

News Bulletin

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

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June 2, 2023

Hebron Honors Those Who Sacrificed Everything

By Michael Sinkewicz

Hebron marked Memorial Day on Monday with its annual parade and ceremony, honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service of their nation.

Residents lined the parade route — spanning from RHAM High School onto Wall Street to Main Street before finally turning onto Church Street and ending at the Veterans Memorial Green.

Folks were gifted a beautiful, sunny morning to view the action; a slight breeze provided a comfortable break from the heat.

The event, hosted by the American Legion Post 95, represented an important opportunity for the community to honor those who served their country.

A U.S. Army Veteran, who said he wished only to be identified as Ted, observed the parade, saluting the flag as it passed by.

Ted served in the 1970s and his dad was a U.S. Navy lifer.

Honoring the past is important, he said, adding that his message is that “freedom isn’t free.”

“This is for those millions of people who lost their lives so that we can celebrate today,” he told the *Rivereast*. “This is the only way I can respect them. I don’t know their names but I owe them all.”

He appreciated that Hebron, like communities across the country, organize events on Memorial Day.

“This is so nice that the town puts this on,” he said. “It means a lot to me.”

Judy Santostefano, a Glastonbury resident, was observing the parade next to the Memorial Green. Her husband, the Rev. Mark Santostefano, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and the American Legion post chaplain, led the community in a prayer at the bringing of the ceremony.



Patriotism was on full display in Hebron Monday as, on a beautiful, sunny morning, folks gathered to watch the annual Memorial Day parade.

She told the *Rivereast* that her father-in-law served under General George Patton and that three of their four children are actively serving in the military.

“A lot of honor and legacy comes to mind on a day like today,” she said, adding that watching troops march by can be both “powerful” and “centering.”

“When there’s so many things confusing us now, this brings that focus a little clearer,” she said.

A sweeping crowd gathered for the ceremony, with onlookers joined by the overflow of children and adults who completed their walking portion of the parade.

Joe Fetta, commander of the Hebron chapter of the American Legion, stated that the “mission today is simple.”

“We’re here to remember and say thank you with our deepest gratitude and respect,” he said to begin the ceremony.

He continued by stating that the community was gathering to “honor those of all wars who have made the ultimate sacrifice.”

Lt. Col. Thomas Sousa, a U.S. Army veteran who served in the Iraqi War and is a member of the Hebron post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, addressed the crowd next.

Memorial Day originated at the close of the Civil War, he noted, and has been commemo-

rated every year thereafter. Some service members volunteered, others were drafted, “but all answered the call to duty when our country ordered them to go.”

Behind him was a backdrop of servicemen and the names etched in stone who sacrificed their lives.

Sousa said it was a “visible reminder of the price paid over the years by members of this community who lost their lives in service to our nation.”

“It’s sobering to think about how many stone monuments like these there are in the many small towns and cities throughout the United States.”

Ron Parkyn, a U.S. Marine Corps sergeant, Vietnam veteran and senior vice commander of the local American Legion post, read the names of the veterans who have passed away in the last year.

“May their souls forever rest in peace,” he said.

Fetta then read the names of those who died in each conflict, dating back to the Revolutionary War. He stated that their sacrifice must be remembered.

“The families of our fallen heroes know firsthand how dear that price was — their tears and grief remind us all that freedom is so precious.”

The survivors of each conflict carry on a legacy and it’s the community’s responsibility to support that theme moving forward.

“Each of us has an obligation to keep this legacy alive by remembering those that have secured our freedoms,” he said.

After reading the names, Fetta offered a solemn reminder.

“We must never forget what these heroes have done and what their loved ones have lost,” he stated. “Remembering once a year is not enough. The family survivors — husbands, wives, moms,

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Belltown Budgets Bomb with Voters

By Jack Lakowsky

Looks like the dozens of local voters angered by nearly \$800,000 in reductions weren’t bluffing when they told the East Hampton Town Council they’d reject a budget that they felt cut the community short.

What residents soundly shot down was a proposed 2023-24 fiscal year budget totaling \$53.60 million, up about \$1.84 million, or 3.6%, over current year spending. The education component — which is voted on separately from the town government portion — was at \$35.61 million, up more than \$1 million from the current year.

