discussions, Interim Town Manager Amy Traversa put out an ambitious list of projects the town wants to fund, and, hopefully, complete, in the next five years, guiding the town until at least 2028.

Chief among the needs is replacing the town hall's HVAC system, which is a dinosaur from 1985. Especially in summertime, the town hall building gets stuffy and hot, and in winter gets cold.

The town has a cost estimate of between \$265,000 and \$300,000 rates that don't include wage rates or "incidental" costs.

The town has an upcoming revaluation – 2025 will be a full revaluation with a cost estimate of \$100,000. Previous fiscal years have set aside \$53,385. The town is seeking \$15,000 and will seek \$16,000 the next two fiscal years.

The town was awarded a state grant for \$1,990,800 in September to pay for the rehab of pavement on South Main Street. The program covers 100% of construction and construction inspection. The town needs to pay to \$20,000 to complete the design, necessary to compete the work, previously \$77,400 has been set aside for the project design.

There's also replacing the South Buckboard Culvert over Sawmill Brook.

This culvert failed in 2021 and temporary repairs have been made. The town

submitted an application to the DOT State/Local Bridge Program in April 2022 for \$1,179,683, awards have not been announced.

The program is a 50/50 cost share program for design, inspection, and construction. Seeking \$85,000 of the \$160,000 for design work and will seek the balance of design funds next year. If the application is not approved then the town will need proceed on its own since there are 12 houses on the east side of the culvert that have no other access.

Another road needing attention is Sherwood Lane, built 30 years ago. It needs a total face-lift, the town said – grinding and repaving. The cost is estimated at \$325,000, of which the town wants \$150,000 of that cost this year, with the rest sought next year.

Hodge Road also in the repair queue. This culvert failed in 2022 and temporary repairs were made. In October the town approved a \$29,000 appropriation for preliminary design work. The town's seeking \$60,000 for final design and bidding. The construction cost for this culvert could be the priciest in the plan: \$600,000-\$750,000 range.

Another culvert the town has to throw money at is on South Road, over an unnamed brook at 258 South Road. The town needs \$45,000 to perform wetland flagging, survey, and preliminary design. The total cost for design and bidding is \$88,000. The construction cost for his culvert could be in the \$500,000-\$650,000 range.

And yet another one, on Johnson Road over Lyman Brook, also named as needing work in 2022. The plan is to investigate if relining the inside of the culvert versus replacing it is possi-

ble. The town needs \$7,500 to perform wetland flagging and survey work.

"This work will allow us to determine if it is possible to reline the culvert through the Army Corps of Engineers," wrote Traversa.

There's also an effort to replace the boat launch at Blish Park. This project is to replace the existing boat launch which is deteriorating and make it Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant. Previously, \$211,939 has been appropriated over the last two fiscal years. The town needs \$20,000 and the balance will utilize \$215,000 in ARP funds.

The Fire Department is seeking to replace the vehicle since many of its necessary components are failing and that are unable to repair or replace. The fire department will be requesting to transfer \$50,000 from the Fire Department Reserves later this spring to make a down payment and lock in a price. The cost of this

vehicle has risen \$200,000 over the past year. This truck will be bank financed over a series of years as the other large truck replacements. The first payments likely will not occur until the 2025-26 budget.

As was done this year, the town needs \$40,000 to refurbish two additional two public works trucks to extend their life cycle several years. Public Works is also looking to buy a new excavator, using \$85,000 of the town's remaining ARPA stimulus money.

And again another road, Papermill Road. This road is physically located in both Hebron and Marlborough. This project will grind and pave the southern end of the road within Marlborough approximately a half mile of road at a cost of \$135,000.

Lastly, the town is surveying Marlboro Cemetery to locate all the site's graves, at a cost of about \$30,000 in ARPA.

Student Art Show Underway

Marlborough Arts Center will host the annual Student Art Show for students from Marlborough, Hebron and Andover on Saturdays and Sundays through March 19, from 1-4 p.m. each day, at the arts center, 231 N. Main St. Admission is free.

The show is coordinated by Sue Hollister and Lin Gotta, collaborating closely with the following art teachers from area schools: Denise Ketterer of Marlborough Elementary, Roseanne Modzelewski of Hebron Elementary, Su-

san Giammarco of Gilead Hill, Jessica Waine of Andover Elementary, Micaela Gradie of RHAM Middle School, and Nicole Van Sicklin, Beverly Fisher, Shelly Osowiecki and Carrie Dinunzio of RHAM High School.

Marlborough Arts Center is a nonprofit regional center for the fine arts, performing arts, and fine crafts. Parking is free and the building is handicapped-accessible. For more information, visit www.marlborougharts.org.

Parks and Rec Programs

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

Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 1, at Blish Park. The Easter Bunny will be present. Ages 2 and under hunt at 11 a.m., ages 3-5 at 11:30 a.m., ages 6-8 at 11:15 a.m., and ages 7-10 at 11:45 a.m.

Youth Programs: Tiny Twirlers Dance Class: For ages 2-3 with caregiver. Choose Tuesdays, 9-9:30 a.m., from March 21-May 30 (no class April 11); Thursdays, 5:15-5:45 p.m., from March 23-June 1 (no class April 13); or Saturdays, 9-9:30 a.m., from March 25-June 10 (no class April 8 and May 27). All classes held at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Fee: \$130.

Sparkling Spinners: For ages 3-5. Tuesdays, 4:15-4:45 p.m., from March 21-May 30 (no class April 11), at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Fee: \$130.

Funky Tumblers: For ages 4-7. Saturdays, 11:15 a.m.-noon, from March 25-June 10 (no class April 8 and May 27), at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Fee: \$180.

Dance Dynamics Little Darlings: For ages 3-5. Tuesdays, March 21-May 30, at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Pick one, two or three half-hour classes from the Little Darling classes. Classes are: 9:30-10 a.m., Sparkling Spinners; 10-10:30 a.m., Jazzy Gems; 10:30-11 a.m., Dazzling Dancers. Fee is \$130 for one class, \$190 for two classes and \$260 for all three.

After School Co-Ed Dodgeball League: For grades 5 & 6. Mondays, 3:15-4:15 p.m., from March 20-May 1, at Marlborough Elementary School. Fee: \$30 for residents.

After School Co-Ed Handball League: For grades 5 & 6. Wednesdays, 3:15-4:30 p.m., from March 29-May 10, at MES. Fee: \$30 for residents.

Little Yogi and Me: For ages 3-6. Mondays,

5:15-6 p.m., from March 20-April 17. Fee: \$65/resident, \$70/non-resident.

Lego Spring Into STEM: For grades K-4. Tuesdays, 3:15-4:45 p.m., from March 21-May 16. Fee: \$155/resident, \$160/non-resident.

Soccer Shots: Saturdays, April 22-June 17, at the West Road Memorial upper field. Mini, for age 2, is 3-3:45 p.m., and Classic, for ages 3-5, is 3:45-4:30 p.m. Fee for Mini is \$102/resident, \$107/non-resident, and fee for Classic is \$108/resident, \$113/non-resident.

Skyhawks – Soccer, Baseball and Basketball: Thursdays, April 20-May 18, at MES. Mini-Hawk (ages 5-7) meets from 4-5 p.m., and Multi-Sport (ages 8-12) meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Fee: \$89/residents, \$94/non-residents.

Horseback Riding Lessons: For ages 5 and up. Lessons are private, an hour in length, and days and times are flexible. The instructor will contact you upon registration to set up lesson day and time. Fee is four lessons for \$175/residents, \$180/non-residents.

Adult Programs: Zumba: Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., March 11-April 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the conference room at Fire Station No. 2 and virtually. Fee: \$50/residents, \$55/non-residents, or a \$12 per week drop-in fee.

Adult Drop-In Volleyball: Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., at MES. Fee is \$5 per week to drop in. Session runs through June 2.

Adult Tap: Tuesdays, March 21-May 30 (no class April 11), at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Choose 11-11:45 a.m. or 8-8:45 p.m. This is a mixed-level class. Fee: \$180.

Boston Red Sox Patriots Day Bus Trip: Monday, April 17, see the Los Angeles Angels play the Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park at 11 a.m. Trip includes: charter bus, ticket to the game (right field roof top), breakfast before bus departs, games and prizes on the bus. Registration fee is \$160. Bus departs Putnam park and ride in Glastonbury at 7:30 a.m., and returns at 5 p.m.

Last Call for Independent Party Survey

The survey created by the Marlborough Independent Party Slate Committee (IPSC) will be wrapping up today.

The IPSC created this survey to gain a better understanding of the issues that are on the minds of Marlborough residents. There are many issues facing our community that need attention. In order to be responsive to the needs of our community it is essential to first know what issues are most important to our neighbors.

It only takes a minute or two to complete the survey. Items available for ranking include Public Safety, School Resource Officer (SRO), Economic Development, Increase

Transparency in Town Governance, Appointment of a Qualified Town Manager and Reform the Town Charter.

Your input to the survey is confidential and will be available for your input until the end of today. The results will be published later in March after the survey period ends.

The survey can be found at www.MarliParty.com and on Facebook at IndependentPartySlateCommitteeofMarlboroughCT.

Call Independent Party Slate Committee Chairman Sue Stolfi at 860-593-4763 for more information or if you wish to express interest in openings on the November ballot.



Where Tradition Meets Innovation!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPECIALS!

Come celebrate with us on
Thursday, March 16th
 &
Friday, March 17th

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinners

Corned Beef Reubens and other specials!

St. Patrick's Day Drink Specials, too!

DELIVERY THROUGH UBER EATS

(860) 295-8181 • Marlborough, CT
www.marlboroughpizzact.com



The early stages of communication disorders are easier to spot when you know the signs.

IDENTIFY@SIGNS

Early detection can improve treatment and quality of life. For more information visit IdentifyTheSigns.org.





We Specialize In The Medicare Market Place
New To Medicare? We Can Help!!
CALL TO DISCUSS YOUR MEDICARE CHOICES AND OPTIONS

Turning 65?
 Losing employer coverage?
 Need extra help with Medicare prescription drug coverage?

**Hospital Indemnity Plans
 Medigap Supplements
 Advantage Plans**

Dental Plans for Medicare Eligible Individuals

Joe Wroblewski & Associates LLC

Please Call Joe & Laurie for a FREE, No Obligation Consultation

860-372-4967
185 Silas Deane Hwy., Wethersfield
natlhealth@aol.com

— HELPING PEOPLE IN THE AREA FOR 25 YEARS —

Not Affiliated with the federal Medicare program. We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all your options.

Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough

Marlborough Lions Pancake Breakfast

The Marlborough Lions Club will hold its annual Pancake Breakfast Sunday, March 26, at the East Glastonbury Fish and Game Club on Planeta Road in Marlborough, which is located off of West Road just east of Exit 12 from Route 2.

The Lions will be open for dine-in or take-out orders from 7:45-11:45 a.m. The Lions will serve various varieties of pancakes along with sausage, ham, fruit coffee and juice.

The Lions Club supports programs that address various issues, including blindness, drug abuse prevention and diabetes awareness as well as supporting many local charities such as the Marlborough Food and Fuel Banks and vision screening for children in grades pre-K

to 6 at Marlborough Elementary School.

Tickets will be sold in advance and will also be available at the door. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors and \$7 for children 12 and under.

The success of this event is also dependent upon local businesses, which support the Lions in the form of \$25 sponsorships. Lions Club members will contact local businesses in advance of the breakfast and any business interested in providing a sponsorship is encouraged to contact the Lions.

For more information, to provide a sponsorship or to purchase tickets, call Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or Lions secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116.

St. John Fisher Church News & Notes

St. John Fisher Roman Catholic Church is located at 30 Jones Hollow Rd. Pastor is the Rev. Alvin LeBlanc; John McKaig is deacon emeritus. The church office can be reached at 860-295-0001; hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. People are asked to call before heading over or connect via the phone or email at stjohfisher30@yahoo.com.

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

Weekend Masses: 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. All are welcome.

Weekday Mass: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

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

Lenten Confession: Mondays, 6-7 p.m.

Family Faith Formation: This is an active family faith formation program for the church's kindergarten through middle school population. For more information, call the church office.

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

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

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

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

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday worship services at Marlborough Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, located at 35 S. Main St., are at 10 a.m. Worship is and is broadcast live every Sunday and recorded for later viewing at mcc.cong-church.org.

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

March 12 worship is a Bluegrass Sunday featuring Joyful Blue Bluegrass Band, who will provide hand-clapping music to old-time favorite hymns, along with the anthem. The service will include a child's baptism officiated by Pastor Val Seaver. Senior High Youth Director Scott Reid will lead the service and preach the sermon. The Senior High Youth Group will prepare and serve their monthly meal later that day to residents at Florence Lord Housing in Marlborough.

Lenten Soup Suppers: In the Thienes Lounge at 6 p.m. Wednesdays through March 29, with activities for children after the meal.

Bible Study (Faith Enrichment): Every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. in the Thienes Lounge.

Dorcas Women's Fellowship: Will meet Friday, March 10, at noon. A floral designer will assist the group in making floral arrangements

to be sold after worship on March 19.

Outreach: The church supports a variety of mission projects. First-quarter mission-giving will go to Marlborough Food Bank. The church collects non-perishable food items year-round for Marlborough Food Bank with a basket located in the narthex for Sunday worshippers to bring their donations. The Drive Thru Café provides a take-away hot meal at the church to Marlborough Food Bank clients on the last Sunday of every month (except July and August).

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

Second Blessings Thrift Shop is open for selling and donations Fridays from noon-3 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The shop also sells items year-round through eBay at bit.ly/MCCebay.

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



Giving Gift Cards... The Rev. Tom Sas of St. John Fisher Parish, recently presented the Marlborough Food Bank with 50 Stop and Shop gift cards that were purchased through a grant through the Archdiocesan Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry Rice Bowl collection. Dawn Tavolieri (left) and David Pratt (right), co-sirectors of Marlborough Food Bank, are shown here receiving the gift cards from Sas. Photo by Jen O'Neill.

Senior Center News and Notes

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

Monday, March 13: Free bread and bakery goods, 10 a.m.; 8-ball pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: pork meatballs with gravy, garlic smashed potato, vegetable blend, 100% whole wheat bread, fresh fruit; Meals-on-Wheels, noon, setback or cards of choice, 1-4 p.m.

Tuesday, March 14: Grocery Shopping, 8:30 a.m.-noon; free bread and bakery goods, 10 a.m.; Meals-on-Wheels, noon.

Wednesday, March 15: Not Just Quilters (sew day), 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: grape juice, all-beef hot dog, hot dog bun, smoked baked beans, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit; Setback, 1-4 p.m.; Sophisticated Ladies, 5-7 p.m.

Thursday, March 16: Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Parkinson's Exercise with Anne, 3-4 p.m.

Friday, March 17: Not Just Quilters, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Quilling, 9:30 a.m.-noon (The Paper

Art); 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Assistance, 10 a.m.-noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: clam chowder, crab cake/tartar sauce, coleslaw, sweet potato fried, oyster crackers, fresh fruit; setback, 1-4 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Classifieds
Pay
The Glastonbury
Citizen & The
Rivereast News
Bulletin

Email your
Classified Line
Ad to nancy@
glcitizen.com
and call with
your credit
card number.

*(We regret we cannot
take ads over the phone)*

**Closing for
Staff Training**

The offices of Marlborough Town Hall, Senior Center and Parks and Rec will be closed Tuesday, March 14, from 10-11:30 a.m. for staff training

**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**

Visit us at:
www.marlboroughlawnandtree.com
860-220-3786

MasterCard VISA

**DOUG'S
BARBER & STYLING SHOP**

9A South Main St., Marlborough, CT
FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

**WALK IN
OR MAKE AN APPOINTMENT**

HOURS: TWF 8:30-5:30, THU 8:30-7:30, SAT 8-3

860-295-9366

MasterCard VISA

MARLBOROUGH COUNTRY

Bakery

TAV & RIN

**St. Patrick's
Day**

**Friday,
March 17, 2023
Open till 8pm**

FOOD

**Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner \$16.99
(2 Dinners for \$28.99)**

Corned Beef Reubens \$8.99

Irish Soda Bread • Seeded Rye

Baileys Irish Cream Cheesecake • Baileys Cake

Beer • Wine • Cocktails

ALL DAY – EAT IN OR TO GO!

PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Drop off your email address to receive our daily hot & cold lunch specials
SEE OUR EVER-CHANGING MENU ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Open Mon.-Fri. 6AM - 6PM; Sat. & Sun. 6AM - 3PM
8 Independence Dr., Marlborough

(860)295-9251

NOW OPEN! BE SAFE!

Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • He

Christ Lutheran News & Notes

All are invited to worship at Christ Lutheran Church (LCMS), located at 330 Church St. Pastor is Gary Boye. Masks are now optional.

Sunday Worship: Sundays at 9 a.m. Masks are optional. People can also watch worship live at www.facebook.com/clchebron/live.

Lent Wednesday Services: Wednesdays through March 29, at 7 p.m.

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

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

Caring Shepherds: Holds bi-monthly Open Pantry hours at Christ Lutheran; watch for the next date in April. Caring Shepherds distributes household and hygiene items, as well as food pantry staples, Bibles, and prayers. For more information, call Caring Shepherds Ministry at 860-494-0431.

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.

Suburban Sanitation Service

SPRING IS ALMOST HERE! Call us today and get your septic tank cleaned!

We are here to answer your calls and questions.

CALL NOW 860-267-6102



RES-10-23

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CLEANED YOUR SEPTIC TANK?

WE ARE INDEPENDENT. WE SHOP YOUR INSURANCE YEARLY.

COMPARE & SAVE \$ WITH A FREE QUOTE!



We offer the Best Coverage at the most Competitive Rate from a Top-Quality Company.

Schedule your **FREE quote today!**

Hebron Insurance 860.228.8500

RES-14-21



RANKED #1 IN 2022!

Countryside Realty of 30 Main St. in Hebron ranked #1 for 2022 in number of properties **SOLD** in total for Hebron, Lebanon, Colchester, Columbia, Coventry, and Andover!*

The Agents at Countryside Realty credit their success to a deep understanding of the market, and their relentless focus on customer service.

Want the best for your family? **TRUST OURS!**

Countryside Realty would like to extend a sincere "Thank You" to their clients for their **Loyalty, Trust, Referrals and Repeat Business** throughout the years.

(860) 228-8512

*According to The Greater Hartford Association of Realtors and the Connecticut SmartMLS

30 Main Street, Hebron, CT 06248 www.countrysiderealtyct.com

RE-1-6-23

SUPER LIQUORS



PUTNAM PLAZA

FOUR MAIN STREET, PUTNAM BRIDGE PLAZA II EAST HARTFORD/GLASTONBURY LINE
860-568-3659
On Instagram @putnamplazasuperliquors

Savings o' the Green!

Sale Prices Good through Mar. 25th, 2023

Miller Lite & Coors Light 24 Packs 12 oz bottles plus dep. **\$21.99**

STORE HOURS MONDAY - SATURDAY OPEN 8 AM - 9PM SUNDAY 10AM - 6PM **SUPERLIQUORSC.T.COM** • on-line ordering • shipping • local delivery or pick up at store



Bushmills Irish Whiskey
\$35.99
1.75 Liter



Guinness Draught 18 Pk
\$24.99
14.9 oz cans plus dep.



Proper Twelve Irish Whiskey
original and apple
\$23.99
750 ml



Irish Pub 18 Pack
6 Guinness, 6 Smithwicks, 6 Harp
\$27.99
11.2 oz btls plus dep.

Killian's Irish Red 12 Pack
12 oz bottles plus dep.
\$13.99

Guinness Draught 8 Pack
14.9 oz cans plus dep.
\$13.99

St. Patrick's Irish Cream
750 ml
\$11.99

Bushmills 10-Year Malt Whiskey
750 ml
\$39.99

Guinness Nitro Cold Brew Coffee 4 Pack
14.9 oz cans Stout
\$8.99 plus dep.

Guinness Zero 4 Pack
14.9 oz cans
\$8.99 plus dep.

Old Tub Bourbon
750 ml
\$16.99

Jameson Irish Whiskey
750 ml
\$31.99

Harp & Smithwick's 12 Pack
11.2 oz btls
\$15.99 plus dep.

Paddy's Irish Whiskey
750 ml
\$19.99

Angel's Envy Bourbon
750 ml
\$44.99

Kendall Jackson Chardonnay
Vintner's Reserve 750 ml
\$11.99

Guinness 12 Pack Draught
11.2 oz btls
\$14.99 plus dep.

Drumshanbo Gunpowder Irish Gin
orig./citrus
\$29.99
750 ml

Proper Twelve Irish Whiskey
orig./apple
\$39.99
1.75 Liter

NEW! Twisted Tea Sweet Tea Whiskey
\$13.99
750 ml

19 Crimes Revolutionary Red
\$9.99
750 ml

Patron Silver Tequila
750 ml
\$43.99

Broken Shed Vodka
1.75 liter
\$33.99

Harpoon or Long Trail 12 Packs
12 oz btls or cans plus dep.
\$14.99

Sutter Home Wines
1.5 Liter
\$9.99

Bacardi Light & Dark Rum
1.75 Liter
\$20.99

Iron and Sand Cabernet
750 ml
\$19.99

Long Drink 6 Packs
original, zero & cranberry 12 oz cans
\$12.99 plus dep.

Mason Sauvignon Blanc
750 ml
\$15.99
90 Pts. - 2021 Wine Spectator

All Items Subject To Availability based on Supply Chain Performance. Not Responsible For Typographical Errors.

CI15-9-23

INSURANCE

Business, Personal, Home, Auto, Boat & More!

Gerhardt
INSURANCE AGENCY

EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST!

(860) 537-4661 | www.GerhardtInsurance.com
176 Norwich Avenue, Colchester

RE3-3-23

START THE DISCUSSION
#DrugFreeColchester

Youth report that one of the primary reasons they begin using marijuana is to cope with stress and anxiety.

Talk to your children to help them respond to social situations, practice refusal skills, and stay drug free.

Scan for prevention resources.

COLCHESTER YOUTH FIRST COALITION

RE3-10-23

At Brown Paindiris & Scott, LLP,
You get more than a lawyer.
You get a law firm.

ATTORNEY JOHN D. MAXWELL
RESIDENT ATTORNEY
42 E. HIGH STREET, EAST HAMPTON
OFFICE: (860) 267-2044 OR CELL: (860) 402-5159
bpslawyers.com

RE4-8-22

GRAND OPENING SPECIAL!

Join our monthly membership program!

Sign up for just OFFER GOOD 3/13/23 - 3/19/23

DIAMOND SPARKLE CAR WASH

<p>PLATINUM <i>Includes everything! Best value!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foam Bath Under Body Simoniz Hot Wax Shine Clear Coat Tire Shine Wheel Brite Triple Foam Vision Clear Windshield Treatment Power Dryer Dry Shine <p>SINGLE WASH \$24 GO UNLIMITED \$40/MO</p>	
<p>GOLD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foam Bath Under Body Clear Coat Wheel Brite Triple Foam Power Dryer <p>SINGLE WASH \$19 GO UNLIMITED \$35/MO</p>	
<p>SILVER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foam Bath Under Body Polishing Foam Clear Coat <p>SINGLE WASH \$15 GO UNLIMITED \$30/MO</p>	<p>BASIC EXTERIOR WASH & DRY</p> <p>ADD-ONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wax \$5 Tire Shine \$3 Spotting Remover \$3 Dry Shine \$5 <p>*1 OFF FOR MEMBERS FOR EACH ADD-ON GO UNLIMITED \$25/MO</p>

44 Amston Road, Route 85
Colchester, CT
(860) 537-4325

Open Mon-Sat 7:30am-7:30pm; Sun 7:30am-7:00pm

NOW OPEN!

RE3-10-23



Colchester Eye Care
is back in network
with EyeMed.

**CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR
APPOINTMENT TODAY!**

163 Broadway Street, Colchester, CT 06415 • 860-537-2020



— www.colchestereyecare.net —

RE1-20-23

Breakfast served til 2:30pm

Flynn's GRILL

BREAKFAST & LUNCH

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPECIALS
Friday 3/17 – Saturday 3/18

- Corned Beef & Cabbage
- Shepard's Pie
- Roast Leg of Lamb
- Irish Soda Bread

Extended Hours till 8pm on ST. PATRICK'S DAY
Friday, March 17th
LIMITED DINNER MENU


EAT-IN OR TAKE-OUT

Mon.-Fri. 7am - 2:30pm • Sat. & Sun. 7am-2:00pm
875 Main St. next to the Post Office
So. Glastonbury • (860) 657-8159

George M. Mantikas, DMD

"Let us give you a reason to smile!"

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME



- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Tooth Whitening
- Preventative Care
- Implants & Restorations
- Veneers • Crowns • Bridges
- Dentures • Extractions
- Root Canals • Laser Dentistry

142 East High Street
East Hampton, CT 06424
www.drmantikas.com • 860-267-6666

BIGBY'S
Colchester
WINE & SPIRITS



15 BROADWAY STREET, NOEL'S PLAZA
COLCHESTER, CT • 860-537-2455

East Hampton
Parks & Recreation

ANNUAL

GOLF

TOURNAMENT

2023

To Benefit Seamster Park
Playground & the Jeffrey Leith
Memorial Scholarship



Black Ledge Country Club

AT **May 18, 2023** TICKET
10AM **THURSDAY** **\$130**

REGISTER TODAY



**Homeowner? Downsizing?
Pension or Social Security?**

It's affordable to live at the ARBORS
Senior Retirement Community
Independent and Assisted Living

- 35 year reputation putting residents health and happiness above all
- Attractive apartments and all-inclusive amenities
- 24 hour home security / emergency response technology
- Full continuum of health services if needed all on one campus

**Leave behind the worries and responsibilities
of home ownership!**



Beyond Expectations, Within Reach!

NOW AVAILABLE
Monthly Rental & Flexible Financial Plans
Call Today to Schedule Your Visit
860-530-2592

"You Can Afford Arbors!"



ArborsCT.com | 403 West Center St | Manchester, CT 06040

RE3-10-23

CIT3-9-23

Full Menu Served Daily 11am-10pm



Daily Lunch Specials \$4.95 & up

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Never A Cover 8:30PM-12:30AM
Friday, 3/10 "Violent Reign"

Friday, March 17th
St. Patrick's Day Party
Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
— Dine in or Take Out —
Live Music w/ Dave Sadloski

— 47 MAIN ST. (RT. 66) HEBRON • 860-228-8148 —

CAMPAGNA

Fine Italian Restaurant and bar

Five Course menu offering on Sun, Mon Tues and Thur
Five Course Meal \$30.00 \$15 plate charge for sharing

APPETIZERS

Stuffed Mushrooms
mushroom caps stuffed with seafood stuffing

Zuppa D' Mussels
Sautéed in fresh tomato sauce or white wine sauce

Fried Mozzarella
Topped with marinara sauce

PASTA COURSE

Peena Aglio Olio
Penna with garlic and oil

Penna Marinara
Penna Alla Vodka
Asparagus, sun dried tomatoes in a vodka blush sauce

SOUP OR SALAD
Cup of soup of the day or Garden Salad

DINNER CHOICES

Chicken Parmigiana
Eggplant Rollatini
Rolled eggplant stuffed with ricotta, prosciutto and roasted peppers

Chicken Marsala
Sautéed with mushrooms, shallots in a marsala wine sauce

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

Stuffed Sole
Crab meat stuffing served over spinach

Balkan Meatballs
Beef meatballs sauteed with scallions, roasted red peppers, grape tomatoes in a marsala cream sauce

DESSERTS – Ask your server for our selections

Wednesday is a pasta night, Serving Prime Rib every Friday

151 Marlborough St: (Rt 66), Portland (860) 398-5411 • Open 7 days for Lunch & Dinner

Colchester • Colchester • Colchester

Lions Accepting Grant Applications

The Colchester Lions Club is now accepting applications for grant requests from community groups and organizations, in preparation for its annual Community Night of Giving in April.

Organizations should be prepared to demonstrate how the funds would be used to benefit the community. Applications can be found at colchesterlions.org, or may be obtained in writing: Colchester Lions Club, P.O. Box 423, Colchester, CT 06415.

Completed applications must be submitted by March 15.

Dot Mrowka Scholarship Available

Applications for the annual memorial scholarship honoring the late Dorothy Mrowka, a Colchester woman remembered for her devotion and public service to her community, state and country, are currently being accepted.

The \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating Bacon Academy student who will pursue a career in political science or government service. Applications are available in the Bacon counseling office and must be returned there no later than Friday, March 10.

MAKE YOUR EASTER RESERVATIONS EARLY!



and Patio!

MARCH MADNESS?

SADLER'S

\$20 OFF
\$100 Dinner Bill

after 4pm
Sunday-Thursday

or **\$10 OFF**
\$50 Dinner Bill

with this coupon
Thru March 30, 2023

RESTAURANT

Now Taking Easter Sunday Reservations
Seatings available from 11:30am-6pm!

61 north main street, marlborough **860.295.0006**
 monday-saturday 11am-8pm, sunday 11am-7pm

EATATSADLERS.COM

Presenting the Hottest Dance Parties on the Planet
 Join your Hostess Kim for lots of Fun & Excitement!

CT DANCE FEVER

Date: March 11th, 2023
Time: 6-11pm
Location: Hilton Garden Inn
 85 Glastonbury Blvd.
 Glastonbury, CT 06033

Date: April 15th, 2023
Time: 6-11pm
Location: Hilton Garden Inn
 85 Glastonbury Blvd.
 Glastonbury, CT 06033

Coffee & Dessert will be served.



\$5.00 OFF admission with this ad!

Singles & Couples Welcome
DRESS to IMPRESS

Hosted by Kim
For more info call:
860.836.4466

www.CTDanceFever.com

- * \$25 per person
- * D.J. / Dancing
- * Cash Bar
- * Discounted Rooms

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

The St. Joseph's Polish Club at 395 South Main St. will serve a corned beef and cabbage dinner Sunday, March 12, from 1-3 p.m. Dinner will be served with potatoes, carrots, rye bread, and butter. Dine-in or takeout available.

Advanced tickets only. Tickets are \$15 per person and on sale now at the club. Call 860-537-2550 for more information.

Giving Garden Starts Soon

It's time to start preparing for another year of growing and donating at the Colchester Giving Garden. There will be an open meeting for anyone interested in joining in at the garden on Monday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m., at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., in Norton Room A.

People are invited to discuss the new growing season, ways to improve the garden, items needed for purchase, and offer any other suggestions.

For more information, send inquiries to colchestergivinggarden@gmail.com or come to the meeting on March 13.

Operation FairyTale Prom Dress Events

New London County teens are invited to pick up a free new or gently-worn formal, cocktail or evening gown, just in time for prom, at Kidsignments, 51 Hayward Ave., this weekend.

Operation FairyTale Prom Dress Event will take place at Kidsignments Friday, March 10, from 3-6 p.m., and again Saturday, March 11, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

All that's required is your local high school ID.



Your Local Medicare Specialists

Let Us Help You Navigate Medicare

- Free personalized consultations
- Trust our capable team for your Medicare needs
- Dedicated to satisfying customers
- Providing exceptional Medicare solutions & quality plans
- Family owned & operated for over 30 years



7 Dickinson Road
Marlborough, CT

860-295-9350



Hebron Property Owners!!!

Thinking of selling or buying?

Call Jim Celio – Century 21 AllPoints Realty
 47 YEARS OF LOCAL REAL ESTATE EXPERIENCE

Hebron's #1 Agent – Total Transactions Closed
 2016 – 2017 – 2018 – 2019 – 2020 – 2021 – 2022

Hebron's #1 Agent – Total Closed Market Volume
 2016 – 2017 – 2018 – 2019 – 2020 – 2021 – 2022

**Based on ranking of ALL agents as compiled by CT MLS.

Want References and Recommendations?

Please visit the link below to view unfiltered reviews and comments on Jim's performance from past buyer and seller clients!

www.realsatisfied.com/Jim-Celio

For complete professional real estate service:
Call Jim Celio Today 860-463-2563

Jim Celio, Associate Broker
 Century 21 AllPoints Realty
 Cell: 860-463-2563
 Email: jimcelio@aol.com



17 Main Street, Hebron, CT 06348 • Office 860-228-9425 Ext: 2107

Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester

Dennler Campaign Kicks Off Sunday

By Michael Sinkewicz

Bernie Dennler is holding his first major campaign event this weekend, as the race for Colchester first selectman officially kicks off.

In January, Dennler officially announced his campaign bid, and he will likely become the Democratic nominee for the upcoming November election.

While First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos, a Republican, has filed paperwork with the town clerk's office forming a candidate committee — and has also told the Republican Town Committee that “it looks like” he’s seeking a second term — he told the *Rivereast* on Wednesday that he’s currently undecided on the matter.

“The citizens of Colchester elected me to do this job for two years, [of] which there are still nine months remaining,” Bisbikos said. “When I ran for office in 2021, I listed several campaign goals and initiatives, and my current focus is to bring those to fruition.”

As for Dennler, he currently works as the office manager to the Lebanon first selectman and serves on the Public Safety Subcommittee in Colchester. Previously, he served as vice chair of both the Colchester Board of Finance and the Economic Development Commission.

The event, being held at Priam Vineyards this Sunday at 3 p.m., represents Dennler's first opportunity to formally address the community. The theme of the campaign: “Let’s Bring Colchester Together.”

“We’re divided right now,” he told the *Rivereast* last week. “But there’s a real desire to move past that. People are looking for an opportunity to come together.”

In the weeks following his initial campaign announcement, Dennler emphasized the lack of civility demonstrated by the current administration. “Chaos,” he said, is often the preferred strategy from some elected officials, which interferes with municipal progress.

“Leadership goes a long way in setting the tone for how we operate as a community,” he said. “Right now, escalation is often intentional with the current leadership.”

Referencing his own government experience, Dennler expressed how disagreement between officials isn’t uncommon or even unwelcome. What’s essential, he continued, is that people remain calm and “treat others with respect.”

Creating soundbites or front-page news stories stands in contrast to Dennler’s primary objectives, he said. In his speech Sunday, he plans on laying out strategies on how to “lower the temperature” and unite the town.

A major component will involve being a “facilitator” for the town’s partnerships with community organizations. As the town continues to

transition out of the pandemic, some of those relationships need further attention, he said, highlighting a desire to engage and promote businesses — something Bisbikos has also prioritized.

While Dennler commended the town’s efforts with new events such as “Celebrate Colchester,” which was held on the town green last summer, he said he believes more needs to be done.

Dennler will likely receive the Democratic nomination this summer. Democratic Town Committee Chairman Monica Egan previously expressed that “something extraordinary would have to happen” to prevent him from winning the nomination.

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

This weekend, the target audience won’t be limited to just fellow Democrats. Dennler said he intends to reach out to the entire community, regardless of party affiliation — a divide he believes has negatively impacted the town.

“We don’t have to solve all of America’s problems here in Colchester — that’s not the job of the first selectman” he said. “Let’s take national politics out of the equation.”

The hope, Dennler explained, is that conservatives will share his concerns, and are perhaps searching for someone else to represent their views.

“I will speak up for them,” he said.

Of course, that’s an assertion some residents won’t immediately accept. Still, Dennler pointed to his work in Lebanon, which he described as going beyond party politics. Resolving issues residents care about the most, such as road improvements, should never involve political disputes, he said.

“There’s an opportunity for leaders to advocate for residents regardless of party,” he said. “I can help residents get the most out of their town.”

Explaining that message will be the goal leading up to the election. After his speech this weekend, the journey towards November will involve constant community outreach and knocking on doors, Dennler said.

What remains uncertain — or somewhat mysterious — is who Dennler will be campaigning against. However, he certainly believes it will be Bisbikos.

“He’s filed the paperwork; he’s a candidate,” Dennler said. “I expect he’ll be his party’s nominee.”

While still making a point to work alongside Republicans in general, Dennler described the Colchester Republican Town Committee as a

“divided organization.” Police were called to last month’s RTC meeting, following a dispute between chairman Taras Rudko and Bisbikos.

Colchester Resident State Trooper Sgt. Zachary Cash confirmed that officers were dispatched to the meeting, but there was “no violation of any state statute observed from any of the attendees.” The call was classified as a “non-reportable.”

For Dennler, these incidents establish that Republicans “will not be able to effectively govern.”

On an audio recording of last month’s RTC meeting, Bisbikos can be heard expressing concerns that Republican division could ultimately lead to Dennler’s victory.

“Now, we’re letting egos get in the way,” Bisbikos is heard saying, “and for what? To decimate the town? To allow somebody like Bernie [Dennler] or the [Democratic Town Committee] with their woke socialists take over and do what?”

When asked about Bisbikos’ comments, Dennler said the language was “totally predictable.”

“That’s how he operates,” he said. “He wants to nationalize the conversation. I prefer to talk about our issues in Colchester.”

Dennler was also critical of the town’s handling of several crucial issues, including the new senior center project.

Throughout the winter, the project’s future was uncertain, as fears of going over-budget were met with litigation. While the town re-

ceived a ruling that allowed construction to move forward, questions still remain regarding a budget shortfall.

Last month, the Senior Center Building Committee requested an additional \$1.5 million to cover anticipated increases — an amount that would likely need to be approved by residents at a referendum.

Bisbikos, addressing this concern, stated last month that the “next step in this process is to see the impact of value engineering on the total cost of the project.”

“As promised to the public, the expectations were that the community would see the impact of value engineering before engaging in the referendum process and alternative funding sources,” he said.

He continued by stating that “once budget season is over, [the finance board] will then be ready to discuss the approach on additional funding, which may include a referendum.”

Dennler disagreed with this strategy, saying it was “convoluted and non-transparent to take this backwards approach.”

He added that the building committee should fully understand what funds are available to them, and that receiving that clarity before construction gets underway would be ideal.

“The public is going to get a say at some point and the committee needs to know where the public stands,” he said.

According to Dennler, the common thread in Colchester is “town government being run ineffectively and amateurish.”

Wild Woolies, Wrigglers and Wings -

On Sunday, March 12, at 10 a.m., the Colchester Land Trust invites all to “Wild Woolies, Wrigglers and Wings” — a hiking program to be held at the Bulkeley Hill Preserve.

In this 90-minute hike, Liza Sivek will discuss some of the many native creatures — feathered, scaled and furry — who live in and around the preserve and their habitats. Appropriate for all ages, the three-mile hike features some elevation, the CLT said.

The hike is free for land trust members. (Non-

member adults \$5 each, kids under 18 free.) Registration is encouraged, as there may be a limit on the number of attendees. Register at www.colchesterlandtrust.org. Questions can be emailed at info@colchesterlandtrust.org. Meet at the Bulkeley Hill Preserve Parking Lot on Bulkeley Hill Road, Colchester.

Colchester Land Trust is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that works to permanently preserve and protect open space in Colchester. Go to www.colchesterlandtrust.org to join or donate.

CYSS News & Notes

Colchester Youth and Social Services has announced the following pieces of news. For more information and full descriptions, call 860-537-7255 or email youthservices@colchesterct.gov. Register for programs online at www.colchesterct.gov/yss.

Guiding Lights: Tuesdays through March 28, at the Youth Center, 40 Norwich Ave. Seventh-graders meet from 2:15-4:30 p.m., and fifth-graders from 3:15-4:30 p.m. This is a free peer mentoring program that connects fifth-grade students with seventh-grade mentors on a one-to-one basis.

Girls Circle: Tuesdays through April 4, 3:15-4:30 p.m., for girls in grades 4-5. In this free program, girls will make new friends while using interactive games and guided ac-

tivities.

Minds Over Matter: Thursdays through March 30, 2:15-4 p.m., for grades 6-8. This is a free group for middle school students to learn skills to reduce anxiety.

Youth Center Drop-In: Mondays and Wednesdays, 2-4 p.m., for grades 6-8. This is a free program offering middle-schoolers a place to go after school. Kids can have a snack, play pool, air hockey, video games, basketball and more. There are also crafts, spaces to relax, and a reading/homework area. You do not need to pre-register to attend; students will receive instructions for online registration at their first visit, and they must be registered online to attend again.

Upcoming Senior Center Trips

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

Reservations should be made in person at the senior center, 95 Norwich Ave. Trips are available to senior center members and adult guests over the age of 18, and are on a first-come, first-served basis; space is limited. Call the senior center at 860-537-3911 for more information.

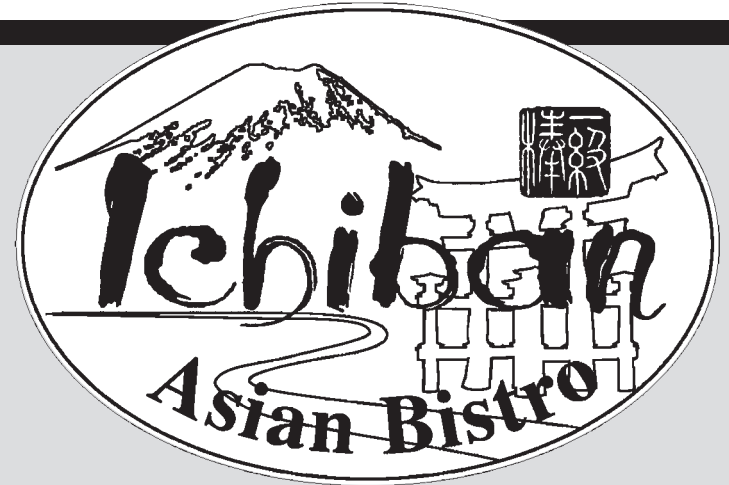
Spain & Portugal: Costa Del Sol to the Portuguese Riviera: Oct. 14-25. Taste some of the delicacies of this southern Spanish region. Includes 10 breakfasts, two lunches and four dinners. Cost is \$5,029 per person for double, if booked before March 15. You can come into the senior center to register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

Gorgeous Glass in Boston: Tuesday, April 18. Spend time at the Mapparium at the Mary Baker Eddy Library. This huge glass globe shows the world’s boundaries frozen in time circa 1935. Also have a three-course family style Italian lunch at Maggiano’s Little Italy, and then see flowers made of Austrian blown glass during a guided tour of The Glass Flow-

ers exhibit in the Harvard Museum of Natural History. Cost is \$130 per person. Sign up at the senior center by March 17.

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical at the Thomaston Opera House: Sunday, April 30. See a matinee of this musical about the true story of singer-songwriter Carole King’s rise to fame. A pre-show lunch will be served at Black Rock Tavern, with a meal choice of chicken marsala, salmon or pork tenderloin. Cost is \$125/person. Sign up at the senior center by March 30.

Locks & Lunch Cruise Along the Hudson: Saturday, June 24, departing at 6:45 a.m. Take a three-hour cruise aboard The Captain J.P. III, the largest cruise vessel in the capital region of upstate New York, to the locks north of Troy and watch as the captain skillfully maneuvers the boat into the locks, where it is then raised approximately 17 feet. There will be a hot and cold buffet and on-board entertainment as you sail. The trip will end with an afternoon visit to Stockbridge, Mass., for shopping. Register by May 24; space is limited.



15% OFF **DINE IN OPEN NOW!**
OR
\$10⁰⁰ OFF any order of **\$60⁰⁰ or more**
Dine In or Take Out

Please present coupon when ordering. Excludes Happy Hour. Not to be combined with any other offers. Valid thru 3/16/2023.



QUALITY SEAFOOD
Dine In or Take Out
Catering • Gift Certificates

179 Linwood Ave., Unit #D, Colchester, CT

860-537-6888 Fax **860-537-1678**

New Hours: Tues–Thur 11:00AM–9:30PM • Fri–Sun 11:00AM–10:00PM • Closed Monday

www.ichibancolchester.com

Colchester Man Charged In 2022 Bolton Killing

By Jack Lakowsky

State police have charged Colchester's Robert Robbins, 68, of Middletown Road, with manslaughter in the 2022 stabbing death of a Bolton man.

State police released a redacted affidavit on Monday.

Police allege that in October 2022 Robbins stabbed the victim in an apartment in on Boston Turnpike in Bolton. The victim – who media reports have identified as Travis Terry, 39, of Bolton – died at Manchester Memorial Hospital.

The night of the stabbing Robbins called Troop K to report that he had stabbed the victim.

The warrant details the chaotic night of the stabbing. At around 8 at night police went to the Bolton address where Robbins reported he had stabbed a person named Travis, whom police learned was Terry, the apartment's resident.

Along with his Colchester address, Robbins also had an address in the same building as Terry.

Police found the apartment unlocked and entered to find the victim "on the floor surrounded by a blood-like substance."

Troopers cut the victim's clothes to give aid and found a single stab wound in the abdomen area, which was "actively bleeding." Terry was brought to the hospital where doctors pronounced him dead.

That night state police detained Robbins. Police body camera footage shows Robbins approaching police with his hands up, holding his cellphone, complying with police orders and handcuffing.

In the police cruiser Robbins confessed to

stabbing Terry.

According to the affidavit, Robbins stated that he and Terry were in the apartment watching television.

"[Terry took] a knife out of his pocket to show him [Robbins] how to open the blade," the affidavit states. "Robbins also stated that while speaking with the victim, the victim became upset and said, 'I'll cut your throat.'"

Robbins then told police Terry started to leave, but stopped, leaned his back against the doorframe and faced Robbins. Terry had his hand on his pocket and asked "Where's my knife?"

Robbins said he believed Terry was going to pull the knife and kill him because Terry "had a crazy look in his eye."

Robbins said he turned around, grabbed a steak knife, and stabbed the victim once in the side of the abdomen.

The victim said, "You stabbed me." That's when Robbins called 911. A major crimes squad detective arrived on scene and saw blood droplets on the exterior front steps of the building.

Robbins spoke with the detective, and was interviewed by police at the Troop K barracks in Colchester.

According to police, Robbins went into detail about the hours leading up to the stabbing.

Robbins said he and Terry were sharing a six pack, then Terry went to the package store to get more drinks. Terry returned, drinking, and "acting a little strange," Robbins told police.

Robbins and Terry went inside, where Terry had another beer. Robbins told police Terry was accused by another tenant of taking change from her car, and Terry became angry.

"Robbins said he thought [Terry] had too many beers and shots," the affidavit states.

Terry made physically threatening gestures at Robbins, and also took out a knife and said "I ought to cut your throat," Robbins told police.

"You don't know me; I snap," Terry allegedly said. "I'm crazy. ... People don't know how crazy I am."

Robbins told police he was scared as he thought Terry was going to stab him, and that Terry was preventing him from leaving the apartment.

Robbins said, "I didn't want take any chances. It's either him or me."

"That's the way I looked at. I'm an old man ... and he's a --- punk, and I think he's on drugs. I got him first before he got his knife out," Robbins told police.

Robbins continued, telling police, "I took my knife and went after him because he was reaching in his pocket to ... come after me...I stabbed him."