Among other things, Republicans on both the local Board of Finance and Town Council drew local ire when the former reduced nearly \$800,000 from the school board’s budget request — a cut that school officials have stressed would mean laying off multiple teachers and tossing several programs — and also eliminated about

\$174,000 from the town side of the plan, money that was eyed to help the local East Hampton Ambulance Association.

This Tuesday, East Hampton voters — at least, a majority of them — kept their word.

The town side was resoundingly rejected, 2,015-904, with 1,500 of those calling the number too low. A further 1,100 said it was too high.

The school board vote was a total knockout — nearly 2,300 voters said ‘no,’ totally overwhelming the 617 ‘yes’ votes. Nearly 1,650 said it was too low.

Adding the town’s totals bring the number of voters that showed out to almost 6,000, though numbers are not yet official.

Wednesday morning, Superintendent of Schools Paul Smith said the result was encouraging, telling the *Rivereast* now the plans go back to the finance board at its June 6 meeting. After the finance board has its say, the plan will

go to the council.

Smith broke down what the district’s hoping for now. And right off the bat, he knows it’s not the full \$800,000 in finance board-mandated reductions. Smith said about \$290,000 of that amount can be accounted for with insurance savings. Smith said this is a logical cut and pointed out there’s another cushion: because the district and its union partners are switching to a new insurance plan, the district saves another \$200,000.

The schools participate in the State Partnership Healthcare Plan. This is an Anthem plan to which both town and school personnel have access.

In 2022-23, the increase was 10%. The state forecasted a 12% increase for 2023-24. However, as the superintendent went through the budget approval process with the Board of Education

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Everyone has their own

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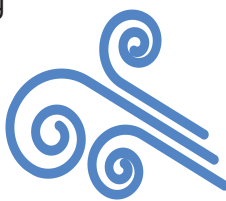


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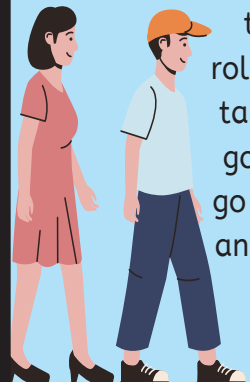
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RE4-8-22

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

★ **Belltown Budget, cont. from page 1**
 the state lowered the forecast to 10% in February. Then, as the Board of Education went through the budget approval process with the Board of Finance, the state lowered the renewal rate to 7% in March.

So, after all of the insurance adjustments, Smith is asking the finance board to restore \$250,000 of its earlier reductions. This, he said, would let him restore a high school teacher, two teachers at Memorial and one at Center, as well as a special education teacher for young students, a part-time math specialist at the high school and a part-time psychologist shared between the middle and high schools.

Smith said he feels the \$250,000 is a reasonable request.

While he can't guarantee those teachers positions yet, should the process go the district's way, Smith can still offer them their jobs, as long as things move in a timely manner, he said.

"We're still relying on community support," said Smith, encouraging district supporters to stick with the process even as summertime

things – vacations, family obligations – pop up. School board chair Christina Tammara-Dzagan told the *Rivereast* that what the school board had adopted earlier this spring – before the finance board made its reductions – was "what we need to continue uninterrupted services."

"The community, not just parents, really showed up for education," she said. "I think our budget speaks for itself, and while other towns were proposing 9 and 10 percent increases, we did our best to minimize the impact with the entire community in mind."

She said while she can't predict what the Board of Finance will do, she feels the finance board isn't intentionally malicious, and that everyone has different ideas for what's best for town.

"My hope, though, is that they'll realize they answer to the community, not the other way around."

Finance board chair Bridget McLennan did not respond by deadline.

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

★ **Hebron Honors, cont. from page 1**
 dads, brothers and sisters – remember daily that freedom is not free; it was paid for in blood."

He then invited women from the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary to place wreaths on the monuments. A rifle salute was performed followed by the playing of Taps.

Honorary Grand Marshal Mike Koufax, an Air Force Veteran, raised the flag as the RHAM High School band played the National Anthem.

The parade was well-attended, with dozens cheering as the precession passed.