Robbins described what he thought were Terry's skilled handling of knives.

"It was scary," Robbins said of the incident.

Robbins said he and Terry were friendly and had not fought in the past, and that everything happened fast and was "fuzzy" in his mind.

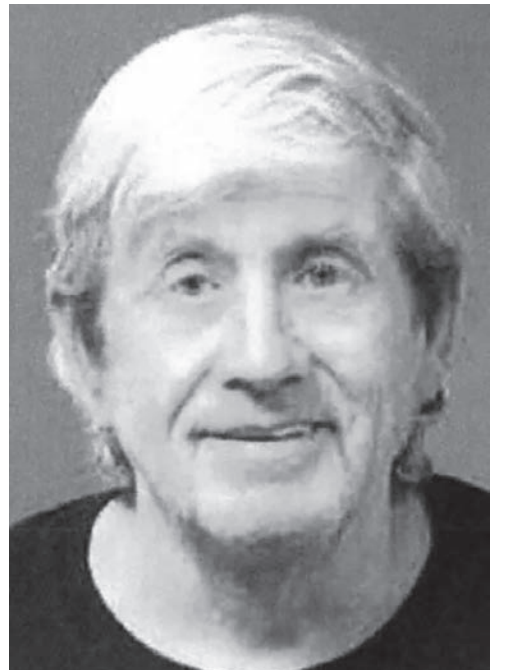
The detective wrote while he smelled alcohol on Robbins' breath, he was coherent and not slurring words.

Detectives interviewed Robbins for four hours, the affidavit states.

Robbins provided a written description of the incident, and a confession, describing a brief struggle with the victim he had not previously described.

The day of the stabbing detectives searched Terry's body, finding a folding knife – a closed one.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner named the cause of death as a stab wound to the



Robert Robbins

torso, labelling it a homicide.

Police spoke to witnesses who described a placid scene before the incident, of two guys sharing some beers at the end of a day.

"The short time I was there, Travis and Bob were calm as can be," said one witness. "I have never seen those two fight. The day was beautiful and Travis and Bob were just outside enjoying the day. There was no arguing or animosity of any kind."

Another said they heard no commotion in the apartment other than Robbins' dog barking, which they'd heard before, but "had never heard it bark like that before."

"I only learned that someone had been killed afterwards."

Ahavath Achim News

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

Tuesday, Aggadath class from the Talmud, 6 p.m.; Talmud class, 6:30 p.m.; Kabbalah class, 8 p.m., on Zoom and in person; Wednesday classes, 2:30-4 p.m. – Hebrew Conversation, Jewish Literacy and Jewish Business Ethics on Zoom. Friday night service, 6:30 p.m., hybrid in-person and on Zoom; Shabbat morning ser-

vice, 10 a.m., hybrid in-person and via Zoom. There will be a potluck lunch – dairy.

There are daily Facebook Live classes on Ken Alter's Facebook page. Also on the page: "Ask the Rabbi" and the Positive Affirmation of the Day.

For more information, call 860-537-2809. Office hours are: Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Friday, noon-2 p.m.

Dean's List

Harrison J. Wells, son of Stephen Wells and Ilyse Wells of Colchester, made the fall 2022 First Honors Dean's List at Pace University in New York City, N.Y. First Honors students must have a 4.0 GPA.

Wells is a business major in the Class of 2026.

Soccer Club Offering Scholarships

Colchester Soccer Club will award up to four scholarships to the graduating class of 2023.

To be eligible for consideration you must be a Colchester resident that participated in the Colchester Soccer Club program, played soccer during one year of high school (either school team, Rec or Premier), to be in good academic standing, and plan on attending a school of higher education in the fall.

Applications are due March 10 and can be picked up in the Bacon Academy guidance office or received electronically by contacting Lauren Faber at lauren.faber@colchestersoccer.org.

Dean's List

Colchester residents Gianna Duckworth and Zachary Henkin made the fall 2022 Dean's List at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I.

Memorial Day Parade Planning Starts

Colchester veterans have begun planning this year's Memorial Day Parade, which will take place Sunday, May 28. Planning meetings will take place at Town Hall at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays, March 15, April 5 and 19, and May 10 and 24. An after-parade meeting will be held Wednesday, June 7.

In the first few meetings the parade committee will develop a parade theme, select a grand marshal, create the parade brochure and review the budget. The committee will also be looking for a guest speaker. Colchester residents can bring suggestions to the parade meetings that might make this year's Memorial Day parade a bigger and better event.

Fireside Supply, Inc.
33B East St., Hebron

- Garage Doors & Openers, Sales, Service
- Metal Carports & Buildings
- GMG Pellet Fired Barbeque Grills
- Harman Pellet Stoves
- Vermont Casting, Hearthstone, Hampton & Regency Wood Stoves
- Wood Pellets & BioBricks

Discounts for cash & carry appliance sales
30% Federal Tax Credit (MUST QUALIFY)

860-228-1383 M-F 9-5 SAT. 10-2

OUR 31ST YEAR!!!

29 Years in the Travel Business

Excellent Service! Inventive Solutions!
Personal Touches! Magical Memories!

Call Hebron Travel Today and Get Out of Town!

Hebron Travel SINCE 1994
61-B Main Street, Hebron, CT 06248
860.228.8221
Toll Free 888.881.3545 • hebrontravel@cs.com

Edward Jones > edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Compare our CD Rates
Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

6-month	5.00 % APY*
9-month	5.15 % APY*
1-year	5.25 % APY*

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.

Mark H Rogozinski
Financial Advisor
179 Linwood Ave Bldg C Suite 6
Colchester, CT 06415-1160
860-603-2474

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 03/07/2023. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

BUYING GOLD AND OLD COINS/CURRENCY/JEWELRY

Bring in this coupon, get 3% more!
(offer valid on gold/silver jewelry only)

Not a Pawn Shop!
Professional, Clean & Safe Environment

BUYING FREE

- ✓ Gold, Silver, Platinum
- ✓ Unwanted Jewelry
- ✓ Old Coins & Currency
- ✓ Diamonds
- ✓ Old Pocket Watches
- ✓ Sterling Flatware
- ✓ Sterling Plates, Bowls
- ✓ Silver Plated Items
- ✓ Estates & Inheritances

COVID Compliant

FREE

- ✓ Verbal Appraisals
- ✓ Weighing
- ✓ Coin Grading
- ✓ Gold Testing

Numismatist over 25 years
In business since 2008
Served over 15,000 customers

Coins N' Gold Exchange

NEW HOURS:
Sat. 9-2 • Wed. 9-6
Thurs. & Fri. 9-5
Closed Sun., Mon. & Tues.
after hours by appointment

157 Route 66
Portland, CT
860-342-2100

clip and save

Burn Oil COMPANY
(860) 295-9046

Residential & Commercial Heating Oil
Senior & Volume Discounts

Minimum **100** Gallons!
No Pre-Buys Available

Now offering on and off road Diesel Sales.
Please call for competitive pricing.

P.O. Box 32 • Marlborough H.O.D. #1087

Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester

Senior Center: Groundbreaking Close, But Hurdles Remain

By Michael Sinkewicz

This week, Colchester residents may have witnessed new construction activity near Town Hall, at the site of the town's new senior center. Trees have begun being cleared, a sign that the project many community members have long awaited is getting underway.

But hurdles still remain.

Last week, the Senior Center Building Committee Public Information Subcommittee reviewed a program for a future groundbreaking ceremony. As of now, the committee is aiming for a date in mid-April.

The program remains largely unchanged — it was originally drafted last fall, but the ceremony was delayed after a budget short-fall was announced. Now, officials are looking to hold an event featuring both local and state leaders.

Gov. Ned Lamont, Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz and Congressman Joe Courtney will all be invited.

Selectman Rosemary Coyle said many leaders, including former state representative Brian Smith were "instrumental" in securing state funding. Perhaps most notably, the town received a \$2.5 million grant that lessened the overall budget.

Coyle and others are eagerly awaiting the groundbreaking.

Senior Center Building Committee (SCBC) Chairman Tony Tarnowski previously expressed that he has "six shovels in my basement painted gold." Coyle, who will likely be one of the officials with a shovel in the ground, is ready for that moment.

Her commitment to a new senior center dates back to 2006, when she first began playing a role in groups and subcommittees tasked with planning the project, including securing the parcel adjacent to Town Hall.

"It's very close to home," she said. "I've worked on it my entire time on the Board of Selectmen."

To her, the groundbreaking is more than a "symbolic" event, but rather a significant milestone for the community. Through collaboration with several first selectman and board members, the establishment of building committees, referendums and lawsuits, the project is on the door-

step of finally being constructed.

"And here we are now," she said. "It's been one of my major goals."

Last month, the selectmen awarded a construction contract to BRD Builders LLC in the amount of \$8.6 million. Prior to signing the contract, Republican Town Committee Chairman Taras Rudko and selectman Jason LaChapelle sought an injunction — based on a variety of concerns — that would've prevented the town from awarding the bid. However, New London Superior Court Judge Karen Goodrow denied the injunction request while also lifting an emergency injunction previously granted by the court.

In 2021, residents signed off at a referendum on \$9.5 million for the building of a new senior center. Town officials have signaled that additional funding would likely be needed to complete the project and prevent future lawsuits.

In light of those concerns, the Senior Center Building Committee requested an additional \$1.5 million, taking the overall budget to \$11 million. In court, Goodrow had agreed with assessments placing the budget estimate for the project somewhere between \$10.2-10.8 million.

Tarnowski, in explaining the appropriation request, outlined several budget lines that should be increased. He recommended raising construction costs from \$8.6 million to \$9.1 million — a \$468,530 spike that would allow the alternate bids that were removed from the budget to return.

The committee also called for \$290,000 more for furniture and equipment — a line item that had been almost entirely eliminated previously to save money. Legal services also increased by \$40,000. While the expenses connected with the injunction are being covered by the town, the committee still expects that other fees may arise.

But, as of now, the discussion on approving a special appropriation has not taken place at the board level. Some officials, including Coyle, believe setting a referendum date in order to receive community approval for additional funding should take place imminently. She expressed that until the town gets that approval, the committee cannot access all of the available funding sources, including \$575,000 from the Bendas

estate, which was left to the town.

"If we don't go to referendum, we don't have a clear path to using the Bendas money," Coyle said. "That's an issue."

Moving forward without the additional funding could land the town back in court, she continued. The committee needs the "flexibility" to handle escalation costs and any unforeseen challenges that might emerge during construction, she added.

After the committee made the appropriation request, First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos told the *Rivereast* that the boards would not be making any immediate recommendations.

"Upon consultation with Andrea Migliaccio [chairman of the finance board], the next step in this process is to see the impact of value engineering on the total cost of the project," Bisbikos said in a statement. "As promised to the public, the expectations were that the community would see the impact of value engineering before engaging in the referendum process and alternative funding sources."

Value engineering involves working with the builder to find and substitute items, which lowers costs without impacting the overall design of the building.

Bisbikos continued by stating that a "majority of the finance board" agrees that the focus should currently be on working on the town and education budgets. It was not immediately clear if Bisbikos consulted all members of the board, or which members contributed to that decision.

"Once budget season is over, they will then be ready to discuss the approach on additional funding, which may include a referendum," he said. "With a contract in place and value engineering set to take place, there is nothing obstructing construction and movement on this project."

Coyle expressed that she wanted a discussion on the subject added to the selectmen meeting agenda, but was overruled by Bisbikos. She penned a letter in last week's *Rivereast* stating that the \$1.5 million appropriation would have "zero" impact on issuing bonds — according to the town's financial planner — and that the mill rate would not be impacted, as well.

During her interview, Coyle again questioned why the boards cannot review the request.

"What is the reluctance to go to a referendum?" Coyle said. "Why are we dragging our feet? I think people want this resolved."

She added: "Basically, the first selectman is holding the senior center hostage until he gets his budget passed."

Bisbikos presented his budget earlier this week — more details will be in next week's *Rivereast*.

Bisbikos did not respond to a request for comment before press time.

Coyle stated that for the next selectmen's meeting agenda, a discussion item has been added, but not an action item.

"I'm frustrated," she said.

Incoming Kindergarten Story Time

Colchester Elementary School will host an Incoming Kindergarten Story Time session Tuesday, March 14, from 11:10-11:40 a.m., in the media center, 315 Halls Hill Rd., for 4-and 5-year-old Colchester children who will be entering kindergarten during the 2023-24 school year.

Children will listen to books read by kindergarten teachers, while parents learn about

the registration process, the kindergarten curriculum, readiness expectations, the school day, school policies and transportation. A question-and-answer period will be available. No pre-registration is required.

Future sessions will be Tuesdays, April 4 and May 9. Parents and children are invited to attend multiple story times. Topics for parent information change each month.

Colchester Federated Church News

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

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

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

Holy Week Schedule: Palm Sunday: April 2: 9 a.m. worship service with Palm Sunday processional. Maundy Thursday: April 6, 7 p.m. worship service: The Last Supper. The church's communion class will help lead the service and receive communion for the first

Dean's List

Jesse Passeri of Colchester made the fall 2022 Dean's List at University of Maryland Global Campus.

time. **Good Friday:** April 7. Stations of the Cross will take place at noon. Walk throughout the sanctuary from station to station and contemplate the seven last words Jesus spoke from the cross. **Easter Sunday:** April 9. 6 a.m., Sunrise service at Lake Hayward; 9 a.m., worship service in the sanctuary, with communion.

Twelve-Step Meetings: AA meets in the church library Monday-Wednesday and Friday at noon and Thursday at 10 a.m., and at 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. On Saturdays at 9:30 a.m., Al-Anon meets in the Jerusalem Room and AA meets in the Stage Room.

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

St. Joseph's Day Dinner-Dance

The St. Joseph's Polish Club at 395 South Main St. will host a St. Joseph's Day dinner-polka dance Sunday, March 19. Dinner will be served at 1 p.m., and The Eddie Forman Orchestra will play polka music from 2-6 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 each and must be purchased in advance. Call 860-537-2550 for more information.



**We're celebrating
35 YEARS around the sun!**

Special thanks to the fabulous team, for without whom, Cuts would be nothing; to our clients for years of patronage and loyalty; to the community for supporting small business everywhere; and to



Where it all began!

**Kathy Ewings
for chasing
a dream and
building,
what is now,
one amazing
company!**

**203 Lebanon Avenue • Colchester, CT 06415
(860) 537-0666**



**Skyview
REALTY**



Jack Faski
Owner/Broker



Matt Faski
Sales Associate

**Spring is near...
and we are here and
ready to help you buy
or sell a new home.**

We Are Here To Help With Your Commercial Needs Too!

— 860-214-1147 • www.skyview-realty.com —

35 Hayward Ave., Colchester, CT 06415

The early stages of communication disorders are easier to spot when you know the signs.

IDENTIFY THE SIGNS



For info: IdentifyTheSigns.org



Scout Sunday... Scout BSA Troop and Pack 109 recently celebrated Scout Sunday at their charter organization, the Westchester Congregational Church. Pictured are scouts and leaders who attended the service in February. For more info about Troop and Pack 109, email westconchurch@gmail.com.

Parks and Rec News

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

Strategic Plan Survey: All are invited to take part in the Colchester Strategic Plan survey and be a part of future planning. Link to survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/ColchesterCTStrategicPlan.

Card-Making Class: The third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., at Town Hall. Upcoming dates: 3/15, 4/19. Cost: \$15 per class, per person (\$20 for nonresidents). A minimum of two people is needed for this class.

Heartsaver CPR AED/First Aid: This course trains participants to give CPR and use an automated external defibrillator (AED). Cost: \$90 per person. Next class date: Tuesday, March 21, 6 p.m.

Gentle Yoga: See the Parks and Rec. website for dates and times. Cost: \$40/resident, \$45/

non-resident.

Summer Camp Staff: Adults and teens age 16 and up can fill out an employment application to work at Colchester's Summer Day Camp, which will start June 26. Applications are available online, and are due March 30. This is a paid position, and for employees with children, the child can participate in camp for free.

Summer Camp Teen Leaders: Open to Colchester residents ages 14 and older by the start of camp. This is a volunteer position. Applications are due March 15 and can be found online.

Events: Spring Clean-Up: Saturday, April 22, at 8 a.m., on the Town Green; rain date: April 29. Jobs include spreading mulch, raking, weeding, picking up garbage, and more. Locations include the schools, town buildings and parks. Meet up afterward at Mel's Downtown Ice Cream for a free ice cream as a 'thank you.'

Food Festival on the Town Green: Saturday, May 6; rain date is May 7. There will be vendors, games and food. Watch www.facebook.com/FOODIEAFF for more information.

Senior Center News & Notes

Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., has announced the following. For full descriptions, call 860-537-3911, email csc@colchesterct.gov, or visit www.colchesterct.gov/senior-center.

Monday, March 13: 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise with Anne; 9 a.m., CoA Meeting (Town Hall); 10 a.m., Sittercize; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mahjongg; 12:45 p.m., Setback; 1 p.m., Bridge.

Tuesday, March 14: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10 a.m., Regional LTC Ombudsman Meeting; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle, CHOICES Counseling by appointment; 1:30 p.m., Bingo; 7 p.m., SCBC Meeting (via Zoom).

Wednesday, March 15: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Walking Group meet-up at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 11 a.m., Lucky Leprechaun Luncheon; 1:30 p.m., Cardio Drumming Introduction.

Thursday, March 16: 9 a.m., Exercise with Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling, Coffee with the new Senior Benefits Counselor; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

Friday, March 17: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.,

ButterBraid and Cake Roll Fundraiser

The St. Andrew Church Ladies Guild of Colchester is sponsoring a ButterBraid and Cake Roll fundraiser through March 21. All proceeds will fund the Guild's annual high school and college scholarships.

People may order online at tinyurl.com/mvty6xe4. Pickup will be Saturday, April 1, from 9-11 a.m., at the St. Andrew Parish Hall. For more information, call Kathleen at 860-917-7616.

Youth Lacrosse Registration

Colchester Youth Lacrosse registration is open for boys and girls in grades K-8. Players from all towns are welcome, and can register at Colchesterlax.org. Registration closes April 11.

Seed Library Opens for Season

The Colchester Garden Club and Cragin Memorial Library has opened the Colchester Seed Library, for the start of its second year.

The seed library offers vegetable, herb, flowers and native seeds free of charge for the public to grow at home, either starting indoors or direct sow when the weather warms. It is located in the Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., and is available during normal library hours. The Seed Library will continue to be restocked through the growing season with new

seed varieties. There are also educational handouts on seed starting and gardening available in the Seed Library Binder, which can be found with the Seed Library.

If you would like to be notified when the Seed Library is restocked, send an email to colchestergardenclub@yahoo.com asking to be put onto the email listing for these notices, or complete the contact information form at the library.

Upcoming Programs at Cragin

Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., has announced the following programs. For more information and full program descriptions, call 860-537-5752 or visit www.colchesterct.gov/library.

Take & Make Foodie Fun: Saturday, March 11, for kids and teens. Create a colorful sweet treat.

Butterfly Week – March 13-18: Come to the children's department and follow the butterflies posted in the library to learn lots of butterfly facts.

Free Play: Tuesday, March 14, 10 a.m.-noon, for ages 2-5. Featuring an inside obstacle course.

No-Sew Hedgehog Take & Make: Wednesday, March 15, for adults and teens. Stop by to pick up a craft kit while supplies last.

Take & Make Children's Hedgehog Craft: Wednesday, March 15. Create a cute hedgehog.

Mint Milkshakes: Thursday, March 16, 3-3:45 p.m., for grades 6-12. Stop by the library for some green milkshakes. Let library staff know if you have any food allergies.

Take & Make Robot Craft: Saturday, March 18. Pick up the craft kit in the children's department.

Take & Make Lion Landscape Craft: Monday, March 20. Pick up the craft kit in the children's department.

Baby Free Play: Tuesday, March 21, 10

a.m.-noon.

Teen Gaming: Tuesday, March 21, 3-4 p.m., for grades 6-12. Hang out and try out a new game or play with friends on the library's new Nintendo Switch.

In-Person: Paint Craft: Wednesday, March 22, 6-7 p.m. Stop into the children's department and paint some dandelions with us.

Take & Make Puppy Craft: Thursday, March 23. Pick up the craft in the children's department.

3D Paper Flowers: Saturday, March 25, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Stop into the lobby for a quick craft.

Take & Make Sheep Cheerio Craft: Monday, March 27. Create a sheep craft with Cheerios. Pick up in the children's department.

Paint Night on Zoom: Tuesday, March 28, 6:30 p.m., for teens and adults. You will receive an email when supplies are ready to be picked up from the library. Registration is required, at tinyurl.com/r8xvtd8.

Eat if You Dare: Thursday, March 30, 3-3:45 p.m., for grades 6-12. Try mysterious snacks that may taste really good or really bad. Let library staff know if you have any food allergies.

Movie Night: Thursday, March 30, 5:45 p.m. *The Parent Trap* (1998) will be shown. Rated PG, the movie runs two hours and eight minutes. Snacks will be provided.

Bacon Students Selling Saplings

This year, students from Bacon AP Environmental Science Class are partnering with the nonprofit Tree-Plenish to help make their community more sustainable. They plan to sell and plant 212 saplings on Saturday, April 22, to offset their school's energy consumption from the past academic year.

Saplings are \$5 and residents can choose between Eastern Redbud, Flowering Dogwood, and Red Maple saplings. All trees are native to the region and not only help sequester carbon but provide needed resources for

pollinators and migrating bird species. Orders for trees must be placed by March 22.

Residents can order a sapling to be planted in their yard or sign up to volunteer to plant saplings on the day of the event. Saplings can be picked up at Bacon Academy on April 22 from 9-11 a.m., for people who prefer to plant themselves.

For more information, or to order saplings, visit tpevents.org/school/3047 or contact Jill Levasseur at jlev412@colchesterct.gov.

Colchester Sports Licensing

Town Clerk Gayle Furman is notifying residents that sports licenses are available to purchase in the town clerk's office at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave.

The town clerk's office is offering this service in conjunction with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. DEEP has issued the office a limited number of guides this year. The hunting guides are currently avail-

able. The fishing guides will become available in the spring.

DEEP asks that people print these guides themselves, if possible, from portal.ct.gov/DEEP-CT-Outdoor-Guides.

The town clerk's office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and Thursdays until 7 p.m. For more information about this service, call 860-537-7215.

Bacon Grad Commissioned Officer

Brett Ringo, originally from Colchester and a 2002 Bacon Academy graduate, was commissioned as the commanding officer of the USS Wichita on Friday, March 3.

A career surface warfare officer, Commander Ringo's shipboard assignments include: USS Oak Hill (LSD 51) as the Deck Division Officer, USS Freedom (LCS 1) and USS Fort Worth (LCS 3) as the Combat Systems Officer and Operations Officer, Amphibious Squadron Eight as the N3 and Chief Staff Officer, and Expeditionary Strike Group Two as the Flag Secretary and N1. He was also the executive officer of the USS Billings (LCS 15) Blue Crew.

Ashore, Ringo's assignments include: gradu-

Local Photo Contest

Until March 15, the Edward Jones office of financial advisor Kevin Harris will accept photos from the town. Photos of nature, buildings, the town green, and whatever you think makes Colchester a beautiful town are all welcome.

A winner will be chosen from each age group (18 & under or 19 & over) and the winning photos will be displayed in the two front windows of the office.

All submissions should be sent to both Ashleigh.krom@edwardjones.com and Kevin.harris@edwardjones.com, and include name, phone number and age group. This information will only be used to let you know if your photo has been chosen; no sales calls.