Both RHAM bands performed as well as the Hebron Elementary School band. Sports teams and members of local Boy and Girl Scout troops trudged along, while a bright tractor carried members of the Hebron Lions Club.

Representatives of the fire department, and some engines, wrapped up the motorcade.

Many residents make an effort to attend the parade every year. Andy Stanulonis said he enjoys taking in all aspects of the day.

Stanulonis said his father-in-law was in the Army, serving in Korea and Vietnam, adding special meaning to Memorial Day.

"We have to remember this day, it's important," he said. "This is commemorating and going the extra mile to say thank you and remember."

Growing up, Stanulonis marched in the Colchester parade. He echoed a sentiment passed along by many during the weekend, that Hebron and many other towns, treat the holiday with respect.

"I think most small towns up and down New England do a really great job," he said. "I think small town Americana really knows how to do it."

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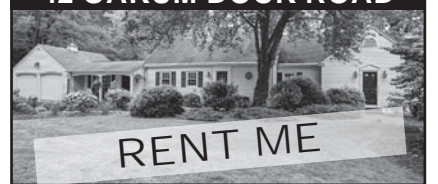
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From the Editor's Desk Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

June is busting out all over, as the song says. It's now June, which means those glorious days of summer will soon officially be here.

Over the years, there have been many wonderful words written about this glorious month. So, in keeping with the theme from last week's column, here are a few particularly good poems about this wonderful month. (All public domain, of course.) Enjoy – and happy June.

June – By Richard Le Gallienne

We thought that winter, love, would never end.

That the dark year had slain the innocent May,

Nor hoped that your soft hand, this summer day,

Would lie, as now, in mine, beloved friend;
And, like some magic spring, your dream-deep eyes

Hold all the summer skies.

But lo! the world again is mad with flowers,
The long white silence spake, small bird by bird,

Blade after blade, amid the song of showers,
The grass stole back once more, and there was heard

The ancient music of the vernal spheres,
Half laughter and half tears.

Ah! love, and now too swiftly, like some groom,

Raining hot kisses on his bride's young mouth,

The mad young year, delirious with the South,

Squanders his fairy treasure, bloom on

bloom;
Too soon the wild rose hastens to be sweet,
Too swift, O June, thy feet.

Tarry a little, summer, crowd not so
All glory and gladness in so brief a day,
Teach all thy dancing flowers a step more slow,

And bid thy wild musicians softer play,
O hast thou thought, that like a madman spends,
The longest summer ends.

June – by Horatio Alger, Jr.

Throw open wide your golden gates,
O poet-landed month of June,
And waft me, on your spicy breath,
The melody of birds in tune.

O fairest palace of the three,
Wherein Queen Summer holdeth sway,
I gaze upon your leafy courts
From out the vestibule of May.

I fain would tread your garden walks,
Or in your shady bowers recline;
Then open wide your golden gates,
And make them mine, and make them mine.

June Longings – by George Parsons Lathrop

Lo, all about the lofty blue are blown
Light vapors white, like thistle-down,
That from their softened silver heaps opaque

Scatter delicate flake by flake,

Editor's Desk continued on page 7



Memorial Day Memories... Many area groups and organizations took part in Marlborough's Memorial Day parade Monday. Among them were local Girl Scouts, who brightened an already beautiful day with their cheerful smiles.

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

Eat Local!

To the Editor:

Friends of RHAM High School Lacrosse would like to thank Georgia's and Pete's Pub for supporting fundraising nights to raise money for the boys and girls lacrosse programs. We truly appreciate your support of our young athletes and wish you a busy summer season!

Betsy Landers
FORHSL

Student Athletics

To the Editor:

Edmund Smith blames students' academic deficiencies upon society's focus on athletics. Progressives always project the blame for their own shortcomings on others. Ed needs to challenge his own educational establishment before looking elsewhere.

I'm very thankful athletics occupies a prominent role in the nurturing of young people. It's one of the last vestiges encouraging the pursuit of excellence in education, serving as a very important complement to academic proficiency. Athletes continuously strive to improve, benefiting both their teams and themselves.

As a high-level performer in several sports and consistently earning honor roll status in academics, I was recognized as our high school's top scholar

athlete earning the Academic-Athletic Award. In those times, statistics indicated that student athletes achieved higher academic results than non-athletes.

Shady Side Academy, the outstanding independent school our son attended, placed the highest value on rigorous daily athletic endeavors. Every student was required to participate in either varsity or intramural sports training. They believed the struggles and challenges students had to surmount on the athletic field carried over to provide strength for every undertaking, both in school and every other aspect of their lives.

The educational establishment, itself, tends to devalue/diminish recognition of academic accomplishment. Few schools still recognize the valedictorian/salutatorian in public forums. Many schools refuse to recognize their own students who've attained National Merit Scholarship awards. Courses in higher level math and science are eliminated because of "equity" concerns, meaning insufficient numbers of minority students are qualifying to participate in them. Instead of taking remediation measures to address these shortfalls, schools find eliminating the programs easier.

The goal of education should be to push each child/student to the fullest extent of their personal capabilities. Tracking/placing students according to ability levels is an absolute necessity.

Sam Prentice – Andover

Bulletin Board

I was looking out my window at the rain one day last week and ruminating about the things TV meteorologists say about the weather. Most recently, for example, we were introduced to the term "atmospheric river," which is apparently some sort of malevolent airborne cloud system looking for vulnerable lowland communities to inundate. Before that, the new buzz phrase was the "polar vortex," which, it appears to me, is merely a more sinister title for what our parents once nonchalantly referred to as a "cold snap" before shoving us out the door to catch the school bus.

I'm thinking these more "scientific" terms have emerged because a) they make weather people sound like they are intimately familiar with the mysterious dynamics of the universe; b) that it makes what they're saying seem like it's based on actual science rather than an examination of chicken livers; or c) weather people are unaware that education in America is on the decline and they should not be tossing around meteorological terms that just make us more confused than we already are.

I mean, speaking for myself, I only want to know what the weather is going to be like tomorrow, I don't really need to know why.

It is also possible, I suppose, that tossing around terms like "atmospheric river" or "polar vortex" is just more personally titillating than talking about a boring old "cold snap" or "big rain cloud"—sort of like the meteorological equivalent of receiving the Victoria's Secret catalog in the mail as opposed to a birthday card with a picture of puppies from your grandmother. Not that there's anything wrong with puppies. I mean everybody loves puppies. Except cats, I suppose. And people with expensive oriental rugs.

But I digress.

Then there's the quaint custom of some of your more folksy weather people who refer to the prospect of an afternoon rain shower as "liquid sunshine." Liquid sunshine?! Are you kidding me? The freaking sun is like a billion degrees hot, dude. You get hit by a drop of liquid sunshine and you're going to look like an overcooked piece of bacon. I don't know about you, but I'm going to be spending my afternoon in the basement holding a frying pan over my head. Liquid sunshine, my @#(^. Have some compassion for those of us who take everything literally, will you? Geez, here I am worrying about Biblical plagues of frogs and locusts if I don't behave myself and you want to pelt me with solar plasma just for going outside to get the newspaper.

One weather thing that really confuses me is the "feels like" assessment—as in: "The temperature is 40 degrees today but it feels like 33 degrees."

Who determines this? I'm thinking maybe the National Weather Service has some official "Feelie Guy" they send outside with a microphone to report back to his superiors on how hot or cold he feels.

"Hi, John. You out there yet?"

"Yes, I'm here, Bill."

"Okay, good. How cold do you feel?"

"I feel like it's about 5 below zero, Bill. I mean, I'm really feeling it. My teeth are chattering and Mr. Lucky is nowhere to be seen. Can I put my clothes back on now?"

"Okay, guys. Send out a memo to all TV stations: The thermometer reads 33 degrees, but it feels like 5 below. Thanks, John, come on inside and grab a cup of coffee. Then we're sending you out to North Dakota. The thermometer up there reads 10 below, but they suspect it feels a lot colder."

"North Dakota? I want a raise, man."