Christian Life Chapel News

Christian Life Chapel, located at 392 S. Main St., holds worship in person at 10 a.m. Sundays. Follow the church on Facebook for the livestream.

Weekly Schedule: Bible Study for Men: Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 8 a.m.; Bible Study for women: Tuesdays at 10 a.m.; Community Bible Study and Prayer: Wednesdays at 7 p.m.; Fridays: Donuts with Don at 10 a.m. -- this is an open discussion: How does God fit in this thing called life?

For more information, call Pastor Don Rivers – the church's bi-vocational pastor, who also serves as president for "Racing with Jesus, Inc." – at 860-398-9119 or visit christianlifechapel.org

Fish Fry Fridays

The Colchester Fish and Game Club is holding its annual Fish Fry dinners every Friday during Lent, continuing through and including Good Friday, April 7.

Meal choices include traditional fish and chips, baked fish with baked potato, the club's breaded clam strip dinner, as well as chicken nuggets for the kids. All meals include coleslaw, coffee and dessert. Cost is \$16 for adults and \$9 for kids.

Meals will be served from 6-8 p.m. Take-out is available by calling the club at 860-537-2593 after 5:30 p.m. on Fridays.

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton

Boys Basketball Eliminated in East Hampton

By Josh Howard

The East Hampton High School boys basketball team fell to Wolcott, 65-56, in the first round of the Division V state tournament on Monday at EHHS, ending a year of growth for the young Bellringers.

“We showed a lot of energy on defense, but we just had too many breakdowns,” second-year head coach John Antolini said following the elimination loss. “They were a little quicker than us and when they made their runs we had some breakdowns and offensively we just didn’t have it tonight. It took us time to adjust to their defensive pressure.”

East Hampton sophomore Brady Lynch scored a game-high 21 points, yet the deep rotation of the visiting Eagles was too much for the scrappy Bellringers to overcome.

Wolcott’s high-octane approach overwhelmed East Hampton in the first few minutes of the game, allowing the Eagles to jump out to a 6-0 lead.

Antolini said his team looked a little “nervous” from the opening tip, but credited his team for settling in after the unsettling start.

Lynch had consecutive contested layups and Austin Cuthbertson drained a jumper to counter Wolcott’s six-point run.

The teams continued to trade buckets throughout a physical first quarter, which ended in a 16-16 tie.

Wolcott again started quickly in the second quarter, scoring the first eight points and added another scoring spurt to start the third quarter, upping the advantage to 36-25 in the first few minutes of the second half.

But as they have done all year, the Bellringers battled back as they attempted to save their season.

Sophomore Jadin Sawyer ignited a third-quarter run with consecutive baskets on offense and a pair of blocks on defense. Cuthbertson then drained a three-pointer to pull the Bellringers with 36-34 at the 2:50 mark of the third.

After Wolcott built the lead back up to seven points, Sawyer sank a deep three-pointer to bring

the Bellringers within 43-39. Sawyer scored nine points, all in the second half.

Antolini said that Sawyer has shown much growth as a sophomore, playing a major role in key games this winter.

“Offensively he has been a big asset,” added Antolini. “He has developed into a great player and now he just has to apply that in all three phases.”

East Hampton remained within striking distance throughout the third quarter, but ultimately Wolcott had just too much firepower.

The Eagles ended any chance of a comeback with an 8-0 scoring run to start the final quarter, increasing the lead to 51-39.

Quinten Outlaw (18), Terrance Stevens (17), and Joe Ferrucci (13) led a balanced scoring attack for Wolcott.

Antolini called his team “young and learning.” “We haven’t gotten over the hump in a few of these 50/50 games,” added Antolini. “We fought hard to come back, but we were very much out-of-sync tonight and we just didn’t have enough in us.”

The loss ended Antolini’s second year on the Bellringers bench.

East Hampton won 12 of 20 regular season games in Antolini’s first year running the program and, despite losing eight seniors to graduation, the team again won double digit (10) games this year.

The loss to Wolcott was the final game for seniors Nate Ireland and Nick Chunko.

Ireland averaged a double-double (scoring over 10 points and grabbing over 10 rebounds per game) and did a lot of the dirty work down low.

Chunko spent a majority of the season as the team’s sparkplug off the bench before earning his way into the starting lineup with a strong finish this winter.

“Their leadership has been amazing,” Antolini said of his departing seniors. “They are going to be missed and they taught a lot of these young guys how to play the right way.”

Lynch, who averaged over 20 points per game



East Hampton team captains Brady Lynch (left) and Nate Ireland discuss strategy coming out of a timeout during the Bellringers state tournament loss to Wolcott on March 6. The loss ended the season for East Hampton, who won double-digit games for the second straight season under head coach John Antolini.

and was named to the All-Shoreline Conference (SLC) first team, will lead a strong nucleus coming back next season.

Following the conclusion of his second season in East Hampton, Antolini – who said he was pleased to see several of the players who graduated a season ago supporting the team from the stands – is optimistic that the building blocks are

in place for a fruitful future.

“They showed a lot of energy, they showed a lot of heart and hopefully they are helping me build a culture for years to come,” said Antolini. “These guys fought hard all year and it’s unfortunate we didn’t come out on the right end, but we had a great year.”

Parks and Rec News and Notes

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

Bicycle Stunt Show: Tuesday, March 21, 3:30-4:30 p.m., for grades K-5 (Memorial and Center students).

Volleyball Clinics: March 23, 30, April 6 and April 20, at East Hampton High School, for grades 5-8. Girls’ clinics are from 5:30-6:45

p.m., and boys’ clinics are from 7-8:15 p.m. Cost: \$125.

Spring Candy Hunt: April 1, 10 a.m., at Center School. Cost: \$5. Pre-registration required.

April Vacation Adventures: April 10-14, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., at Sears Park pavilion. Cost: \$210.

Junior Bellringers’ Run for Fun Challenge: Tuesdays, April 25-May 16, 6-6:45 p.m., at the East Hampton High School track. Fee: \$60.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church News

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church holds services Sundays at 10:45 a.m. All are welcome. The church is located at 1 East High St. Bible study is Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall Lounge.

During Lent, the church will offer Soup and Substance, open to the public, on Thursdays starting at 6 p.m. Attendees will watch a 45- to 50-minute episode each week of the series *The Chosen* as they eat, break bread, and share food. All are welcome. The gatherings begin Feb. 23

and last until April 6.

Lenten services will be shared with Faith Lutheran Church in Middletown. The schedule is:

Maundy Thursday, April 6 at Faith Lutheran at 7:30 p.m. in person and via Zoom; Good Friday, April 7, at Bethlehem, at 5:30 p.m. in person and via Zoom; Holy Saturday, April 8, at Faith Lutheran, at 7:30 p.m. in person and via Zoom; Easter Sunday, April 9, at Bethlehem at 10:45 a.m. in person and via Zoom.

See each church’s website for Zoom links.

Schools Offer Preschool Programs

The East Hampton Public School System is seeking 3- and 4-year-old residents interested in preschool programs for the 2023-24 school year. There will be two preschool programs offered: the Integrated Preschool half-day program and full-day Smart Start program.

Memorial Elementary School’s preschool Integrated Program will be held three times a week for 3-year-old students and four times a week for 4-year-old students. Due to limited spaces, selection for peer models will be determined through a lottery process. If selected, peer models demonstrating age-appropriate skills will be assigned by age to either a three day or four day a week schedule (2.5 hours per day). Children must be toilet-trained and turn 3 prior to Sept. 1 to be eligible.

Memorial’s Smart Start Program will be held five full days per week (8:50 a.m.-2:50 p.m.), following the East Hampton Public School calendar. Priority will be given to 4-year-old children that meet income guidelines or have other factors for consideration. Other applicants, regardless of economic or risk factors will then be selected.

Parents interested in proceeding through the selection process must pick up an application/information packet at either Memorial Elementary School or the East Hampton Public Library. Packets are available at both locations.

The completed Parent Interview Form, Immunization Form and a Proof of Residency must be returned to Jodi Blyler at Memorial School office no later than March 17.

Once all three forms are returned, parents will be contacted, no later than March 24, to schedule a time to bring their child for the screening and lottery/selection process.

Forms received after March 17 will not be accepted.

Rev. Jack Olson Memorial Service

Haddam Neck Congregational Church will hold a memorial service in honor of the Rev. John “Jack” Olson on Sunday, March 12, at 11 a.m., in the church sanctuary, 408 Quarry Hill Road, Haddam Neck.

All who knew and loved Jack are most welcome to attend. A reception hosted by his daughters will follow.

For more information, visit www.haddamneckcongregationalchurch.org.



EAST HAMPTON FAMILY DENTAL

Family Friendly Dentist for Adults & Kids
Gentle, Convenient & Affordable



Meet Our Dentist:
Dr. Vijaya Canakala

- Personalized Dental Care
- Implants, Porcelain Crowns & Bridges, White Fillings
- Cosmetic Dentistry, Teeth Whitening, Extractions, Dentures
- Modern Technology (Digital X-rays, Intraoral Cameras)
- Preventive & Conservative Treatment
- Open Evenings for Convenience
- Emergency Same Day Appointments
- Flexible Payment Options

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!
Schedule your appointment at: **860-267-9904**

41 West High Street, East Hampton, CT 06424
www.EastHamptonFamilyDental.com

HunterDouglas
Comfortex
& more
all about blinds
Custom Window Treatments
• BLINDS • SHADES • SHUTTERS •
• DRAPERIES and MORE •
89 Main St. East Hampton, CT
860-267-8330
AllAboutBlindsCT.com
Keeping Sven’s Legacy Alive

BROTHERS OIL COMPANY
Since 1978
860-289-9468 • 860-289-6292
Automatic Delivery for less than COD
24 Hour Emergency Repair Service
Same Day Oil Delivery Available
WE ACCEPT ENERGY ASSISTANCE
www.BrothersOil.com
HOD 114 • 57-308374
WHEN THE HEAT’S ON US... WE DELIVER!

21
RICK’S REAL ESTATE GROUP
At CENTURY 21 AllPoints Realty
Rick Berkenstock
Lyn Stuart
ricksrealestategroup.com
860-930-3469
1 Main Street
East Hampton
Each office is independently owned and operated

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton

Commission on Aging's Corner...

We heard you, older adults!

Over a year ago, 482 of you filled out our Survey of Older Adults' Needs. Twenty percent of you said that you could not afford to remain in our town in retirement. Many wrote in comments asking for tax relief. We also learned that many of you did not know of existing tax abatement programs.

In 2022, we presented the survey results to the Town Council, and later advocated for specific means to meet your needs – including tax relief for those with low incomes. At the Town Council meeting 2/28/23 concerning tax abatements for various groups, our chair advocated for increased generosity for older adults who qualify for tax abatements, and for using multiple means of communicating those programs.

The Town Council is now setting up a committee to recommend additional tax abatements for older adults, and has asked the Commission on Aging to comment annually on their effectiveness for our older adult population. We will continue to advocate for you.

Please follow this column for more news on Commission on Aging advocacy for older adults.

Eric Rosenberg, MD
Chair, East Hampton Commission on Aging

Senior Center News & Notes

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

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

Weekly Activities: Quilting Group: Mondays, 9 a.m.; **Mexican Train Dominoes:** Mondays, 9:30 a.m.; **Setback:** Mondays, 1 p.m., and Thursdays, 1:15 p.m.; **Bible Study:** Tuesdays, 1 p.m.; **Bingo:** Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m., in person and via Zoom; **Tap Dance:** Thursdays, 11:15-11:45 a.m.; **Cribbage:** Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m. -- let the center know in advance if you plan to attend; **Mahjongg:** Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon; call also to put your name on a list if interested in learning how to play; **Textile Group:** Fridays, 1 p.m.

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

Wonderfully Wicked Women's Group (WWW): Mondays, March 6 and 20, 10 a.m. This is a low-key opportunity to meet others and share resources. The group determines the topics for discussion for the next month.

Mighty Magnificent Men's Group: Monday, March 13, at 10:30 a.m. A social hour of fun facts and sharing activities, and snacks, just for the guys.

Games with the Interact Kids: Friday, March 10, 10 a.m.-noon. Snacks provided.

Book Club: Tuesday, March 14, 10:30 a.m. This month's book is *Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman.

Bus Trip to Walmart in Cromwell: Wednesday, March 15. Shopping will be from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Meet at the senior center by 10:30 a.m. to

Dean's List

Julia Shirley, a senior nursing major from East Hampton, made the fall 2022 Dean's List at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, N.Y.

board the bus. Call for a ride if you need to be picked up and brought to senior center. There will be a stop at Dairy Queen for lunch and ice cream on the way back. Return to the senior center will be at about 2:30 p.m. Call to reserve a seat; a \$3 transportation donation is requested.

Beeyond/St Patrick's Day Celebration: Thursday, March 16, 3 p.m. Experience an interactive virtual tour presentation on St Patrick's Day and Festival Week. Snacks will be provided.

Family Tree: Friday, March 17, 10:30 a.m. Ken Doney will help people search for the history of their families. Bring your own mobile device. Monthly program with one-on-one time available.

Movie Day: Friday, March 17, 1-3 p.m. See *Riverdance: The Ten-Year Documentary*, a look back at the Riverdance phenomenon. Sign up in advance and don't forget to sign up for lunch too with CRT. Goodies provided.

Writing is Good for your Health: Thursday, March 30, 1 p.m. Local author Dale Ursin will share his writing experiences and have copies of his book, *In the Land of the Walpoles*.

Trips: Stayin' Alive: See this Bee Gees tribute band at the Aqua Turf club in Plantsville Monday, May 22. There will be coffee and doughnuts upon arrival and a family-style lunch served. Cost is \$116. Deposit of \$25 to reserve a spot by March 9. Please call for more information or stop by to pick up a flyer.

Saratoga: Aug. 2-3. Visit the Saratoga racetrack and place your bets, then stay at the Queensbury Hotel and enjoy a welcome dinner. Day two includes heading to the top of Prospect Mountain overlooking Lake George and then a two-hour narrated, luncheon, Lake George steamboat cruise with live entertainment! Also, stroll the village. Cost is \$429/person for a double/triple and \$509/person for a single. Deposit of \$150 is due May 2. Call for more information or stop by to pick up a flyer.

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

Christ Episcopal Church News

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

Sunday School: New students are always welcome. Contact the Rev. Joanne Neel-Richard for information at jneelrichard16@gmail.com.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

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

Lenten Message Series: Each Sunday in Lent, the message will focus on the seven last words of Christ: "My God, why has Thou forsaken me?"

Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 1, 1 p.m. Hundreds of colorful eggs will be hidden outside the church. There will also be refreshments and Easter gift bags.

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

East Hampton Library News & Notes

East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St, has announced the following. Registration required unless noted; to register, or for full program descriptions, call 860-267-6621 or visit us at easthamptonpubliclibrary.org, or on Facebook at facebook.com/EastHamptonLibrary

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

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

Nintendo Switch Tournament: Saturday, March 11, 3-4:30 p.m., for grades 1-5. All skill levels welcome. This month, play *Just Dance 2023*.

Nature Yoga: Monday, March 13, 4:30-5:30 p.m., for grades 1-5. Practice mindfulness and some animal-themed yoga poses with Amie Meacham, Yoga 200 Certified instructor.

Family Storytime: Saturday, March 18, 10:30 a.m., for ages 3-5. Siblings welcome. There will be music, movement, and reading of books. Stick around afterwards for crafts, sensory play and socializing.

Kids Comic Creators: Investigators: Wednesday, March 22, 4:30 p.m., for grades 2-5. Play games, craft, and try new comic-making techniques inspired by the *InvestiGators* book series.

DIY Days - Cup and Ball Toy: Saturday, March 25, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., for children and families in grades K-8. No registration required; just drop in. Available while supplies last.

EHMS Baseball, Softball Registration

East Hampton Middle School students who are interested in trying out for either the baseball or softball teams can register online through FamilyID.com. Athletes must have a physical conducted within the last 13 months before trying out.

Deadline for online registrations is Monday, March 13.

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

com.

Donations and Contributions: Place all returnable bottles in the barrels next to the shed. Items for donation to the East Hampton Food Bank are collected in the black containers next to the rear door of the church.

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

topic.

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

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

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

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

Meet a Sled Dog Team!: Saturday, March 25, noon. All ages are invited to the field at Center School to meet Liz Chapman and the dogs of Team Danger Zone. Learn about mushing, see a demonstration, and interact with the dogs.

Teen Programs: Teen Dungeons & Dragons: Wednesday, March 15, 5:30-7:30 p.m., for grades 8-12. No previous playing experience is required. The library will provide basic fifth edition, level four characters and all the supplies needed to play.

Nintendo Switch Tournament: Saturday, March 18, 2-3:30 p.m., for grades 6-12. All skill levels welcome.

Pre-Teen Advisory Board: Tuesday, March 21, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Grades 6-8 are invited to stop by and share their knowledge, creativity and interests to make the library a place pre-teens want to be. Earn community service hours. New members welcome. Register online or drop in.

Teen Advisory Board: Tuesday, March 21, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Grades 9-12 are invited to join other East Hampton high schoolers to plan and create events and programs they want and provide input to expand the library's YA/Teen collection. Earn community service hours. New members welcome. Register online or drop in.

Adult Programs: Libraryyoga with Amie Meacham: Tuesday, March 14, 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room. Meacham leads an hour of gentle yoga.

Belltown Book Blast!: Thursday, March 16, 6:30 p.m. on Zoom or Friday, March 17, 10 a.m., in person. Meet with the adult librarian and get a sneak peek at the library's newest titles and upcoming new releases. For the in-person gathering, drop in and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea. For Zoom, register online to get the link.

Book Club: Tuesday, March 21, 6:30 p.m. Jenny Tinghui Zhang's *Four Treasures of the Sky* will be discussed.

Preschool Expo Canceled

Due to weather, the East Hampton Early Links Program canceled the Preschool Expo planned for Saturday, March 4. For more information about public or private preschool programs in East Hampton, contact Early Links coordinator Lauren Kasperowski at lkasperowski@easthamptonct.org or 860-365-4020.

Antique Appraisal Day

The Chatham Historical Society will host its 27th annual Antique Appraisal Day Saturday, March 25, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., in the conference room at Town Hall, located at 1 Community Drive.

There will be four appraisers present with a varied wealth of knowledge. Charge is \$6 per item and no appointment is needed. This is a fundraiser for the continual maintenance of the Society's two museum buildings and 1840 one-room schoolhouse.

Call Maggy Morales at 860-539-0988 for more information, including updates on storm-related cancellations.



Maple Sugaring Open House

March 18th & 19th
10:00AM-3:00PM

Tours to see the
Maple Sugaring Process

Visit our Maple Sweets Shop for
Maple Syrup, Maple Baked Goods,
Maple Mustard, Maple Nuts,
Candies, Vinegar and more




Outdoor attire & boots suggested • Cash, Check or Venmo accepted

Rick's Sugar Shack
69 Collie Brook Road, East Hampton, CT
(860) 267-7117 OR (860) 267-7180



40 YARD
30 YARD
20 YARD



ROLL OFF DUMPSTER SERVICES

- 15, 20, 30, and 40 yard Dumpsters available for your next job, renovation, or clean up.
- Construction & Demolition Debris
- Bulky House Debris (Appliances, Furniture, Boxes, Cabinets, Metal, and more)
- Brush, Stumps, Trees, Wood Chip Debris
- We provide dumpsters for Steel & Aluminum

Ask about our 1 week dumpster special. Call for pricing!
860-267-7140
24 Old Coach Rd
East Hampton, CT 06424

15 YARD
20 YARD



www.BelltownRecycling.com

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton

Congregational Church News & Notes

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

All are invited during Lent while the church focuses on the theme of Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith.

Church school classes meet every Sunday.

Denim, Diamonds and Drafts

“Denim, Diamonds and Drafts,” an evening of dancing, dinner and drinks to support the CT Draft Horse Rescue, will take place Friday, March 31, from 6:30-10:30 p.m., at Saint Clements Castle, 1931 Portland-Cobalt Rd., Portland.

There will be music, food, dancing, raffles, live auctions, and silent auctions. Tickets are limited and are \$80 per person. Tickets are available at tinyurl.com/3vrbyupv, and must be

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

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

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

purchased by March 17 – that is, if they don’t sell out first. The event is snow or shine. Contact the organizer to request a refund.

CDHR is a nonprofit organization located in East Hampton that is dedicated to saving the lives of neglected or abused draft horses as well as draft horses heading to slaughter. For more information, visit www.ctdraftrescue.com or www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue, or email ct-draftrescue@aol.com.

Democrats Meet Next Week

All are invited to the East Hampton Democratic Town Committee’s monthly meeting at East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., on Thursday, March 16, at 7 p.m. The DTC will discuss local priorities, upcoming events, fundraising, plans for Old Home Days, and other future events.

Also, a committee will give its report regarding the annual William O’Neill Scholarship. This is an annual scholarship; the DTC selects an East Hampton High School senior as the recipient.

Irish Soda Bread Sale

The Missions Committee of The Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam at 52 Middle Haddam Rd. will sell \$5 Irish soda breads Sunday, March 12, from 10:15-11:15 a.m., from the lower hall.

Call Kathy at 860-510-8102 to reserve.

A percentage of the profits are donated to the East Hampton Food Bank.

Quilt Show Coming – Donations Accepted

The Haddam Neck Congregational Church Quilt Show will take place Saturday and Sunday, April 29 and 30, at the church, 408 Quarry Hill Rd., Haddam Neck.

The show will feature dozens of vintage and new handmade quilts, a Bits and Pieces sale of fabric, yarn and notions, and the return of the Tea Room with homemade soups, breads and pies.

Haddam Neck Congregational Church Ladies Aid is accepting donations of yarn, fabric and sewing notions for the weekend’s Bits and Pieces sale. Email Mapionzio@comcast.net or call 860-993-5311 or 860-301-4994 for information.



Sweet, Sweet Charity Baby... Sweet Jean’s restaurant recently raised more than \$300 for the East Hampton Food Bank, a fundraiser restaurant owner Danielle Tyler ran for several weeks. The restaurant matched donations up to \$100. Donors got their name on a red heart put up in the restaurant. Previously, East Hampton Social Services director Lauren Incognito said with inflation and the pandemic, people’s resources are strained like never before, and food banks are seeing high demand.

Middle Haddam Public Library News

Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles Rd., Middle Haddam, has announced the following. To register or more information on any program, email middlehaddamlibrary@gmail.com, visit middlehaddamlibrary.com or call 860-267-9093. The library has a new P.O. box number: 123.

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

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

Spinning Fibers: Thursdays at 10 a.m. Bring your own wheel and fiber. All are welcome.

CommuniTea: Saturday, March 11, 10 a.m.-noon. Visit with neighbors and patrons, take out a book and have a cup of tea. Coffee drinkers welcome.

Historic Houses Talk: Wednesday, March 15, hosted by author Alain Munkittrick, who wrote the book *Historic Houses of the Connecticut River Valley*.

Writers’ Workshop: Wednesday, March 22, 7-8:30 p.m. There will be constructive criticism and writing exercises. Registration requested.

Belltown KoC Scholarship and Grant

The Belltown Knights of Columbus Council 6190 is offering two \$1,000 scholarships to students continuing their education at an accredited college/university. Applicants must be members of St. Patrick Church, East Hampton.

The council will also award two \$500 Helping Hands grants to members of St. Patrick Church attending Mercy, Xavier or East Catholic High School.