I'm no meteorologist, but it seems to me that how cold or hot it "feels" is a pretty personal assessment and subject to a lot of variables. Speaking from my own experience, I can tell you that many times, traveling somewhere in the car with my wife, I want to turn the heat down because I feel like I'm being roasted to death in a blast furnace, while she insists that she's on the verge of severe frostbite. She feels like a Popsicle and I feel like a piece of scorched toast.

Who's right?

The Popsicle, of course.

You don't have to be a meteorologist to figure that out.

Jim Hallas

RIVEREAST

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Clean Water

To the Editor:
Five members of the Supreme Court dealt a crushing blow to the Clean Water Act. The method prevents the EPA from keeping our country's water clean by regulating adjacent wetlands.

"The Court substitutes its own ideas about policymaking for Congress. The Court will not allow the Clean [Water] Act to work as Congress instructed. The Court, rather than Congress, will decide how much regulation is too much." (supremecourt.gov/opinions Justice Elena Kagan)

The Supreme Court is placing our wetlands, rivers, lakes and ponds at risk of pollution and destruction.
Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

East Hampton Past

To the Editor:
Our town is recognizing the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of the East Hampton Fire Department (EHFD). Old Home Day and its annual parade is dedicated to the many town citizens who volunteered as firefighters to protect our community. It is important to recognize the extraordinary role these volunteers played as far back as 1839, functioning as little more than an organized bucket brigade in the Village Center. This early effort of local citizens began as the bell industry took shape and small factories were built; however, few resources or equipment to suppress a blaze were provided.

The first "Fire Company," organized in 1916 after a fire destroyed the toy shop of the Gong Bell Manufacturing Co. That fire was fought by a "bucket parade," a loosely organized group of responders. It was reported after that fire, the factory owners (Bevin Bros., Starr Bros., Summit Tread, Gong Bell and N.N. Hill Mfg.) and town selectmen organized the first Fire Company, which became the foundation of an actual fire department we know today. Organized at a meeting in town hall (that's the old old town hall located at 94 Main St., not the new old town hall across from McDonald's), \$4,000 was appropriated to equip the EHFD with a hand-drawn hose wagon and chemical tank.

EHFD has grown significantly since. The first firehouse, located at 4 Watrous Street, was constructed around 1920, with the current Fire Co. #1 at 3 Barton Hill which opened in 1958; Fire Co. #2, built in 1956, is located at 366 West High St. in Cobalt, and Fire Co. #3, built in 1983, at 99 White Birch Rd. We should all be grateful to the dedicated men, and yes, there have been women, who volunteered their time training and protecting the property and lives of East Hampton's citizens.
Dean Markham – East Hampton

Hebron – Vote Yes!

To the Editor:
I attended the Hebron Board of Finance meeting on May 25 and was appalled at the treatment of the children who came with their parents to speak about further cuts to the Board of Education budget.

When the students were allowed to speak (after the police were called) at the second public comment section I was moved hearing about their love of band and other enrichment programs that may be eliminated in order to pass a budget after two failed referendums.

What a delight it was to see many of these same students play in the marching band at Hebron's Memorial Day parade – they were amazing!

A well-rounded public education is vital not only for our kids, but for our community. I'm a retiree and have never had children in Hebron schools – but seeing these kids reinforces my belief that we must appropriately fund our schools. Our young people are the town's future and the return on investment we make today will be greater than a slight increase in our taxes.
I urge Hebron voters to vote 'yes' on June 13.
John Matra – Hebron

Reader Discretion Advised?

To the Editor:
Thank you to the community members who banded together, despite party, to support students. Your efforts have been incredibly impressive.

If anyone wants to chat, according to the unhinged BOF member, you'll be able to find me "running down the Town Hall hallway screaming profanities." Hah.
Christina Tammara-Dzagan – East Hampton

Note: Tammara-Dzagan is chair of the East Hampton Board of Education, but said she is writing as an individual.

Optical Hearing

To the Editor:
"This land is your land and this land is my land, sure, but the world is run by those that never listen to music anyhow." – Bob Dylan

Bob makes his own observations. One way to help save land and make new friends is to become a volunteer. But, for all the good volunteering can and does do, it cannot change the law of gravity, the pitch of the landscape, the need for clean water, the nature of salt, Murphy's Law or even make people's voices heard. The late Bobby Darin's wife reportedly said, "people hear what they see."