Applications are available at guidance offices and the parish center office – email stpatrick47@sbcglobal.net – and are due April 14.

Police News

3/4: Michael J. Bartolotta, 46, of 83 Midwood Farm Rd., was arrested and charged with first-degree unlawful restraint, third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, East Hampton Police said.

Also, from Feb. 27-March 5, officers responded to 54 medical calls, 11 motor vehicle accidents and 28 alarms, and made 109 traffic stops, police said.

EHGOP Wants You

If you are interested in helping shape the policies that govern the town and you have a conservative point of view, the East Hampton Republican Town Committee would like to have you join them.

For the municipal election this fall there are positions open on Town Council, Board of Education and Planning & Zoning and Zoning Board of Appeals.

The EHGOP meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Lakeside Grille at 6:30 p.m. For more information, email EHCTGOP@gmail.com or call 860-682-2908.

KENNETH BARBER & ASSOCIATES, LLC



Kenneth Barber, Esq.



John H. Porter, Esq.



Joseph Cassidy, Esq.



Kevin Godwin, Esq.

YOUR ATTORNEYS

“After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb.”

-Nelson Mandela

Barber-Law-Firm.com

P: 860-267-2263

29 West High Street, East Hampton, CT 06424

Belltown Motors

Tire & Service Center

NEED TIRES?

Guess what? We have a rebate through April 30th!



Come into Belltown and get up to a \$70 rebate when you purchase 4 qualifying passenger General Tires* and roll into Spring with a new set of wheels.

Call us to schedule your new tire appointment at **860-267-7222**

*see store for details



Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

Open on Saturdays for emissions testing by appointment only

80 East High Street, East Hampton

860-267-7222

Meet Andover's Own Radio Anchor

By Michael Sinkewicz

When he was just 8 years old, Morgan Cunningham knew exactly what he was meant to do with his life.

He remembers he was helping with yardwork one day, with the radio playing in the background; the DJ was taking song requests and playing back phone calls. Cunningham was immediately hooked on the thrill of calling into stations and his new hobby was discovered.

"My interests were different than the other kids," Cunningham recalled, explaining that he dabbled in sports, but never found the appeal.

Now, Cunningham is the Morning News Anchor during *Brian and Company* weekdays on WTIC-AM 1080. He also hosts *Spotlight Connecticut*, which focuses on exploring fun local stories, as well as *Face CT*, a weekend public affairs show.

After growing up in Andover, Cunningham owns one of the most recognizable voices in the state.

"People come up to me and say, 'you get my day started,' he told the *Rivereast*. "It means a lot to me and it never gets old. It reaffirms what I do and if I'm ever feeling frustrated and a listener thanks me, I don't feel alone in the studio."

Cunningham's work has also been broadcast via CBS News Radio and its worldwide affiliates, including co-owned Audacy stations WCBS Newsradio 880 and 1010 WINS, both in New York City.

The journey from being an aspiring eight-year-old radio enthusiast to landing a premier job at one of the largest stations in the state takes determination.

"I'm always trying to think one or two steps ahead," he said.

Before ever studying radio or journalism, Cunningham practiced at home; he'd play CDs and act as a DJ. Then, in 2010, his father suggested Eastern Connecticut State University, which allowed non-students to participate in its radio program.

At the age of 14, Cunningham began volunteering at the ECSU radio station, WECS-FM (90.1), doing a weekend midnight music show. He stuck with the show for two years before moving on to an evening program.

"I couldn't even drive," Cunningham expressed, thanking his parents for the assistance.

After he started at RHAM High School, he began working with the school's TV station and took intro courses that allowed him to expand his knowledge. The program had many talented students, including Brenden Hall, a filmmaker

who is among the civilian SpaceX crew heading to the moon. Cunningham would anchor and report on stories, some taking him off-campus. Between the consistent weekend music shifts and the school news responsibilities, Cunningham was absorbing a variety of information.

"That helped me grow a lot," he said. "I had to perform at a high-level and it helped motivate me to improve and get better."

Still, balancing the different endeavors was a "whirlwind," he said. The natural next step was to enroll at ECSU and continue the radio show while studying and building connections. By that time, Cunningham had developed a listening audience, and he wanted to continue with that work.

After receiving a degree in communication in 2018, Cunningham expanded to professional organizations. He created a self-syndicated program, which led to WRCH discovering and hiring him to work part-time during his senior year on the weekends.

The decision to pursue a syndicated show was unique, and it helped him "branch out." The subsequent opportunity at WRCH then led to Cunningham's first exposure to WTIC, a sister station. WTIC-AM needed help, and he started there part-time during his senior year.

Immediately after graduating, Cunningham became the full-time overnight news anchor at WTIC-AM, a position that also involved writing. At this point, he also stopped his other programs, including the syndicated show.

Most of Cunningham's background had been in music, but the news gig, and the prestige that came with it, was suitable. He believed WTIC had a reputation and history that needed to be respected.

"There's a lot of responsibility that comes with that legacy and I took that seriously," he said.

While he did miss working with music, Cunningham said he "fell in love with news."

"I wanted to be as good as I could," he said. He stuck with the overnight shift for around two years, which he described as "brutal." The traditional work shift, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., was Cunningham's sleep time.

"A lot of my friends didn't understand or relate, but professionally it was a major learning tool," he said.

With retirements, daytime spots began opening up at the station. He was promoted to a daytime news anchoring slot from 3-11 p.m., which he did for one and a half years. The promotion represented a significant step in his career — one he felt he was prepared for.

He told his superiors, "I'm ready for the next step."

Immediately, it was evident that the shift would present fresh challenges. Many newsworthy events happened at night, and part of his job was to adequately prepare the station for the following morning.

"It was like overnights times 10," he recalled.

The next career development for Cunningham was taking a spot on the *Brian and Company* show. Last month, he celebrated his one-year anniversary with the program.

Every day, he's awake before 3 a.m., which he said doesn't bother him.

"You do get used to it," he said. "It takes a lot of determination."

But really, he doesn't have another choice. Cunningham explained how excuses, such as being tired, would negatively impact the station. Every member of the team needs to be alert and ready.

"You have to be operating on a very high level," he said. "If I don't show up, there's nobody to take over."

Still, it's important for him to take a moment and reflect on his career.

"I'm so proud and it's a great honor," he expressed. "I do look back and I can't believe the journey. I want to keep doing this, but I never expected that I'd be doing news."

The job is more complicated than listeners may initially perceive. Cunningham's process involves significant off-air preparation. He also keeps up with the competition and listens to stations in Boston and New York City.

News never stops, he explained.

"I might leave at 12:30 [p.m.], but I'm still doing work," Cunningham said. "People don't necessarily see that."

Another important detail to remember: "radio is live."

Breaking news stories require precise and factual information. Often, the credibility of an outlet depends on the coverage of these type of events.

In October, two Bristol police officers were shot and killed in the line of duty. Cunningham remembers covering the story, which required the team to adapt in the moment.

"You have to be able to think on your toes,"



Morgan Cunningham

he said, referring to his communications with the field reporter.

Other events, like major storms, generate more listeners, as well. In the moment, Cunningham is in "news-mode," but after his shift, he's able to fully assess the impact of the reporting.

"I feel increased weight and responsibility," he said. Overall, storm coverage is Cunningham's favorite topic.

He was still working overnights when Tropical Storm Isaias hit Connecticut in 2020. Numerous people reached out asking for Ever-source's estimated power restoration times.

Other memorable news events are planned out months in advance, like election day. Starting in September, Cunningham was leading team meetings as the station mapped out its strategies.

"People don't know about all of that effort," he expressed.

On *Spotlight Connecticut*, Cunningham facilitates many captivating interviews. One of his favorite entries was with Jimi Bell, a famous guitarist who auditioned for Ozzy Osbourne in 1987.

"It fascinated me and my listeners," he said.

Cunningham's shows also stream online and at WTIC.com and on the Audacy app.

Upcoming Library Programs

Andover Public Library has a pair of programs coming up, to which all are invited. The library is located at 355 Route 6. For more information or to RSVP, call 860-742-7428.

Blues 101: Tuesday, March 21, at 6:30 p.m., with Ramblin' Dan Stevens. This free program encompasses the history of blues music in America, from its origins in the African American tradition of the Deep South to the present. Stevens will present a multimedia program of classic blues pieces played on vintage instruments and interspersed with historical images,

Library Friends Offer Scholarship

The Andover Friends of the Library group is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to an Andover high school senior. Applications are due May 1, and are available at the guidance office at RHAM High School; at Andover Public Library, 355 Route 6; or online at tinyurl.com/2huzen57.

Completed applications must be dropped off at the library or emailed to the Friends at andoverfol@gmail.com.

The applicant must be currently enrolled as a senior in any high school, use the scholarship to further their education, and hold a valid Andover Public Library card.

For more information, call the library at 860-742-7428 or email the Friends at andoverfol@gmail.com.

AVFD Anniversary Banquet

The Andover Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate its 85th anniversary with a banquet at A Villa Louisa in Bolton on Saturday, April 1, from 6-10 p.m. There will be hors d'oeuvres, a buffet dinner, a DJ and a cash bar. Tickets are \$40 per person and can be obtained by calling Chief Ron Mike at 860-335-0264, Deputy Chief Mindy Hegener at 860-706-3074, or by stopping at the firehouse on Wednesdays after 630 p.m.

Tickets must be purchased no later than March 22.

Veterans Meeting Canceled

The Andover Veterans meeting scheduled for Saturday, March 18, has been canceled due to the participation of many of the members in the Hebron Maple Fest activities. The Maple Fest will be held March 18-19 in Hebron, and will feature participation by American Legion Post 95 and other veterans' organizations.

The next Andover Veterans meeting will be held Saturday, April 15, from 1-3 p.m., at the Town Hall Community Room, and will

feature special guest author MSG (R) Marc Youngquist. Youngquist was a member of the Connecticut Army National Guard 143rd Military Police Company, and has written a book based on the deployment of his unit to Iraq in 2003-04. Copies of his award-winning book will be available following his presentation. For this special event, all interested persons are invited; no military affiliation is required.

New Adventure Backpacks Available at Library

The Andover Friends of the Library recently received a Greater Together Community Fund Grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to assemble "Adventure Backpacks," part of the Andover Public Library Outdoors program.

The backpacks are intended for patrons to spend quality time outdoors, to have fun and to relax. Four backpacks are available for a seven-day loan period. Each contains one pair of adult

and one pair of child binoculars, two magnifying glasses, and seven laminated pamphlets on topics including birds, wildflowers, trees, tracks, insects, wildlife and butterflies.

Located at 355 Route 6, Andover Public Library's hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, call 860-742-7428 or email andoverctpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

Senior Citizen News & Notes

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

Shopping Dates: Tuesdays. Willimantic: 3/14, 3/28; Manchester: 3/21. Masks available on all vehicles.

Senior Luncheons: Friday, March 17, and Thursday, March 30. Reservations required by the previous Wednesday. On March 30, RHAM Boosters will provide entertainment.

Upcoming Trips: Aquaturf on March 14; Westbrook for lobster on March 20. For information, call Town Clerk Carol Lee at 860-742-0188 ext 2.

Rides to Food Pantry: The bus is now avail-

able for the Food Pantry on Mondays at 5 p.m. and for the Wednesday Foodshare or food pantry — all of which take place at Andover Congregational Church.

Rides to all town events, town meetings, referendums or board meetings, and all medical appointments, are available by calling Palazzi. All seniors, veterans and disabled are welcome. If you have a caregiver, they may come with you.

New Seniors Welcome: New seniors are welcome to all events. Call Palazzi for all luncheon reservations and transportation needs, 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.

video, and educational material. All are welcome; RSVP is not required, but is requested for planning purposes.

Saturday Storytime: Saturday, March 18, 10:30 a.m. Library Friend Ellen Repay will share a story and lead a craft for attendees. The theme in March is "Fairies & Leprechauns." The craft this month will involve painting a fairy house. All are welcome, but space is limited to 12 attendees, so RSVP as soon as possible.

Andover Seed Swap

The Andover Community Garden will host a Seed Swap Saturday, March 11, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., in the Town Hall community room. All are welcome.

For more information, email Amy at andoverctgarden@gmail.com.

Senior Trip to Aqua Turf

Andover senior citizens will go to the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville on Tuesday, March 14, for a corned beef luncheon, featuring entertainment by the McLean Avenue Band and Irish step dancers.

Cost is \$22 for Andover seniors and space is limited. Any senior interested in attending should call Carol Lee 860-742-0188 ext. 4218 to reserve a space/confirm availability.

Kindergarten Registration

Andover Elementary School is registering kindergarten students for the 2023-24 school year. Andover's kindergarten program is full-day.

Parents of children who will be age 5 on or before Dec. 31, 2023, are asked to contact the school office at 860-742-7339 to obtain a registration packet or access it at www.andoverelementaryct.org.

Parents choosing to have their child attend an alternative kindergarten, not attend school until the following year, or who will be home-schooling are asked to inform the school of this decision.

Obituaries

Colchester

Audrey Wolcott

Audrey Wolcott (Heller), 84, of Colchester, passed away peacefully at Middlesex Hospital Tuesday, Feb. 21. Born March 27, 1938, in Hartford, she was the daughter of the late Herman and Freda (Peck) Heller.



After graduating from William Hall High School in 1956, Audrey attended the University of Connecticut to study nursing for the next two years. She then transferred to Central Connecticut State College and earned a bachelor's degree in education. Later she earned a master's degree in education at the University of Connecticut.

Audrey's professional career began in Wallingford as a first grade teacher, which soon became a transitional first grade now called special education. She then taught special education in Glastonbury for several years. Her next move was to Mansfield where she worked as a consultant for Project ASK an ancillary service to the towns in northeastern Connecticut. She then taught special education classes and supervised Student teachers at Saint Joseph College. Her last move was to Central Connecticut State University and stayed for 20 years as a special education professor and supervised many students on their student teaching experience.

Peter and Audrey were married April 18, 1959, and shared many active years on their farms in Hebron and Colchester raising, training and showing Labrador retrievers and Morgan horses. Audrey enjoyed competing at the major Morgan horse shows throughout New England, Pennsylvania and New York. She also enjoyed sitting ringside watching and judging the dogs or horses and sharing her knowledge with her friends.

She will be forever loved and remembered by her husband, Peter Wolcott of Colchester, and numerous other extended family and friends.

A memorial celebration of Audrey's life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in her name to Mira Foundation USA, 77 Cherokee Rd. Pinehurst. NC 28374. This organization provides guide dogs for children.

The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester has been entrusted with care of arrangements. To sign the online guestbook, share a memory or express condolences to her family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Hebron

Donald C. Houghton

Donald C. Houghton, Don, Papa, The Man, The Myth, The Legend, a life-long friend, family man, and resident of Hebron, passed away unexpectedly Saturday, March 4, at the age of 66.



Born in Andover on Jan. 18, 1957, to Carl and Carol Houghton, Don graduated from RHAM High School in 1975. He was a staple in the community for decades. From his kids' basketball, softball, and soccer games, to most recently, cross country meets for his oldest grandson, he cheered from the RHAM sidelines for decades. He volunteered for the Andover Fire Department, coached youth basketball and baseball, and brought smiles to everyone who met him.

Don held positions in the manufacturing and distribution markets for decades, but his love was spending time with his family and friends. Throughout his glory days, he galvanized his legacy by harnessing his relationships with friends, family, and community. His steadfast work ethic and "give the shirt off my back" attitude was a true testament to the man he was. Retiring from American Design in 2022, he aspired to spend time with his wife of 16 years, bounce around with his seven grandkids, fill rooms with laughter and, at times, tell an inappropriate joke or two.

Don loved spending his days on the golf course, camping in Vermont over July 4th, and taking to the road on his Harley. No one rocked a dance floor like Don. He had a knack for convincing anyone to play a few rounds of cribbage with him, and during the warmer months, he took pleasure in cultivating his vegetable garden. However, his true summer joy came from sharing time with friends and family around the fire pit. In retirement, he enjoyed visiting Charleston to see his son and grandkids, took to axe-throwing, and met for Saturday morning breakfast with his high school buddies.

Don is survived by his wife, Kate Herlihy; children, Donald Houghton Jr. and wife Kayla of Charleston, S.C., and their children, Libby, Mattingly, Evvy and Donald "Tripp" Houghton III; Stephanie Houghton of Andover and her son Ashton; Jacquelyn McKenzie and husband Keith of Andover and their children Gavin and Mason; and Morgan Herlihy and partner Erik Bachmann of Wallingford. He is also survived by his brother, Brian Houghton and wife Karen

of Cape Canaveral, Fla.; sister, Cheryl Mayhew and husband Phil of Andover; former wife Marsha of Andover; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Calling hours will be held Saturday, March 11, from 4-7 p.m., at Holmes Funeral Home, 400 Main St., Manchester, and services will be held in the same location on Sunday, March 12, at noon.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in Don's name to either the Andover or Hebron fire department.

East Hampton

Barbara M. Mattson

Barbara M. Mattson, 83, of East Hampton, formerly of Danbury, beloved wife of Herbert Mattson, passed away Thursday, March 2, at Hartford Hospital. Born March 25, 1939, in White Plains, N.Y., she was the daughter of the late Alexander and Violet (Pollard) Macdonald.



Barbara graduated from secretarial school and then worked as a civil servant for over 34 years in the purchasing department for the City of Danbury until her retirement. Barbara was a communicant of St. Patrick Church.

Besides her loving husband Herb, she is survived by her daughter Donna Wright and husband William of Colchester; two sons, Gary Mattson of Marlborough, Kenneth Mattson and wife Robin of Virginia; two sisters, Shirley Pangburn of New York, Sandra Giampiccolo of New York; five grandchildren, Nicholas, Kyle, Alex, Daniel (wife Courtnie), Jacob; and a great-grandson, Kayden.

A funeral liturgy was celebrated Thursday, March 9, in St. Patrick Church in East Hampton. Burial followed in St. Patrick Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital at www.stjude.org.

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

Portland

Alice Iverson Stemmler

Alice Iverson Stemmler lived a full and happy life for 102 years, passing away peacefully Wednesday, March 1. Born Nov. 16, 1920, in Floral Park, N.Y., she moved to Portland with her parents and five siblings when she was a small child.

As a child, she joined the 4H Club, which was a perfect fit for her love of plants, gardening, cooking and farming. She graduated from Portland High School and due to her accounting acumen pursued a career first as a purchasing agent for a small manufacturing company in East Hampton, and then as a secretary in a dental office where she was trained as a hygienist. She met Paul Stemmler and they married in 1943. Together they raised their four children in Portland.

Alice remained a lifelong learner. She learned to tailor and made all her children's clothes. She loved to bake. Her pizzelles were a specialty loved by all. She also loved to paint in the Norwegian style and learned rosemaling, oil painting techniques, and watercolors. She also crafted ceramics and in her later years became an accomplished stained-glass artist, often leading classes at the Portland Senior Center to share her skills with others.

Alice was active in her community. She belonged to the Zion Lutheran Church in Portland where she was involved in many church activi-

ties. She was an avid member of the Hemlock Grange, holding many offices over the course of her 86 years of membership.

She also loved to travel. Through many trips to Norway, she established links to her Norwegian relatives and roots. She also enjoyed Alaska, Hawaii, Bermuda, Canada, France and Switzerland as well as traversing the United States.

Alice was predeceased by her husband, Paul Stemmler, and her grandson, William Navratil. She is survived by her four children, Sanda Stemmler Nichols and Jay H. Stemmler (Denise LaMonica Stemmler), both of Portland; Roxanne Stemmler Navratil (William) of Wallingford; and Laura Stemmler Millane (Michael) of Cromwell. She is further survived by nine of her 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Her love of her family and easy laughter will remain in all their hearts forever.

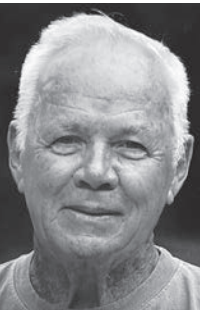
Calling hours were Monday, March 6, at Portland Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland. Services were held Tuesday, March 7, at the Zion Lutheran Church on Williams Street in Portland, with a reception following in the church.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to a charity of your choice.

Colchester

Leo Henry McCarthy

Leo Henry McCarthy, of North Ft. Myers, Fla., and formerly of Colchester, passed away peacefully at home Saturday, March 4, with his beloved wife Arlene attentively by his side. He was 91 years old.



Leo was a son of the late Francis and Mary (McCabe) McCarthy. He was born in Marlborough, Mass., on April 14, 1931, and grew up in Hudson, Mass. Leo was a proud veteran having served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He attained life member status in the VFW. Soon after his military service, he moved to Colchester and was employed by Pratt & Whitney Aircraft in East Hartford.

Leo's career spanned 38 years of loyal service and he retired as a Senior Customer Support Representative. He was diligent and hard-working many times working two or more jobs simultaneously during his working life. Some of Leo's jobs and businesses included: real estate agent with Michael J. Stula Insurance, independent real estate appraiser, business partner with his son-in-law, Mike Marvin at the former Midway Auto Repair; transporting boats to and from ports along the eastern seaboard; partner and board of directors advisor with his sons, Daniel, Sean and his wife, Patty, with the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester.

Leo had an avid affinity for boating. He purchased his first boat and docked it at the Chrisholm Marina, where he had the good fortune of meeting his beloved wife to be, Arlene (Sabot). The couple soon began a love story and adventure filled with boating trips, parties, outings, and vacations with friends and family. Their final boat slip for the "ARLEO" was at the Westerly Yacht Club in Rhode Island where Leo earned life member status. Leo and Arlene enthusiastically participated in the many activities and events at the Yacht Club making amazing friends that enriched their lives. Although their love story began in 1982, they exchanged their wedding vows at an amazing Yacht Club wedding on Sept. 29, 2000.

Leo also enjoyed volunteering and engaging with the friends he met through the Elks Club in Westerly and Florida and the Moose Club in Florida. Leo and Arlene lived in Cromwell before retiring to their current home in North Fort Myers, Fla., in 2011. Leo was a fun-loving man whose beautiful blue Irish eyes were always smiling, as he loved to share fun and laughter with everyone. Most importantly, Leo was fiercely devoted to his family who were his greatest source of pride and joy.

His passing will be felt by many but his memory will live on lovingly by his wife, Arlene; children, Maureen Marvin (Michael), Daniel McCarthy (Janet), Sean McCarthy (Patty), Stacy Shaulis; Grandchildren, Troy Marvin (Jessica) and their children, Shaun and Olivia, Chad Marvin (Maribel), Genevieve Nowosad and her children, Alana and Isabelle, Alex Guerrero (Karen Garibay); brothers, Paul McCarthy, Richard McCarthy (Denise); a sister-in-law, Patricia McCarthy; and many nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his first wife, Irene (Fairbanks) McCarthy; a brother, David McCarthy; and a sister-in-law,

Noble Care Adult Day Center

Bringing the Good Ol' Days Back.

- Compassionate Supervision
- Guided Activities
- Meaningful Memories

Come visit our center complete with Drive-in and Diner themes!



CONTACT US TO REGISTER!

15 Elm St. Rocky Hill, CT

860-436-5159

noblecarecenter@gmail.com



NOBLE CARE Adult Day Center

ADVERTISERS

The Glastonbury Citizen and RiverEast News Bulletin will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. The Citizen will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. The Citizen cannot guarantee specific placement.

DOMINICK & SONS MONUMENT WORKS, INC.