What do Hebron's boards, committees and supporters, of watershed development hear, while seeing multiple letters of opposition, resident after resident

speaking out, dozens more putting up lawn signs, and then voting in such strong numbers? What image would these supporters need to see, in order to help them hear residents' honest concerns about safe drinking water? Jane Pauley? Pamela Anderson? Rupert Murdoch? Garth Brooks? Would there be singing about sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, trees in museums, parking lots over paradise or the long-term cost of ruining US soils and the permanent damage corporations are doing? What political speeches have we heard praising road salts, high blood pressure, oil spills or corroded plumbing?

The EPA states one acre of wetland can filter up to 7.3 million gallons of water. Hebron's 88+ acres in the center of Town, contains 35+ acres of confirmed wetlands, equaling over 255 million gallons of filtered water annually. This is something to sing about, something to defend and something the south side of Rte 66 relies on and respects. Pete Seeger dedicated much of his life to environmental activism. Neil Young now asks, "Who's Gonna Stand Up" (and Save the Earth?) Will you #save17?
Jean Tulimieri – Amston

1+1 = 1

To the Editor:
The Colchester budget presented in the *Rivereast* legal notice last week had one big problem. Two total numbers weren't added up correctly. A simple mistake at first glance...

But if you look at the latest budget on the town website, some numbers are different and don't match. Why are town finances in such disarray that the legal notice in the *Rivereast* doesn't match the budget on the website?

The town still needs to complete an audit, which is usually done in February. Mysterious transfers move money around all the time. The town had to hire consultants for \$60k to fix the mess and almost bounced a million-dollar check.

Where is the first selectman in fixing these issues? I guess there is plenty of time for photo shoots but not enough time to keep track of your taxes.
John Farrell – Colchester

Reprehensible

To the Editor:
This week on Colchester's social media, a town resident, Jeremy McKenzie, posted a parody of Martin Niemöller's 1946 post-war confessional prose, "First they came," comparing citizens who do not support a nearly 10% increase in the Board of Education budget to Nazis. As a citizen with Jewish heritage, whose family fled Germany after World War I and who lost extended family in the Holocaust, I was deeply of-

fended by this unctuous analogy. I do not know Mr. McKenzie, so I know not whether this egregious comparison was rooted in ignorance or racism, but one begets the other.

Mr. McKenzie may be fervent in his position, but to speak in such a tactless fashion in public meetings, social media or in print is simply reprehensible. I support the ability of all Colchester's citizens to continue to afford living in Colchester and for all kinds of families to be welcomed here, not just families with children. When I expressed those sentiments and identified as a childless household, Mr. McKenzie accused me of being anti-children and anti-community, articulating just another, baseless, uninformed and insensitive condemnation. I understand that numerous citizens are outraged at the program cuts that the superintendent and Board of Education have slated in response to the budget reduction passed by the Board of Finance. However, misplacing one's incense by denigrating citizens who seek a budget compromise, especially as Nazis, is repugnant.

Just as parents should teach their children, people should be cautious with their words and refrain from speaking with indignity or impudence. Practice emotional intelligence and be more cognizant of the subtext your words convey. It is perfectly acceptable to agree to disagree, but it is absolutely unacceptable to impugn citizens for maintaining a perspective that is incongruent with your own.
**With respect,
DeAva Lambert – Colchester**

What Should Have Happened...

Dear Colchester Residents:
A mess of meetings being scheduled and rescheduled, feuds between boards, budget documents that don't make sense or don't add up, and dysfunctional meetings stretching late into the night...Colchester's budget process this year has been so chaotic, it's easy to get lost in the weeds and forget what should have happened...

When Board of Finance members felt they needed more information from the Board of Education, the BOF should have held its budget workshop to develop a plan with BOE rather than abruptly cancel workshops and meetings. We got distrust and animosity; we needed collaboration.

When the first selectman presented the Town budget, we should have been shown a comparison of the request versus current spending so BOF members and the public could understand and ask questions about potential impacts. We got secrecy; we needed transparency.

And when the budgets were finally sent to town meeting, they should have been sent with accurate
See Story, page 6

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33 Tinker Pond Road, Bolton
Kathleen Haugh 860.490.2882



135 Chestnut Drive, Colchester
Emily Turker 860.559.5554



12 Flannery Row, East Hampton
Fred Martins 860.841.9333

NEW LISTING ! \$349,900



62 Bayberry Road, Glastonbury
Therese Nuzzolo 860.888.9864

NEW TO MARKET ! \$497,000



389 Manchester Road, Glastonbury
Lisa Hutt 860.836.8361

UNDER CONTRACT \$524,900



79 Stancliff Road, Glastonbury
Michelle Collins 860.982.4684

NEW CONSTRUCTION \$920,000



10 Derby Way, Glastonbury
Therese Nuzzolo 860.888.9864

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53 Scarboro Road, Hebron
Tatiana & Bill Geist 860.805.8710

NEW TO MARKET ! \$274,900



90 Wellman Road, Manchester
Courtney Miller 860.874.9124

SALE PENDING \$419,900



79 Joan Circle, Manchester
Barbara Howe 860.670.9560

CHARMING ! \$589,900



29 Sherwood Lane, Marlborough
Susan Nilsen 860.918.2840



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★ Letters cont. from page 5

numbers for expenses and revenues so voters could know the proposed mill rate and make decisions about how well the budget balances the community's needs with our ability to pay for those needs. Unfortunately, the budget numbers presented in the legal notice in last week's issue of this paper don't even add up correctly.

As presented, the town's planned expenses were over \$100,000 greater than its anticipated revenue.

An adjusted document was posted online, but even this contains other apparent inconsistencies with the proposed mill rate. Getting this right should be the bare minimum of what we expect out of the budget process. We got confusion and disorder; we needed accuracy.

What happened this year cannot become the norm for Colchester.

Sincerely,
Bernie Dennler – Colchester
Candidate for First Selectman

Thank You

To the Editor:

I want to thank all the volunteers in our town. The committees, boards and commissions are made up of volunteers. It is my belief that they are all doing what they feel is appropriate with the facts and information available to them. I learned many years ago that most people know what the problems are, but few can offer solutions.

There are so many agendas that different people are pushing. Many of the true facts are lost in trans-

lation and taken out of context. There is a substantial amount of information available to anyone that wants to get themselves up to date, with what every volunteer has available to them, when they are making decisions regarding what they feel is best for our town. It is unfair to abuse our volunteers that work for our (the entire town people's) best interests. If anyone doesn't like what they see being done, then they should become a volunteer.

The special meeting that took place on March 7, 2019, at the library had multiple architectural renderings of the buildings that the town had up on the wall and on easels showing what the land was being purchased for and its intended use. There was a hand count vote of those in attendance. I was one of the nearly 60% in favor votes. Since that time our current facility has gotten older, and we seem to be at a standstill. We should trust our volunteer building committee with its fully informed knowledge of the facts.

There is a greater risk of contamination from the cars on the road, the salt, sand and calcium applied to the roads and school parking lots, than there would be from a properly built up to date facility with proper separation tanks and containment areas.

Sincerely,
Todd Habicht – Hebron

175th Thanks

To the Editor:

The 175th committee have so many people to thank for supporting the wonderful events celebrating our 175th year. Andover Pizza, John Kona for the "Meat Lovers" pizza in honor of our 175th celebration. John donated party pizzas for our senior lunch. Thank you to everyone who has helped or donated. Superintendent Valerie Bruneau for the use of AES grounds for the Festival Fun Day, her support and ideas. Paula King, our liaison from the Board of Selectman who supported and helped our committee in so many ways. A special thank you to Carol Lee, town clerk, who provided equipment, who prepared our flyers and other background jobs.