Monuments & Marker Sales & Service Since 1982

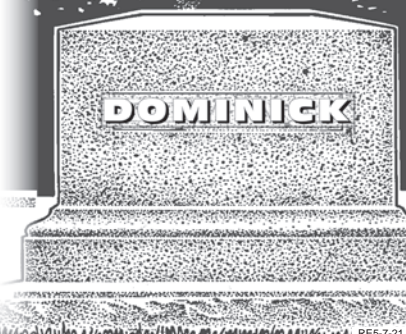
- Cleaning • Repairing
- Cemetery Lettering
- Custom Sandblast
- Pet Markers • Garden Stones

215 Lebanon Ave., Colchester located w/ Colchester Florist

860-537-3289

For immediate service, call 860-917-7871

"A monument should cost no more than a family can afford."



Obituaries

Pat McCarthy.

Funeral services will be held at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, beginning with calling hours from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, March 12. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Monday, March 13, at 10 a.m., directly at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester. Burial will follow in New Lebanon Cemetery with full military honors.

Donations in his memory may be made for the benefit of employees and volunteers of Hope Hospice Cape Coral, Florida (www.hope-hospice.org).

Special thanks and appreciation are extended to Hope Hospice and the VA for their extraordinary assistance.

To sign the online guestbook or share a memory of Leo, please visit www.auroramccarthy-funeralhome.com.

Colchester

Mary Joberg Tischofer

Mary Joberg Tischofer, 94, of Colchester, formerly of Lebanon, passed away Monday, March 6, at Complete Care at Harrington Court in Colchester. Born July 7, 1928, in Kallola, Finland, she was a daughter of the late Väinö and Katri (Kokko) Kolkka.

Mary worked in the medical field with the Red Cross while living in Finland. She emigrated to America in 1948. Soon after arriving, she met and then married Helge Joberg in 1950. They shared 29 years together before he predeceased her in 1979. Eight years later, Mary met Russell Tischofer. They were married on May 6, 1989, and the couple lived in Salem, later wintering in Lake Worth, Fla., and summering in Salem. Russell predeceased her on March 9, 2013.

Mary was an active member of the Lions Club while living in Florida. She achieved one of the highest awards, a Melvin Jones Fellow, for her volunteer work with the Lions. Mary was also a teacher of arts and crafts at the German Club, where her work was more a labor of love. She was an extremely talented seamstress who could look at something and create it beautifully. She would knit and crochet up to the very end of her days and she made beautiful baby outfits for all her grandchildren. Most importantly, Mary was a homemaker, taking pride in her home and lovingly caring for her family.

She will be sadly missed but always remembered with love by her daughters, Kirsti (Robert) Stennett of Colchester, Kris (Mark) Lonardelli of Lebanon; seven grandchildren, who always lovingly called her "Mummo," Saara, Lisa, David, Matthew, Zachary, Nicole, Lacey; five great-grandchildren, Emma, Luke, Tessa, Allie, and Harper; three surviving of 13 siblings, Irja, Raija, and Kirsti; and numerous extended family and friends.

In addition to her husbands and parents, she was predeceased by two daughters, Karin Ruffo and Kristina Joberg.

Funeral services were held at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford

Rd., Colchester, with calling hours Thursday, March 9. Calling hours will resume again today, Friday, March 10, at 11:30 a.m., followed by a funeral service at noon at the funeral home. Burial will be in Maplewood Cemetery in Norwich. Donations in her memory may be made to the Lions Club of one's choice.

To sign the online guest book or share a memory of Mary, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Portland

Doreen Ann Flaherty

Doreen Ann Flaherty, 61, passed away peacefully at home Wednesday, March 1, surrounded by her loved ones. Her warrior spirit fought through a brief battle with an aggressive cancer.

Doreen leaves behind her loving husband Robert Tripoli and her cherished daughter, Nicole Aresco, and stepdaughter, Alicia Tripoli. She was born in Stamford to Fred and Marilyn Flaherty. She also leaves behind her mother, brother, Dan Flaherty of Arizona, and sister, Debbie Flaherty of Manchester; as well as beloved niece, Devin Burnes, and nephews, Dillon Keating and Michael Burnes.

A graduate of Portland High, Doreen went on to put herself through Saint Francis School of Nursing while raising her daughter and became a registered nurse. As a nurse of over 30 years, she gave her heart and soul to the patients and nursing home residents in her care. She will be remembered for empowering her staff and bringing comfort to countless lives throughout her career. Her nursing tenure ended at Chestelm Health and Rehabilitation Center where she served as both director of nursing and MDS coordinator.

Throughout her life, exercise and fitness was a passion of hers. Her unique style of teaching aerobics and cardio combat created lasting bonds between her and members of her classes. Known as "sensei," she will be sorely missed by her combat kickboxers.

Doreen loved to spend time traveling, always keeping her annual tradition with her husband on Singer Island in West Palm Beach, Fla. Her most joyous and special memories were created when the sun was shining in Connecticut and she was surrounded by friends and family on her pontoon boat on Lake Pocotopaug. Her family will continue to carry the strength and love she bestowed upon them until they see her again in the sunshine wearing flip-flops.

Friends may call at the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, today, Friday, March 10, from 5-7 p.m. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation at cholangiocarcinoma.org.



Obituary Policy

The *Rivereast News Bulletin* charges \$75 to place an obituary. Obituaries may be emailed to bulletin@glcitizen.com.

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

★ Family Gets Closure, cont. from page 1

up on her. At least I have some answers now after 44 years. It's a lot to process, but hopefully, closure can begin now. Thank you again."

Gagne acknowledged the strain on Tucker's family, telling the *Daily Hampshire-Gazette* "we've turned some lives upside down in the last few weeks."

When investigators interviewed Dale, he said his mom was dating a man named Gerry at the time she disappeared.

Gagne told the *Gazette* Coleman is considered a person of "strong interest" in Tucker's death.

"We hope to generate additional leads to help identify her murderer," Gagne said, later adding, "[this] investigation has spanned decades, and will continue until each and every possible lead is explored."

Usable evidence is limited, according to Gagne.

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact the Granby Police Department by phone at 413-467-9222, email at jwhite@granbypd.org, or by submitting a message through the department's website, www.granbypd.org.



Patricia Coleman

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

★ As Journalists, cont. from page 1

dent, of Access: Student Disability Union, as well as the accessibility senator for Protesting Oppression with Educational Reform. She also worked at a magazine that was started by the former school newspaper editor, which later fizzled out during her senior year.

Her advocacy efforts involved several protests and campaigns, including the Emerson Students of Color Week of Action. Rajkumar worked with school administration as a Dean's Fellow for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and through two presidential advisory committees.

"It was really about how we can exist in journalism as marginalized students," she said. "Overall, it helped me become the journalist I am today."

Post-graduation, Rajkumar, who is a disabled woman, was applying for summer internships and secured a position with the American Association of People with Disabilities, a nonprofit organization that serves as a "convener, connector, and catalyst for change, increasing the political and economic power of people with disabilities," according to the group's mission statement.

Through the organization's Summer Internship Program, Rajkumar was placed with NPR – an outlet she wanted to work for.

It turned out to be the "best experience ever," but initially, Rajkumar was nervous to be working with a mainstream outlet. She, and some of her college friends, were hesitant due to their previous experiences.

"We were scared to get into the industry," she expressed.

However, she said it became clear to her that the values held by NPR leadership matched her own. That summer, in 2022, she worked with the digital news team remotely in Washington D.C, where she crafted numerous feature stories.

Rajkumar said she is able to identify common missteps taken by media outlets when reporting on sensitive topics. She wrote a piece for NPR diving into the challenges of discussing disability and ableism in society.

In that story, Rajkumar interviewed Cara Reedy, the director and founder of the Disabled Journalists Association, and Rosemary McDonnell-Horita, who works with LaVant Consulting, a disability-focused strategy and communications firm.

Throughout her internship, Rajkumar worked with NPR editors to help improve disability coverage.

"I really enjoyed my time there," she said.

Rajkumar said many stories stand out from her time at NPR, and that she was able to provide fresh angles on certain topics.

One story centered around the controversy surrounding a song released by Lizzo that contained the word "spaz," which is often considered to be ableist language. Rajkumar's piece included insight from Black disabled activist Vilissa Thompson, who expressed that the debate was predominantly being monopolized by white disabled people. The overall narrative was missing the perspective of Black disabled individuals, according to Rajkumar.

Rajkumar said she felt Lizzo handled the situation respectfully and issued an apology. Some white artists, such as Eminem, may use insensitive language but not receive the same level of criticism, Rajkumar said.

The article was important for Rajkumar, who added that it was the first piece to cover that specific angle on the topic.

Another standout story was a reflection piece, where Rajkumar wrote an article highlighting her own life experience and how more progress is necessary in advancing disability rights.

Rajkumar said she was bar-hopping with her friends one time when a security guard requested that her friends carry her wheelchair up a flight of stairs. Then, when her group tried accessing another floor, they were told the wheelchair was not allowed to come with them.

A Twitter thread written by Rajkumar recapping the incident "blew up," she said. Then for NPR, her piece highlighted the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and what else still needs to be accomplished today, more than 30 years after the passage of that landmark legislation.

Rajkumar said the story examined "how we can be better," and featured an interview with Judy Heumann, a respected disability rights activist. Heumann passed away on March 4 at the age of 75, two days after Rajkumar's *Rivereast* interview took place.

"I'm really proud of that piece," Rajkumar reflected.

Representing and advocating for disabled rights motivates Rajkumar and her writing. From a young age, disabled individuals are



A 2018 Bacon Academy graduate, Colchester resident Shruti Rajkumar has gone on to find much success in journalism – and has also been able to advocate for marginalized groups and communities that "weren't getting the attention they deserved."

treated differently, creating widespread misconceptions that become the norm, Rajkumar said.

"We're not allowed to exist and be who we are," she said. "We're human beings. I love the disabled community."

One of the common mistakes people make, she said, is viewing disabled individuals as "inspirations." Rajkumar explained that non-disabled people often see a disabled person and use them as motivation – something she believes is seen in media coverage, as well.

"Essentially, non-disabled people want these feel-good stories instead of addressing the actual issues," she said. "As journalists, we should always be learning."

Rajkumar started working for *HuffPost* in October. The job description was different than any of her prior experience, which mainly revolved around longer-form stories.

"I was a little hesitant," she said.

However, Rajkumar acknowledged that a change would be beneficial for her career, which had been exhaustive.

"I was burning out," she said. Many of the NPR articles were about her life, her issues. They were "heavy" stories that were being produced on a daily basis. "I wanted that space."

HuffPost has allowed her to develop a new set of skills, Rajkumar said, while still utilizing the tools she developed. As a breaking news reporter, she is required to juggle multiple stories at once, often under strict deadlines.

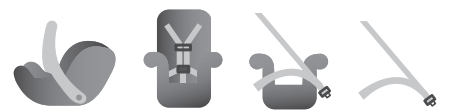
In between those stories, Rajkumar is still able to write more in-depth pieces that allow her to expand on certain topics or her previous stories. Typically, she works on one long-form article a month, which she said prevents burnout.

For example, Rajkumar wrote a breaking news story on the plan proposed by New York City Mayor Eric Adams to address homeless people with mental illness by forcing medical treatment. Then, weeks later, she published a story diving in the reaction from disability and mental health experts.

Rajkumar intends on staying with *HuffPost*, which she called the "perfect opportunity." She currently works remotely from her Colchester home.

Rajkumar said that while she still believes there are significant problems in the news industry, "there's been a lot of progress."

"I do try and do my best and *HuffPost* does care about the things I care about," she said. "There are really great journalists doing important work."



MAKE SURE THEY'RE IN THE RIGHT CAR SEAT

NHTSA.gov/TheRightSeat



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

★ Letters cont. from page 8

Sorry, I doubt it. Anyone can get published in the Rivereast. 300 words by Tuesday, noon.

They say, “you can’t fight City Hall.” With a free press, you can. A grandiose Public Works project on the Horton property is being proposed that will destroy the essence of Hebron. To jam this unpopular proposal through, Hebron institutions – the Town Charter, BOS, the PZC – are being debased by a small group of insiders, a patriarchy, that Selectman Thiele apparently supports and enables. Letters to the Rivereast have highlighted government mismanagement. Now, Selectman Thiele wants to limit speech and Freedom of the Press. What next? Oh, I know; substitution of free and fair elections with controlled public-relations surveys.

Bring back our democracy. Send Public Works to referendum.

John Collins – Amston

Responsibility in Hebron

To the Editor:

Thank you to the Rivereast’s editor Mike Thompson for setting an example of taking responsibility for a mistake. Your actions in admitting an error was made, vowing to do better in the future and establishing steps to prevent it from happening again are an indication of your integrity. Hebron’s Board of Selectmen should follow your example and admit that their efforts to place a Public Works facility and 2,000 ton salt shed at the Horton Property on Kinney Road are a mistake.

I understand why their initial appraisal of the site as “relatively flat and centrally located” led to exploring the possibility of using that location. However, important information on serious environmental risks and historical significance has surfaced. Several expert sources have been provided, including the Environmental Review Team Report of June 2000 and letters from CT DEEP specialist William Warzecha, see the Board of Selectmen Agenda January 5, 2023. Groundbreaking historical information has been documented and presented to the Selectmen, see Agenda February 2, 2023. This new research identifies the Horton Property as the center of unprecedented collaboration between Native Americans and Hebron’s first colonial settlers in the early 1700s, as well as Governor John S. Peters and the free Black community in the early 1800s. Professor Robert M. Thorson of the University of Connecticut has called the effort by our forefathers to protect the important glacial agricultural soil with stone wall laneways “compelling” and their preservation vital “because this is a larger statewide concept and this may be the best place to show and illustrate it.”

It is time for Hebron’s Selectmen to admit they made a mistake. It is not an admission of weakness; it is a sign of strength. Please preserve the Horton property and update Public Works at its current location.

Sincerely, Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

What Can \$1M Buy in Andover?

To the Editor:

Perhaps a castle – with a moat! But in Andover, we are building a Senior Community Center. A rectangular building squeezed between the town hall and the elementary school. Two small rooms, one large “multi-purpose” room, a storage room, an office, and a non-functioning kitchen – complete with a microwave to heat food but without the ability to prepare and cook food, for one million dollars.

A few minutes away on either side of us in Bolton and Columbia, senior centers offer woodcarving classes, billiards, movies, cooking classes (because they have a full-functioning kitchen), and much more. If we had a real Community Center with a functioning kitchen, it could be rented for events. Andover could make money having this facility.

A full-time administrator will be needed to supervise the facility so we will have to budget for that expense. For years P&Z and the EDC have requested a Town Planner to help bring in business and ease our taxes. Requests were denied.

We have been told that because the project is not over a million dollars we save money by not having to hire union workers. We could save one million by not building it at all.

What is most upsetting is that residents were never allowed to vote on this project. For the first time in the 20 years I have lived here, we have a million dollars to spend, yet, Andover residents were not given the option to determine the best use of this money. The BOS “decided” it.

For the record, I do not begrudge our seniors

a space, and perhaps most people approve of this project, which is just fine. I truly don’t know how most residents feel. However, don’t you think the amount of money being spent on this project warrants a town vote?

Catherine Magaldi-Lewis – Andover
Note: Magaldi-Lewis is chair of the Andover Democratic Town Committee, but is speaking as an individual.

Big Shout Out to Po’s

To the Editor:

Once again, the East Hampton community has shown its amazing generosity! Po’s Rice and Spice owner Po Fong held its third annual fundraiser for the TANGO2 Research Foundation. The event was very successful and raised \$1,256.65. And, Po didn’t stop there. She also matched that amount for a grand total of \$2,514.30. We are so thankful for Po’s support and for all who came out to enjoy the delicious food while supporting the fight against TANGO2 disease.

Only about 150 people worldwide have this very rare disease. One of these is Ryan, a 2020 graduate of EHHS, whose parents started the Foundation. Events such as this one will help fund critical research, provide family support and offer hope to those who have this disease. For more info, visit www.tango2research.org.

Thank you all!

Lynn MacDonald – East Hampton

Keep Ambulance Service Local

To the Editor:

The East Hampton Ambulance Association is celebrating 70 years of volunteer service to the town this June. Our volunteers are superbly trained, dedicated and devoted to the care and well-being of our residents. But as with most volunteer associations these days, there are just not enough of them.

In recognition of that fact and following a consultant review of our operations, the Board of Directors of the EHAA has proposed a hybrid service of paid and volunteer staff. This would allow better coverage and quicker response through some paid staff, while continuing to rely on and recognize the value added by our volunteers.

The board has submitted a request for \$173,910, to be matched with Ambulance Association funds, to cover the costs of paid staff. The Board of Finance is scheduled to consider adding that request to the 2023-24 town budget at its workshop on Thursday, March 23.

Yes, the EHAA has income, but it is used for capitol purchases such as ambulances and stretchers, other equipment and supplies. And yes, the town might find a commercial service that is less expensive than the amount requested by the association, but for how long? If the EHAA is disbanded, that option would be gone forever.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the EHAA and as a town resident, I fully support the association’s request. Let’s keep our volunteers, let’s augment them with paid staff, and let’s keep our emergency ambulance service local.

Sincerely, Karen Olson – East Hampton

It’s What Should Be Done

To the Editor:

More than 20 years ago, I became an EMT because I wanted to give back and help the community on what could be an individual’s worst day. In spite of having a family, a full-time job and traveling, I felt it was a job that needed to be done. If someone calls 911, they have an expectation that an ambulance will arrive promptly with qualified people who will care for their physical and emotional needs. I found that people like to see a friendly face and they know we will treat them professionally and will provide high quality care and get them to a place where their needs will be met.

Since I began, I have been a top responder, not because I wanted recognition or awards, but because I felt no emergency should be delayed. Every call is an emergency to the patient and their families. I want to do my job anonymously but patients remember that our group arrived quickly and are happy that we know their history and feel that we can give better care because it’s not just another call. Waiting 30 minutes or more for an ambulance is not acceptable. We try to be sure the patient gets to the right hospital for their needs, not just dumped at the nearest ER.

It’s not about me or any member of the association. It’s about helping the people of East Hampton. Our patients frequently tell us they appreciate us for coming but also for making

sure their needs are met. I’ve transported several people who were in the last days of their lives (stage 4 cancer, liver failure, etc.) and I am glad I could be there to be sure they were comfortable and at rest. It’s never easy, but it’s what should be done. I want to continue doing it as long as I can.

Thomas Donnelly – East Hampton

There Are Other Pizza Places

To the Editor:

Regarding his many letters appearing in the Rivereast newspaper, and his most recent “First Selectman’s 2/27 to 3/3/2023” posting in the Colchester News Blast, one wonders how much personal mileage and “kickback” First Selectman Bisbikos gets every time he plugs his family’s business establishment (Colchester Pizza). Each time he lauds the Bisbikos pizza business establishment, he does so as if it’s the only pizza place in town! He’s running such a nauseating byline to the ground.

For the umpteenth time, we don’t need to be reminded that he has a personal connection to his family’s pizza place. As the first selectman who’s supposed to represent the whole town and its businesses, he conveniently forgets to commend the other pizzerias in our town: Family Pizza, Iliano’s Pizza, Maria’s Pizza Palace, Papá Z’s Restaurant, and, especially, the Plum Tomato.

Just goes to show you how self-serving, utterly selective, and biased First Selectman Bisbikos is toward our many other wonderful pizza places in town!

One of the essential qualities of an elected official’s good governing mindset and skillset is

to be objective (not subjective or patronizing for their own self-interest) in their treatment of all businesses and people in town....a quality the current first selectman certainly does not possess!

Tricia Heldmann – Colchester

Colchester Launch Party

Dear Colchester Residents:

This Sunday, I am kicking off my campaign for first selectman with a party and fundraiser at Priam Vineyards from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. The theme of my campaign is “Bringing Colchester Together” — so let’s get together!

There will be hors d’oeuvres, snacks, cake, and a cash bar. I will also give my first in-person speech of the campaign about my vision for Colchester and why I am in this race.

I know we can work together for our town’s future. We don’t need to solve all of America’s problems. We just need to focus on Colchester. We can bring back transparency to local government to help us all make better decisions about how to protect our investments in roads, parks, schools, and buildings like the Youth Center and Senior Center.

Tickets are available at BernieForColchester.com or at the door. Contributions are greatly appreciated, but even if you are unable to donate at this time, you are still welcome to come and enjoy the afternoon with us!

I believe that we can bring Colchester together and start a new chapter for our town.

Hope to see you there!

Sincerely, Bernie Dennler – Colchester Candidate for First Selectman

LEGALS

TOWN OF COLCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE

The Historic District Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 127 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415 to hear and consider the following petition(s): Certificate of Appropriateness - COA 2023-001 – of the Town of Colchester Planning & Zoning Department for (1) maintenance of the gazebo on the Town Green; (2) removal of the existing utility closet, utility pole and light located southerly of the gazebo and installation of new electrical utility appurtenances. At this hearing interested parties may be heard and written communications received. A copy of this petition is available for public inspection in the Planning and Zoning Department and the Office of the Town Clerk at Colchester Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, CT 06415 and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday). Historic District Commission Ellen Sharon, Chair 2TB 3/3, 3/10

TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH BOARD OF SELECTMEN TOWN MEETING LEGAL NOTICE

The legal voters of the Town of Marlborough and eligible Property Owners with a Property Assessment of \$1,000 or more are hereby notified and warned that a duly called Town Meeting will be held at the Elmer Thienes/Mary Hall Elementary School Library, 25 School Drive, on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. for the following purpose: To consider approval and act upon: Transfer of \$50,000 from Fire Department Reserve Fund to CNR for the replacement of the 1991 Fire Truck EHT17. And Transfer of \$50,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance to CNR MES Camera Replacement. Dated at Marlborough, Connecticut this 7th day of March 2023 Board of Selectmen Deb Bourbeau, Chair 1TB 3/10

LEGAL NOTICE of PUBLIC HEARING BOARD OF SELECTMEN Town of Portland, CT

Notice is hereby given that there will be a public hearing on the proposed Budget for 2023-2024 to be held, by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Section 1201.3 of the Town of Portland Charter, at the following place and time: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 7:00 P.M. Portland High School Library Media Center 95 High Street, Portland CT In-person and live streamed on YouTube SUBJECT: General Government, Board of Education Budget; and all other Special Revenue Funds At this hearing, any resident or taxpayer may be heard concerning the proposed budgets. Copies of the proposed budget are available for inspection in the Town Clerk’s Office, Public Library and online at www.portlandct.org. Dated this 1st day of March 2023 Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman 2TB 3/3, 3/10

LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTIONS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Zoning Board of Appeals took the following action at a meeting held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, concerning the following: Petition 2023-1, Request of SYM, LLC, Owner, for a variance to Section 3.A.5 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, to allow the creation of a 12,156 square foot lot where the minimum lot area is 21,780 square feet, on premise located at 13 Church Street (AKA 7 Toomey Lane), Hebron Green District. Approved. Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, on this 8th day of March 2023. Martin J. Halloran, Chairperson Legal Notice will be published on the Town of Hebron Website at https://hebronct.com/agendas/ Video Recording of the Hebron Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting: https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/2ef5f1ab6879ec5496da d28d4f0d96bc32c4038a765409c1709f2f045f382214 1TB 3/10

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION

The Marlborough Zoning Commission at its meeting on March 2, 2023, took the following action: PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED; APPLICATION APPROVED: #Z-08-22- Austin HGB, LLC Bill Gjonbalaj (Applicant / Property Owner), Map 6 Block 28 Lots 4,5,6, 12 and #25 South Main Street. Provide apartment housing by building (2) 48-unit buildings Application. APPLICATIONS CONTINUED; PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED: APPLICATION #Z-01-23- C&B Marlborough Associates LLC (Applicant/Property owner) 41-45 Hebron Rd. 1 MW Solar installation. Public hearing is scheduled for March 16,2023. APPLICATION #Z-02-23-Hazel Licratz/Farm at Carter Hill (Applicant/Property Owner) 86 E. Hampton Rd. Special Permit Public Events. A public hearing is scheduled for March 16,2023. APPLICATION #Z-03-23- Amendment to Zoning Regulation Article 7A C1, Article 7A VCDZ 1 for April 6, 2023. APPLICATION APPROVED WITH EXCEPTION: APPLICATION #Z-12-22- Amendment to Zoning Regulation Article 7A VCD, Article 8A DBIPZ. Cannabis Regulations (PERMITTING). APPLICATION DENIED: APPLICATION #Z-14-22- Amendment to Zoning Regulation Article 7A VCD, Article 8A DBIPZ. Cannabis Regulations (PROHIBITING). AMENDMENTS TABLED: Amendments to Article Six A.1 Parking and Storage of Recreational Vehicles and Trailers tabled until April 6, 2023. Amendments to Article Six. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Motion passed that all three officers remain the same. Kevin Asklar, ZONING COMMISSION CHAIR 1TB 3/10

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Marlborough Zoning Commission will hold the following Public Hearing March 16, 2023, at 7:00 PM at Town Hall located at 26 North Main Street: APPLICATIONS: #Z-01-23- C&B Marlborough Associates LLC (Applicant/Property owner) 41-45 Hebron Rd. 1 MW solar installation. #Z-02-23-Hazel Licratz/Farm at Carter Hill (Applicant/Property Owner) 86 E. Hampton Rd. Special Permit Public Events. Written testimony will be received at the public hearing and written testimony can be sent to the Building /Land Use Department at Town Hall ahead of the public hearing. 1TB 3/10

Legal Notice Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

At their regular meeting, the Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission APPROVED the following application on March 6th, 2023: Permit Application IWWC #23-01: Jay Tuttle, Town of Andover- 3-year “General Permit” that covers the Town of Andover Department of Public Works routine drainage maintenance activities. If you have any questions, please contact the Andover Wetlands Agent at 860-742-7305 (extension 4221) or email (preferred) at wetlands@andoverct.org 1TB 3/10

TOWN OF ANDOVER PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTION

The Andover Planning & Zoning Commission took the following actions at their Regular Meeting held on Monday, February 27, 2023:
APPROVED:
 Modification to the Application of Eric/Melissa Lotezcka & George Correia, Correia as to allow for an extension of the statutory filing period for the subdivision/special permit application for the property located on Pine Ridge Drive and Old Farms Road known as Lotezcka/Correia Acres.
 Details of the above-referenced application can be found on the Town of Andover's web-site (andoverct.org) under Boards and Commission/Elected/Documents.
 Jim Hallisey
 Zoning Agent

1TB 3/10

BLISH MEMORIAL PARK TENNIS COURT & BASKETBALL RESURFACING TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH, CONNECTICUT INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Bids for the **Blish Memorial Park Tennis Court & Basketball Resurfacing** will be received by the **Town of Marlborough** by hard copy at the Issuing Office until **10:00 AM** local time on **Monday, April 10, 2023**. Received Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time. **The Project primarily consists of resurfacing 2 tennis court 60 x 120 feet with acrylic color coating surface and combination striping for tennis and pickle ball and resurfacing basketball court.** Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum as indicated in the Bid Form. Bidding Documents are available for free download from the Town Website Marlboroughct.net.
 Issuing Office is: **Town Clerk's Office, Marlborough Town Hall, 26 North Main Street, Marlborough, Connecticut (860-295-6200)**. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents from the Town Web Site or at the Issuing Office during Town Hall hours of operation.
 A pre-bid conference will be held at **3:00 PM** local time on **Tuesday, March 28, 2023** at **Blish Park Tennis Courts 32 Park Road**. Pre-bid conference attendance is encouraged but is not mandatory. The successful Bidder will be required to provide a Performance Bond in the amount of one hundred percent of the Contract Price. The Surety Company shall be licensed in the State of Connecticut and listed on IRS Department Circular 570. A Payment Bond and Payment of Prevailing Wage Rates will not be required unless Contract amount is equal to or greater than \$100,000. Bid Bond is not required. The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good, capable of being accepted, and may not be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of bids.
 The Town reserves the right to waive any technical defects in the bids; to reject bids which do not conform to the terms and conditions described in the specifications; to reject any, any part of, or all bids; to waive informalities or irregularities in the bidding process; and to accept that bid which the Town deems to be in its best interest, whether or not it is the lowest dollar proposed.
 All work to be performed in connection with the proposed project will be subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances and regulations.
 If the Town determines, in its sole discretion, to proceed with the work, the successful bidder must execute and deliver the Contract and furnish a valid Certificate of Insurance with full policies, and Performance Bond to the Town prior to the start of any work. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that it has received any and all addendums to this Invitation to Bid prior to submitting a bid. This Invitation to Bid is not binding on the Town.
 The Town reserves the right to revise or amend the plans and specifications from time to time as it deems necessary.
 This Invitation to Bid has been prepared solely to solicit bids and does not constitute a contract offer.
 The Town reserves the right to amend, cancel, postpone, withdraw, or resubmit this Invitation for Bid at any time if it is in the best interest of the Town to do so.
 The Town is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority/Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to apply.
 Owner: Town of Marlborough, Connecticut
 Amy J. Traversa, Acting Town Manager

2TB 3/10, 3/17

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission held a regular meeting on March 1, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Eaton Smith Council Chambers Room 107 and via ZOOM Virtual Meeting to consider the following:
 PZC-23-001: Two Brothers Café LLC, 20 East High, for a special permit per Sec. 5.2.C.2- Restaurant. Map 05A/ Block 62/ Lot 5A - Approved with conditions.
 Kevin Kuhr, Chairman

1TB 3/10

ADVERTISERS

The Glastonbury Citizen and Rivereast News Bulletin will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. *The Citizen* will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. *The Citizen* cannot guarantee specific placement.

TOWN OF PORTLAND PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION

At the March 2, 2023 meeting, the following actions were taken:
APPROVED with Conditions PZC Application #22-22: 34 Gospel Lane. Proposed Special Permit modification to increase gym business floor size to 4,044 sq. ft. in existing building. Application and property of MJS Realty Ventures LLC. Map 31, Lot 26, Zone IP.
APPROVED with Conditions PZC Application #22-16: 662 Portland Cobalt Road. Proposed site plan review for food truck hosted by Core & Restore Yoga/Spa. Application of Roseanna Singer and property of 662 PCMI LLC. Map 22, Lot 2, Zone B-2. Dated at Portland, CT this 3rd day of March 2023
 Robert Ellsworth, Chairman
 Planning & Zoning Commission

1TB 3/10

LEGAL NOTICE

Town of East Hampton
Board of Finance Public Hearing
Monday, March 20, 2023
East Hampton Town Hall Town Council Chambers #107
and Virtual via Zoom
6:30 p.m.

The East Hampton Board of Finance will hold a Public Hearing at the above date and time to discuss the fiscal year 2023 - 2024 Town Budget.
 At this hearing, interested persons may be heard and written communications received. A copy of the proposed budget will be on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, East Hampton, CT and on the town website at www.easthamptonct.gov by March 15, 2023. Information to log into the meeting will be available on the Public Hearing agenda on the town website at www.easthamptonct.gov. Written comments on the budget will be accepted via email at budget@easthamptonct.gov or by mail to the East Hampton Town Hall, Attn: Town Manager's Office, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424.

1TB 3/10

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING ANTIQUES & OLD STUFF. Costume jewelry, pottery, bottles, crocks, jugs, toys/games, glassware, silver plated items, signs, typewriters, sewing machines, bar items, tools, sterling coins, kitchenware, cookware, automotive, books, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, knives, hunting, fishing, military, Masonic, fire dept. and more. Donald Roy 860-874-8396.

WANTED TO BUY:

your loose and bulk unwanted pennies, nickles, dimes and quarters. Free estimate and pick up. **Cash paid on the spot.** Call 860 836-5013.

CASH PAID for any Toyota

Other makes, running or not, crashed ok. Will take other makes and models.
Free pickup. Call any time:
\$ 203-600-4431 \$

COT1-12-23



The Absolute BEST!! 1 Day NRA Pistol Course

Date determined after 8 reservations
 No NRA Computer Course required \$150
 GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE ANYTIME WEEKENDS.
 Includes continental breakfast & lunch. Water & juice all day.
Millstream Preserve
 Call (860) 295-9974 to register.

RES-10-23

"Pet of the Week"

Caleb, 10 months, is a happy, feisty, boy. Caleb will need a special home due to his lack of use of his back legs. Caleb may be differently abled, but that doesn't stop him from being super adventurous and spirited! Contact POA for more info about Caleb's specific needs for a home with a perfect fit.

Sweet Joe, 3, needs an experienced cat person, one who will read his signs and respect his boundaries as he learns to live and trust in a loving home. We think he'd do best in a home without small children or other pets. Joe needs someone who will love him and care for him on his own terms, someone he can trust completely. Then, Joe can finally let down his guard and be the big sweet love he was always meant to be.

For more information on adopting CATS or DOGS, call 860-569-0722
VOLUNTEERS & FOSTER HOMES NEEDED - For information call: 860-569-0722

Protectors of Animals, Inc.
 144 Main St., Unit O, E. Hartford, CT 06118

A non-profit, all volunteer animal rescue organization, rescuing abandoned, abused and impounded cats and dogs. Check us out on our website - www.poinc.org

EMPLOYMENT

NEW SALON IN GLASTONBURY CHAIR RENTAL AVAILABLE.

Beautiful space and wonderful location on Main Street. Call/text Dominique 860-759-3784.

WE ARE SEEKING: an experienced Driver

for a old family member on a part-time basis twice in week Salary is very attractive. \$610 weekly must Have a valid state-issued driver's license Must be professional, safe, patient and an attentive chauffeur at all times kindly resume/references: jogan124@att.net

HELP WANTED: CASO'S HVAC, LLC, East Hampton, CT

is now hiring Commercial & Residential HVAC Mechanics/Technicians. B2 or S2 License Required. Must have at least 5 years experience. We offer competitive hourly wages. Please email resume to casohvac@comcast.net or call 860-267-5851.

PART-TIME COOK:

3-4 days/wk, includes every other weekend. Please call Christal at Greystone 860-342-2509

HELP WANTED: LOCAL CAREGIVER

to provide occasional help with in-home hospice patient in Hebron. Call John at 860-368-1407.

FULL TIME OFFICE HELP

Small local company offering a full time clerical position. Candidate must be able to multi-task and be well organized. One of the primary duties includes assisting in the development of project sales quotations. Other duties may include phone answering, filing, order entry & expediting. Training provided. \$20-\$25 an hour DOE / Plus benefits! Apply in person at: Yost Associates 224 Eastern Blvd., Glastonbury M-F 8:00-5:00 **Positively no phone calls**

CEMETERY CARETAKER PART-TIME POSITION at The Swedish Cemetery in Portland.

Mowing, general work around the cemetery. Includes helping with funeral preparations. Please call Cemetery Superintendent Carl #860-916-5189 to schedule an interview.

Dental Assistant

Colchester Dental Group is seeking a full time Dental Assistant for a modern 2 doctor and 3 hygienist dental practice. Primary duties include assisting very high quality dental procedures, digital x-rays, impressions, temporaries, overseeing bleaching procedures and supply ordering. Hours 8:45 - 5:30 Tuesday through Friday, and some Saturdays 8:45 to 1.
 We are a very low turnover office and are looking for an experienced professional for the long term.
 Salary negotiable, Experience with Dentrix and Dexis a plus!
 Also, seeking a temporary assistant position to start asap for approximately 8 weeks.
 Please send resume to: **79A Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415** or email to info@ColchesterDentalGroup.com

RES-24-23

Senior Center Activity Specialist (Part-Time Position Opening) Activity Specialist

The Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for the position of Senior Center Activity Specialist. This is a part-time position. (up to 15 hours per week). Duties include the coordination and implementation of programs, special events and activities and management of facility usage. Experience working with older adults, strong customer service, and communication skills required. First aid and CPR a plus. Schedule will be flexible to meet the needs of the Senior Center. \$16.00 per hour. A valid Connecticut driver's license is required.
 Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and employment application to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or by email to HumanResources@easthamptonct.gov by 3/24/2023, or until filled. A job description and employment application may be found at www.easthamptonct.gov. EOE/AA/M-F.

1TB 3/10

Employment Posting Parks Maintainer (Seasonal)

The Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for the position of Seasonal Parks Maintainer for the Parks and Recreation Department. This is a skilled position performing manual labor, in the operation and maintenance of municipal parks, facilities, grounds and athletic complexes. Applicants must have knowledge and experience in the safe operation of equipment including but not limited to manual shift trucks, towing trailers with equipment, hand and riding mowers, hand and power tools, trimmers, paint machines and other equipment used in maintenance of municipal facilities, turf, athletic fields, recreational areas, etc. Custodial duties include cleaning restrooms, refuse removal, and general housekeeping. This is a seasonal position, May-August. \$16.50 per hour, 40-hour work week. EOE/AA/M-F.
 Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume and an employment application by 3/24/2023, or until filled, to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424 or by email to lseymour@easthamptonct.gov.

1TB 3/10

ACCOUNTING CLERK:

Billing, Collections, Deposits, Answer phones, Customer Service. QuickBooks a Plus. Mon-Fri 8am- 4:30pm. Send resume Keith@Douglasgaragedoor.com

SMALL FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS IS SEEKING A SEASONAL PART TIME TAX PROCESSOR.

No experience needed. Willing to learn. We offer a flexible schedule. Email us at theoffice@carolofinancial.com

REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: LAND SOUTH OF GLASTONBURY. Lot at Tryon Farms, only one for sale. Lot Fairview Terrace, 3 acres abuts a reserve on dead end street. 860-633-3545.

ROOM FOR RENT:

in house at Amston Lake, no smoking female. Queen size adjustable bed, TV, closet, bureaus, private bathroom w/shower, separate entrance, women's vanity room, use of all house amenities. Great location on the lake. Price negotiable. Call Mr. Z at 860-228-7825.

SEASONAL RENTAL

AMSTON LAKE SEASONAL COTTAGE: Fully Furnished. 2 bedrooms, air/heat, screened porch, washer/dryer, lake view. Avail weekly \$950 plus security and cleaning or monthly rates calculated based on length of stay. Available as of April 16th. 113 Deepwood Drive Lebanon. Contact Rita 860-207-7680



RENTALS

FOR RENT: Apt. 1BR+Den. \$1350 incl. all util. No Smoking or Pets. Private entry/apt downstairs of rural home in Gilead -near Glastonbury. Deposit required. call/text 860-884-6183

GLASTONBURY OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT: Individual offices or space up to 1000-1400 square feet suites. Use of conference room included. Call 860-633-3545

2nd FLOOR OFFICE AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY IN EAST HAMPTON. From 230 sq.ft. to 477 sq.ft; Call Edmond at 860-930-6356

Your local friend in Real Estate

We repeat what we don't repair.

ANGELA ARESCO

Better Service | Better Marketing | Better Results
 Better Real Estate

860.883.9005
angelaaresco@sbcglobal.net
www.angelaaresco.com

CARLGUILD & ASSOCIATES THE REALTORS OF REAL ESTATE

RES-10-23

NOW HIRING FOR THE 2023 SEASON

ON THE ROCKS AT FOX HOPYARD

- Line & Prep Cooks
- Pro Shop Counter Staff
- Dishwashers
- Greens Maintenance Crew
- Servers & Bartenders
- Clubhouse Caretaker
- Outside Operations (*Cart Attendants and Starters*)
- Second Assistant Golf Superintendent

Some positions have year-round opportunities available if desired.

Apply online at www.foxhopyard.com
 or in person at 1 Hopyard Road, East Haddam, CT

RES-10-23

TREE & LANDSCAPING

MASTER GARDENER-
UCONN/CT State Certified.
Professional Gardening Care,
Diagnosing Problems, Skilled
Pruning/Trimming, Planting,
Design, Mulching, Edging, Lawn
Mowing. 30 Years Experience.
Call Thomas #860-267-7515

LAWN MOWING:
Professional, competitive
rates. Call Thomas #860-267-
7515



TREE REMOVAL *We Climb*
Licensed Arborist on Staff
YARD EXPANSIONS
We Now Accept All Major Credit Cards • Fully Insured
G & G Lawncare – East Hampton
(203) 435-5355

TSMINOR ENTERPRISES, LLC
FULLY INSURED HIC# 0653158 RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

- Lawn Mowing & Clean Ups
- Lawn Installation & Repair
- Planting & Mulching
- Drainage & Excavation
- Tree Removal & Brush Mowing
- Dump Runs & Debris Removal

860-716-0661 • tsmिनorenterprises.com

Dorsey Construction
Spring Cleanups — *Call Today!!!*
Gutter & Leader Cleaning • Painting
Powerwashing • Waterproofing • Landscaping

Concrete Work – sidewalks, stairs, patios, colored concrete & stamped concrete

Roof Repair – rubber roof, torchdown, metal roofs, and slate roof repair

— Looking For New Mowing Accounts —
John Dorsey • 860-890-9884

CALL JACK TODAY
Tree Removal & Tree Trimming
Property Maintenance • Weekly Lawn Care
Landscaping • Spring & Fall Cleanups
Walkways, Patios, Retaining Walls
Bobcat & Excavation Services • Lot Cleaning
— COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL —
Call Jack for **FREE ESTIMATE**
(860) 818-2773

Lawn TECS SR LLC.
Yard Grooming / Lawn Maintenance
H (860) 295-1479 • C (860) 214-9923
RLFrancks@comcast.net

Spring Is Near!

Start Scheduling Spring Cleanups & Mowing Today
Now is the time to start thinking about your yard's mulching needs and trimming back overgrowth with the smell of spring in the air. Reseeding and fresh topsoil is beckoning your yard, so let's get started.

SERVICES INCLUDE: **Weekly/Bi-Weekly Mowing • Brush Removal**
Downed Tree & Debris Removal • Mulch Installation
Light Moving • Light Hauling • Spring & Fall Cleanups
— CT LICENSED & FULLY INSURED —
86 JONES HOLLOW ROAD, MARLBOROUGH, CT

AMV LANDSCAPING
Commercial - Residential
Locally in East Hampton, CT

COMPLETE LAWN MAINTENANCE
Plowing / Salting / Dump Runs
Scheduled Mowings
Mulching / Garden Installs
Irrigation Services
Water Features
Spring / Fall Cleanups
Lawn Renovations / Clearing

Now Scheduling: **Spring Cleanups**
Scheduled Mowings

Fully Licensed & Insured – HIC # 0661818
860.913.6203

ACF Stump Grinding
Call For A Free Estimate!
860-918-5856

RYANS TREE SERVICE
Discounted Winter Rates Available, Call Now!
With the frozen ground, now is one of the best times to take down your trees!

- Hazardous Tree Removal – We Climb or Bucket Truck Service
- Lot Clearing & Yard Expansions
- Stumpgrinding & Grading (including muddy driveways)
- Firewood For Sale (Group & Referral Discounts 10%)

Accepting Most Major Credit Cards
FULLY INSURED State Lic. #SFPH000902 **FREE ESTIMATES**

Call 860-228-5009

RIVER VALLEY LAWN CARE LLC

860-895-8879
Your Friend in the Fertilization Business
FREE ESTIMATES

Granular Fertilization Tick Control
Weed / Insect Control Aerating / Seeding
Grub Control

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

SCHADTLE'S Outdoor Services LLC

- Tree Work & Stump Removal or Grinding
- Driveway Installation, Repairs & Expansion
- Patios, Sidewalks
- Fencing, Drainage & Retaining Walls
- Excavation & Concrete Work
- Dump Truck Services, Equipment Moving
- Fill, Topsoil, Process, Stone & Mulch

schadtlesoutdoorservices@gmail.com
860-550-0919
Licensed & Insured HIC.0665962

DONDERO LANDSCAPING • LAWN CARE
A Full Service Stone & Landscape Company
Serving Hebron, Marlborough, East Hampton, Portland For 20 Years

Free Advice Tips on Layout & Design
CALL FOR SCHEDULING
Large Boulders? We can break them into usable wall stone!

Bluestone – treads, steps, pattern, patios, sidewalks
Arborvitae – dark American green giant, CT grown
Landscape Boulders, you pick
CALL FOR PRICING

Stone Work	Brick Work	Lawn Renovation	Spring	Maintenance	Tree Take Down
Retaining Walls	Walkways / Patios	Topsoil	Cleanup	Weekly Mowing	Yard Expansion
Garden Walls	Brick / Bluestone	Hydroseeding	Weeding / Pruning	Spring / Fall Cleanup	Stump Removal
Steps / Repairs	Relevel / Rebase	Grading Yard Drains	Mulching / Edging	Organic Fertilizing	Bush Removal

Top Soil • Crushed Stone • Mulch – **FREE DELIVERY** – 3 Yard Minimum

DONDERO LANDSCAPING 860-228-2003 **FREE Written Estimates**

FREE ESTIMATES

- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Complete Bucket Truck Services
- Yard Expansions
- Crane Services

Serving Our Customers For Over 20 Years
ALL TYPES – Commercial & Residential

RIVER VALLEY TREE EXPERTS
Free Estimates **860-508-6123** Licensed & Insured
www.RiverValleyTreeExpert.com

LAWNS-N-STUFF
"WE DO MORE THAN CUT THE GRASS"
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • FULLY INSURED

NOW SCHEDULING SPRING CLEAN-UPS

- MULCHING
- SHRUB TRIMMING
- TREE WORK / PLANTING
- FERTILIZING
- GARDEN INSTALLS
- WALLS/WALKWAYS
- DUMP RUNS/HAULING
- MINI-EXCAVATING
- DRAINAGE
- PLOW DAMAGE REPAIR

860-295-9692
Marlborough, CT

NOW IS THE TIME TO SCHEDULE YOUR NEW BACKYARD OASIS.

PATIOS • FIREPITS • WALKWAYS

CALL US TO DISCUSS EXPANDING YOUR YARD AND POSSIBILITIES!

860-295-9692
Marlborough, CT

HOME IMPROVEMENT

CABINET REFACING: Not an overpriced box store or franchise. Local company, cabinetmakers specializing in refacing since 1986. All wood products, custom work and counter tops. Deal with the owner. Woodin Excellence, CP#0664648, 860-345-2050

D&A TILE: Free Estimates. Licensed and insured. All types of tile work, kitchens, baths. All work guaranteed. 16 years experience. Call 508-0893.

FROM ADDITIONS, DECKS, ROOFS & DOORS to finished basements, siding & floors. Licensed/Insured. Give us a call for a free estimate. Starr Builders, LLC See us on Facebook. B.B.B. 860-267-1496.

RENE'S INTERIOR TRIM LLC -35 yrs of experience in all phases of carpentry. Some of the services we offer include: Crown Molding, Chair Rails, Window Seats, Bookcases, Entertainment Centers, Cedar Closets, Custom stairs, Pocket doors, Interior and Exterior doors, Radiator covers, Porticos, Mantles, Wheel chair ramps, New hatches, Replacement windows, Sump pumps, Heat cables in gutters or on roofs, Wood decking changed to Trex, Attic stairs, Kitchen and baths, Water damage and rot repair of all kinds such as leaky roofs, doors, windows or plumbing fixtures. We do complete repair of drywall and plaster. We also combat the entry of mice and more. Call Rene (860)643-0428

HOME REPAIR & RENOVATION CONTRACTOR: Jobs big or small, give Colin of KCM Properties LLC a call. 860-798-3260

GENERAL HOME REPAIRS Handyman, painting, rotted wood. Junk and debris removal. Excavator, dump truck, septic. Fully licensed and insured. Ben Egri 860-712-6257

HARDWOOD FLOORING: Installation, repairs, sanding, staining, dustless refinishing. Carpet and vinyl, LVT and ceramic, all flooring. Finish carpentry and decks. HIC#0624266. Fully insured. Free estimates. BROTHERS HOME IMPROVEMENT & FLOORING, LLC. Locally owned/operate info@brothershomeimprovementct.com www.BrothersHomeImprovementCT.com 860-432-5716, 860-882-7672.

GUTTER CLEANING, No mess - hand cleaned, rinsed, check drainage. Cleaning included with optional, reasonably priced LEAF STOP-R GUARDS. Clogged gutters = water damage. Free estimates. Insured, Reg # HIC.0651707 Call/Text Marc anytime 860-498-2524

Elliott Construction, Inc.
new construction, home improvements, roofs, decks, additions, renovations, interior painting
860.303.8265 elliotfflom27@gmail.com
in business since 1977 • licensed & insured

FOUR SEASONS PAINTERS LLC
INTERIOR
• All Phases of Interior Painting, Staining, Textured Ceilings, Texture Removal
• WP Removal, Rep. Windows, Home Improvements & Carpentry
Kevin Greer 860-646-7760 Lic. # 574298
www.FOURSEASONPAINTERS.net

KKS Construction
Property Maintenance Residential / Commercial
Carpentry – Roofing o – 860.633.6015
Windows – Doors c – 860.550.0932
Lic 0570333 / Ins - Est. 1995 kimsadlon@cox.net

Fully Licensed & Insured
DERIS PAINTING
— RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL —
• Power Washing • Fine Finish
• Cabinets • Drywall Repair
— INTERIOR & EXTERIOR —
Call us today for a FREE QUOTE!
860-951-4693

A BEST GUTTERS
Seamless Gutter Installation
White or Custom Colors
Leaf Relief Gutter Protection
Fascia Replacement
New Roofing
FOR A FREE ESTIMATE, CALL
(860) 537-0819
Visit us at www.abestgutters.com
Fully Insured • CT Lic# 0646855

Alan Soucy 860-657-6462
www.alansoucy.com
Home Improvements
Saucy Solutions...treating you right every time.
We Specialize In Creating New Kitchens & Baths
From design to finish you'll love our work!
If it's time to upgrade your kitchen or bath, visit us online for virtual tours of our projects.
— Call Us Today for a FREE Consultation —

Sharp Eye HOME IMPROVEMENT & CUSTOM CARPENTRY
OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
• Decks • Remodels • Finished Basements • Sill Rot Replacement
• Windows & Doors • Finish Trim • Additions • To Do Lists
860-467-5564 Marc Viccaro
HIC # 0650133 • CT Licensed & Insured

SM WELCH
REMODELING SPECIALIST
860.295.1295
• ADDITIONS • BASEMENTS • DECKS
• DORMERS • BATHROOMS • SIDING
• GARAGES • KITCHENS • ROOFING
Certified Green Professional
Certified Aging in Place Specialist
smwelch.com • Insured • CT 607510

Deart Associates LLC
• Painting, Staining, Powerwashing
• Cedar & Vinyl Trim & Siding Repair
• Deck Repairs & Flooring
• Carpentry & Wallpaper Removal
Call Today!
FREE ESTIMATES – LICENSED & INSURED
860-295-6475 • 860-916-7939

Since 1992
MARK'S PAINTING
860-267-4125
Freshen Up for Spring!
All Phases of Painting & Carpentry
Quality Interior Painting
MARK PESZYNSKI
LIC. #563897

Interior & Exterior Painting
Power Washing
Deck & Porch Refinishing
FREE ESTIMATES
203-640-3464
paintingbyrenewal@gmail.com
License# 0667603

CASELLA CONSTRUCTION, LLC
FULLY INSURED – HIC #0647145
Remodels • Bathrooms
Repairs/Handyman • Windows • Doors
Flooring • Concrete • Walls
Patios • Sidewalks
Painting • Power Washing
860-685-1266 Dean Casella

SHAW DRYWALL
HANGING & TAPING
First Class Service & Quality Work
860-228-0680
CT. LIC. #0623063 FULLY INSURED

Bud Stula Home Improvement
Kitchen & Bath Remodels
Ceramic • Hardwood • Vinyl Floors
Carpet Restretching • Trimwork & Painting
No Job Too Small — HIC # 0632650 • Insured
Call 860.377.0380

PARKER PAINTING
Interior/Exterior • Powerwashing
Light Carpentry
Ceiling & Sheetrock Repair
Water Damage Repair
— FREE ESTIMATES —
LICENSED & INSURED 860-338-0156

Reliable Quality Workmanship
KC MASONRY
Stonewalls • Brick Walls • Bluestone • Steps
Fireplaces • Chimneys • Patios • Sidewalks
We can also do all Masonry Repairs!
Free Estimates Lic. No. 0604514 **KEN (203) 558-4951**

UNITED POWERWASH & PAINTING
Interior / Exterior Painting
• Commercial • Residential • Full Service Preparation
• Minor Drywall & Ceiling Repairs
— FULLY LICENSED & INSURED —
Call Now For A Free NO OBLIGATION ESTIMATE
(860) 608-8376

HOME DESIGNS BY BRUNO
See Me Before You Build!
3D Plans * Permit Plans
Budgets
860-537-5345

WRANG BUILDERS
A Design/Build Co.
Practicing the Art of Building Since 1995
New Construction, Additions, Garages
Decks, Kitchens & Baths Remodeling
Replacement Windows
(860) 342-1010

E.L. CONTRACTING
— NO JOB TOO SMALL —
Ed Loveland
Roofing
Siding & Windows
Small Jobs
Green Remodeling
Kitchens & Baths
Hardi Board Installer
Decks
860-680-1832 (C)
EDL7@comcast.net
License #609553
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL • FULLY INSURED

Swanson Drywall and Painting
Michael Swanson, owner
Over 20 years experience making homes beautiful!
CALL: 219-575-0370
swansonpainting0916@gmail.com

CHARTER PAINTING & RESTORATION 53rd ANNIVERSARY
Since 1969 Family Operated
PAINTING / CARPENTRY
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PAINTING
"WITH ATTENTION TO DETAIL"
• Home/Church/Historic Restoration – Int & Ext
• Since 1973 Over 2300 Aluminum Sided Homes Repainted
• Carpentry Services
• Water Damage
• Preparation Specialist – Menu Format Proposals
• Textured Ceilings/Removal of Popcorn & Paper/Drywall & Crack Repair
• Hardwood Floor Finishing
• Powerwashing
Our loyal tradesmen have rejuvenated 1000's of Connecticut homes. LET YOUR HOME BE NEXT!
Call Christian Charter
860-646-7668
www.charterpainting.com
Email: chinchart4u@hotmail.com Insured #HIC.0619547

GET YOUR HOUSE IN SHAPE
BILL'S REMODELING & HOME REPAIR LLC
Phone: 860-402-0508 License #HIC 0656593
Additions Basements Bathrooms Decks
Doors Floors Kitchens Garages
Molding Repair Work Siding Windows
DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF

RESIDENTIAL HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC
Roofing • Siding • Skylights • Windows • Gutters
Leaf Guards • Chimneys • Ridge Vents • Repairs
2022 GAF Roofing & CertainTeed Siding Specials!
Ask about our "25 Year Workmanship Warranty!"
Master Elite
Velux 5 Star Skylight Specialist/Installer
"Bringing Light to Life"
Ask about our "NO LEAK" Warranty!
Call (860) 334-9979
www.skylightspecialist.com/connecticut-skylights
Licensed & Insured CT Lic. #569972

HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES

BENGSTON HANDYMAN & PAINTING SERVICE
 Carpentry / Windows / Doors / Painting
 Texture Ceilings Repair/Drywall & Taping
 Power Washing / Plumbing & Electrical Repairs
860-729-9387 East Hampton, CT
 CT#0633081

R.J. Swider Contracting, L.L.C.
 Specializing in Additions & Remodeling
860-228-3912
 www.rjswidercontracting.com Ct. Lic.#541663

TUTHILL ELECTRIC
 Family Owned Local Electricians specializing in service changes, generators, remodels, outlets, lighting and more!
www.Tuthillelectric.com 860-395-7638
 FREE ESTIMATES • Fully Licensed & Insured E1 #0197601

Columbia Sealcoat Co.
 COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL
 Protect & Renew Your Pavement
 Crack & Patch Repair
 FREE ESTIMATES
860-228-7171 LIC#INS

COLUMBIA GRAVEL
 Driveway Repair & Regrade
FREE ESTIMATES
 — LICENSED & INSURED —
860-228-7171

MR. HANDYMAN Home Improvement Professionals
 • Residential & Commercial
 • Prompt, Safe & Reliable
 • All Household Jobs, Large or Small
 • Professional, Insured & Bonded
Decks & Bathrooms • Small Jobs as well
 Mr. Handyman of Glastonbury, Norwich & New London
norwich@mrhandyman.com
860-359-1776 • www.mrhandyman.com

Alan Soucy ROOF REPAIRS
ROOFING
 Full Roofing Systems
 Leaks • Rec Rooms • Bathrooms
 Decks • Windows • Doors
860.657.6462 Lic# 0622777

JOHN LACY PAINTING
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
 Quality Craftsmanship
Walls - \$159
18' x 16' avg. room
 Insured Free Estimates
40 YEARS EXPERIENCE 860-416-8354

Snow Septic Repair, LLC
 — FREE ESTIMATES —
 A fully licensed & insured specialist of sub surface waste water disposal systems for residential & commercial properties.
New Installations • Real Estate Inspections
Repairs • System Diagnostic Services
Soil Testing • Video Camera Pipe Inspections
 Over 20 Years of Professional Experience
 Guaranteed Pricing & Warranties Available
SnowSepticRepair.com • 860-221-8735

SERVICES

DUMP RUNS/LIGHT HAULING: Same day appointments available, cleanouts, basements, garages, even the junk in the backyard. We can take as much or as little as you want. Mark 860-295-9692 or 860-916-9577.

CHIMNEY MAINTENANCE: Cleaning, Caps, Dampers, Flushing, Furnace Liners and more. No nonsense, no sales pitch - just the work you want done. 35 yrs. actual experience as the owner of Glastonbury's local chimney service. William Allen 860-633-1033

JOSH'S JUNK REMOVAL: All items removed at a reasonable rate. Call for estimate. We also remove sheds and hot tubs. Insured. Josh Langdon 48 hrs. Cleaning Services. 860-922-4621

DUMP RUNS, CLEAN-OUTS, BRUSH. Reasonable, responsive, courteous, conscientious. Angie's listed. Glastonbury Salvage LLC 860-280-6318.

FLOOR SANDING AND REFINISHING: Custom staining and finishing. Repairing and laying of all wood floors. Free Estimates. James Gorman 860-647-9261

BLACK GOOSE CHIMNEY SWEEP: Dirty Chimneys can burn! Having your chimney cleaned yearly ensures peace of mind. Dust-free professional cleaning. Fully Insured. Call Dave, 860-267-8422

Wellis Painting
 Where Quality Still Counts
 EST. 1986 - Lic# 568591
Ceiling Repair Specialists
(860) 652-9259
 SPECIALIZING IN:
 All phases of Painting
 Custom Textured Ceilings
 Sheetrock/Taping
 Water Damage

Brilliant Basement Waterproofing, LLC
 Fully Transferable Limited Lifetime Guarantee!
 Sump Pumps, Pumps Eliminated in Most Homes.
 Deal Direct With Owner - No Middle Man, Yard Drainage
 HIC. 0653192 • CALL US
860-598-8091
 * written details available upon request
www.brilliantbasementwaterproofing.com

PLUMBING & HEATING
 from dripping faucets to all your major plumbing/heating needs
Water Heaters • Zoned Heat Boiler Replacement
Bathroom Remodeling
Call Leo at 860-267-2354
 Lic. # P204015H389727 Insured

Licensed & Insured • LIC #0408372
MIDDLESEX MECHANICAL SERVICES LLC
 RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
FREE ESTIMATES Heating, Air Conditioning, Hot Water & Ductless Splits, Energy Efficient Heat Pumps
860.888-2090
 middlesexmechanicalservices@gmail.com
 We offer financing!
 BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

STREAMLINE GENERATOR
 a division of STREAMLINELECTRIC LLC
www.thepowerisout.com
860.467.6466
 There is a better option than the brand you hear so much about. Ask us WHY!
 SALES - SERVICE - INSTALLATION
KOHLER GENERATORS
 PLATINUM DEALER
IN STOCK!
 CIT3-17-22

HYDROPURE
 Water Treatment, LLC
 SALES • SERVICE • REPAIRS
WATER SOFTENERS • FILTERS
REVERSE OSMOSIS • UV UNITS
 Treat For: Iron, Manganese, Bacteria Hardness, Low pH, Sulfur, Nitrates Sediment, Taste & Odor Removal
www.hydro-pure.com
info@hydro-pure.com
 Lic #PLM280191
860-537-1949

Asphalt Solutions
Sealcoating Crack Filling Paving
Free Estimates
SPRING SPECIAL!
\$100 OFF
Call Tyler 860-333-0070
 Major Credit Cards Accepted - Licensed & Insured HIC 0657488

AAA Electrician Services
 FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL NEEDS
 Residential & Commercial Wiring
 Don't Pay the Big Company Prices!
 Service Upgrades, New Construction, Remodels Additions, Outlets & Lights Added, Generators, Kitchens
 Installation of Automatic or Portable Generator Systems
 LICENSED - No Job Too Big or Too Small - INSURED
Call Shawn 860-759-6652
aaaelectricianservices.com ELC. 0193730.E1

FULLER PAVING & GRADING
 • Reclaiming • Residential • Commercial
 Save \$ on in place recycling of your old pavement creating a great base to pave on.
FREE ESTIMATES
 See us on the web **www.fullerpavingct.com**
195 Jones Hollow Rd., Marlborough, CT
860-295-9566
 Established 1990 - Proud of Our Great Service Record
 FULLY INSURED • CT LIC. # 0537749

AIR FLO MECHANICAL LLC
 Installation & Service Available
 Specializing in Natural Gas & Propane Oil to Gas Conversions
 Central & Ductless AC • Furnace • Boilers
 Pool Heaters • Water Heaters • Sheet Metal
 — FINANCING AVAILABLE —
 CT Lic #393394 **860-989-5079**
 BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS
 MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC COOLING & HEATING
 DIAMOND CONTRACTOR

CLEANING SERVICES

HOUSE CLEANING: Need some help to get your home clean? I'd be happy to help. I have 10+ years of experience, I offer reliable service, reasonable rates and I do an amazing job. References upon request. Please call or text for free estimates. ARIANE'S CLEANING, 860-331-5309

POLISH/ENGLISH SPEAKING MAID CAN CLEAN YOUR HOUSE WITH CARE. Third cleaning 30% off. Insured, bonded, free estimates, references. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call Kasha 860-268-2301.

CHRISTINE'S CLEANING
 COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL
 Building Maintenance Services. Economical Rates & Prof. Skills. New Customer Discount Available.
860-798-7961

AFFORDABLE CLEANING
 RATES AS LOW AS **\$49**
 All Products Included
 We also include sanitizing, do groceries & run errands
 CALL OR TEXT **860-849-2768**
 LICENSED

CARPET CLEANING- Have your carpets deep dry cleaned. Eliminate problems associated with water (mold, mildew). Best method available for removal of pet stains, etc. Removes allergens. Immediate use. Upholstery cleaning. Completely safe. Experienced, references, insured. William Agostinelli, 860-704-8486.

Like us on Facebook
 RivereastNewsBulletin

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD: Sold in 1 or 2 cord. Split and seasoned. \$270 a cord. Cavanna Farms 860-659-1856

FOR SALE: Older King Size maple headboard great shape \$50. 4 Gun Oak Locking wall mount gun rack w/ drawer \$100. 6ft. chain link panels, various lengths. For pricing call 860-295-9974

END ROLLS OF NEWSPRINT. Great for art projects, wrapping and packing, table coverings for public dinners, etc. **The Glastonbury Citizen** 87 Nutmeg Lane (off Oak Street) 860-633-4691.

FOR SALE: Cavalier King Charles Puppy. Beautifully marked Tri boy, 16 weeks. AKC registered. Vet checked. Health records and beautiful show dog parents on premises. \$3999. Glastonbury 860-280-4123

SELL YOUR UNWANTED BULK AND LOOSE pennies, nickles, dimes and quarters. Cash paid on the spot. Free estimate and pick up Call 860 836-5013

FIREWOOD FOR SALE: \$240/ full cord \$140/half cord Call Troy 860 338 6283

FOR SALE: WOOD TURNING EQUIPMENT. 2 lathes, plus, plus, plus. Call Eugene at 860-873-9778.

Purebred Mini Schnauzer Puppy
1 Beautiful Female Puppy Left!
 • Registered, Salt & Pepper
 • Some Champion Lineage
 • Non Shedding, Great Disposition
 • Pedigree Certificate
 • Vet Checked + 1st Shots
 • Home Raised in Franklin, CT
 • Taking Deposits to Hold
 • Ready for Home Mid-March
\$2,500 with care package
CALLS ONLY 860-931-1935





HOW SWEET IT IS!

We'll be at the **Hebron Maple Festival**. Stop by and say hi.

March 18th & 19th, 10AM - 4PM

▶ We'd love to show you our wonderful community!
BOOK A TOUR and get put on our waiting list.



INDEPENDENT LIVING / ASSISTED LIVING / MEMORY CARE

55 John E Horton Blvd
Hebron, Connecticut 06248

860-801-1114
colebrookvillage.com



Colebrook Village
at Hebron
An Everbrook Senior Living Community

CT13-9-23



Marlborough
Health & Rehabilitation Center
860.295.9531

Quality Measures CMS Rating



"My Mom received wonderful care at Marlborough Health Center. The staff was kind, attentive and truly took the time to make my mom comfortable. The therapy team was especially supportive and encouraging to get her back to feeling herself."

— Son of a Resident

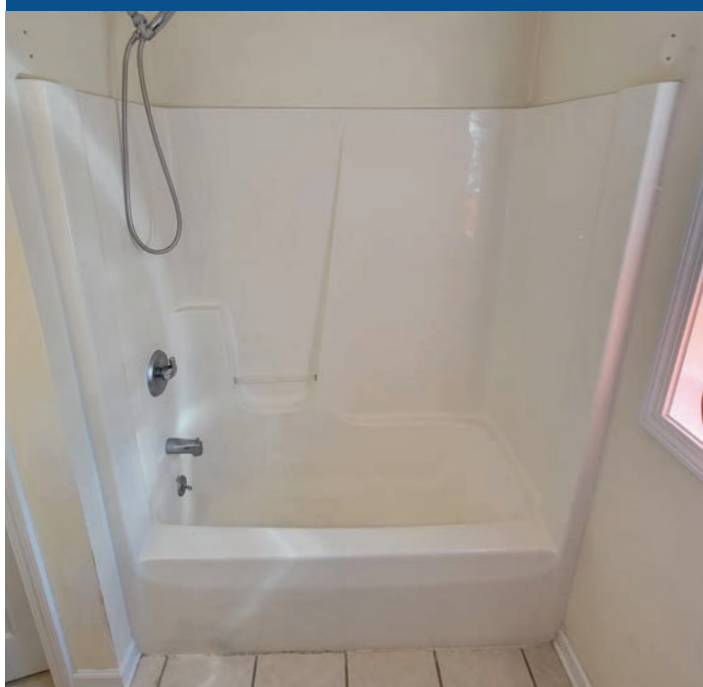
RE2-17-23

85 Stage Harbor Rd., Marlborough, CT 06447 | 860.295.9531 | www.marlboroughhealthcare.com

NEW SHOWER & BATH!

Get Rid of Your Old and Ugly Shower!

Out with the old!



In with the new!



Scan QR Code
For Free Estimate!

or visit us at awsrivereastnewsbulletin.com

860-967-3694

Schedule Your **FREE** Estimate
by **March 31**

AWS
Advanced Window Systems, LLC
Windows • Siding • Doors • Shower/Bath

Located at 14 Alcap Ridge
in Cromwell, CT 06416

55% OFF
INSTALLATION

Get the best deal EVER!

- Mark LaVoie (AWS President)



Connecticut Registration #0556507 Massachusetts Registration #176974 Licensed and fully Insured. Offer Valid 03/1/23-03/31/23* This ad supersedes all others. *Some restrictions may apply. *For qualified buyers and if paid in full.

RE3-9-23

COUNTRYSIDE Realty LLC (860) 228-8512

NOW IS THE TIME!

Don't miss this opportunity, we have buyers ready, waiting, and willing to pay. Call today!

30 Main St. Hebron, CT 06248

LAKE SIDE
BAR & GRILL

81 N. Main Street
East Hampton, CT 06424
860-467-6891
www.lakesidebar-grill.com

Lakeside Bar & Grill is the place where the locals go to dine, drink, and socialize. Our menu features dishes assembled from the freshest ingredients, sure to bring bold and inspiring flavor into your life.

NEW! Happy Hour – Tues-Fri 3:00-5:30
Food & Drink Specials

You'll love our new outdoor dining igloos!

CARLGUILD & ASSOCIATES
THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

THREE LOCAL OFFICES...
131 New London Tpk. #215, Glastonbury
392 South Main St. #2, Colchester
40 West High St., East Hampton

David Cavanna 860-377-0655
Deva Childs 860-796-7796
Heather Duteau 860-301-1941
Andrea Greene 860-508-1098
Joshua Guillemain 860-462-6338
Colin Mulryan 860-798-3260
Diane Nowak 860-690-5820

Alexa Paddock 845-590-9700
Jeanie Signor 860-841-3223
Michael Varni 860-335-7380
Cieara Yanaros 860-754-7048
Gladys Yeager 860-944-9772

PLUS 72 MORE AGENTS!
Visit our website for a full list!
carlguild.com

BUY OR SELL WITH ME USE MY TRUCK FOR FREE!

BOSCH Accredited Contractor
MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC **DIAMOND CONTRACTOR ELITE**

ABSOLUTE AIR SERVICES LLC
860-666-4200
Serving Central CT & Middlesex County

1116 Portland Cobalt Rd. (Rt. 66), Portland
Hours: Mon - Fri 8 AM - 4 PM

Take Advantage of 2023 Heat Pump and Ductless Heat Pump Rebates, Tax Credits and Financing.
Schedule your Spring AC or Heat Pump Maintenance Now.
Ask about our Absolute Air Comfort Family Service Plan.

Replace your older inefficient heating or cooling system with an Energy Efficient Heat Pump. Ducts or No Ducts, No Problem! Rebates and Tax Credits can reduce the cost of installation, use of fossil fuels, energy expenses, and improve home heating and cooling comfort. Call today or visit our Website, Like us on Facebook, or visit our Showroom in Portland to learn more!

absoluteairservices.com HIC. 0630546 ~ HTG.0393975-S1 Heating & Cooling Installation and Service