Thank you to Eric Anderson, town administrator and Mike Palazzi, for carting the bounce house in the pouring rain! Thank you to AFD, C.E.R.T. and Mr. & Mrs. Claus, Jay Tuttle, DPW Foreman for his help. Chairman, Catherine Magaldi-Lewis who spent hours mapping out every detail for all the events. We owe our 175th Anniversary Celebration Committee thanks for working behind the scenes. Every member has been outstanding in giving back to the town with all their energy, ideas, suggestions – endless. Thank you to the residents of Andover and those from other towns who came to our Dedication Ceremony. Thank you to our speakers, First Selectman Jeff Maguire, state Rep. Steve Weir, town historian Scott Yeomans, student Becca King, and Robert Lewis for taking photos. Our committee consisted of: Linda Armstrong, Treasurer, Marianella Chalfant, Annemarie Daigle, Shirley DeFlaviis, Joan Foran, Catherine Magaldi-Lewis, Chairman, Cathy Palazzi, Secretary, Susan Slater, Tina Wilsey. Please come to the other great events June 3, June 4, June 10, June 24 and thank you to all the people who are working on these events. More details can be found on the 175th page on Facebook, and andoverct.org.

Cathy Palazzi
175th Secretary
Andover

Concern Over Job Shortage

To the Editor:

My name is Dante Ricci and I am a senior from Bacon Academy High School. I am writing to express my concern with the current job shortage occurring. Unemployment in the world is a severe issue that has been arising. Ever since COVID-19 the labor force has taken a severe toll and has not fully recovered. Connecticut as a whole has enough workers, but none want to work. I am concerned with the future that holds with the current job shortage, hopeful that a change can be made.

My current highest concern of this job shortage is the shift of the economic landscape, regarding Connecticut's well-known manufacturing and financial services. With the current decline of jobs caused by automation, the industry will face economic challenges. Connecticut's labor force has fallen by a staggering 92,000 people since February 2020, that number will continue to decline. Five of the state's 10 sectors saw their employment decline, business services sustained a decline of 1,500 positions. Also within the financial sector, job cuts continue to harm everyone and lead to a decrease of opportunities. Additionally, the high cost of living within Connecticut is a driving factor of pushing establishments away from Connecticut. Inevitably limiting the amount of jobs available, and not to mention most people would not accept a lower paying job under the current circumstances. Could be a leading factor of 104,000 jobs available.

Addressing the job shortage in Connecticut is a treacherous path. The government could potentially encourage economic diversification and help support

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industries by providing some sort of incentive for the business to get established. Also investing in job training programs can help with the current skills gap within Connecticut. The main issue cost of living can be prevented by a tax reform or a housing initiative.

**Sincerely,
Dante Ricci
Student of Bacon Academy**

Thank You, Rep. Weir

To the Editor:
I am writing to thank state Rep. Steve Weir for assisting in resolving an important issue for my family. Four generations of my family have grown up in the Hebron area, beginning with the arrival of my grandfather, Frank, who was among the many Italian-Americans who settled in this area after WWI.

The position that brought my grandfather and his family to America was a position as the caretaker of a 1500-acre estate in Hebron, owned by the Foster sisters. His son, my father, grew up in their house on the grounds of this estate.

Having no heirs, Emma Foster willed the estate to the State for use as a park. My grandfather remained living onsite, with his family, as the resident caretaker (today's park ranger). This 1500+ acre estate is what became Gay City Park. When my grandfather and grandmother retired in 1958, they left Gay City, having been its last full-time residents.

When my grandfather died in 1976, we sought to memorialize his role in the history of the park. In an agreement with Governor Grasso, we incurred the cost of building and installing a badly needed new gate for the park. The state then installed a modest plaque memorializing my grandfather's role in the early history of the park. When that gate wore out and a new gate was recently installed, the memorial plaque was not re-installed and enquiries sent to state officials went unanswered.

We reached out to state Rep. Steve Weir, asking him to inquire as to the fate of the plaque. Thanks to him and the DEEP, the plaque was found and reinstalled on the new gate. Representative Weir proved to be a wonderfully effective advocate. We are grateful to him and the DEEP for helping us to keep alive the history of the park and my grandfather's role in its history.

**Thom Freddo
Formerly of Bolton**

Mill Rate Miscalculation

To the Editor:
In a budget year that has been marked by a lack of transparency, confusion, and completely unresponsive to citizens input we are now at the eve of the Colchester annual budget meeting. But what will come out in that meeting is not a discussion on the programs or services cut, or even the level of taxation in the newly calculated mill rate that was noted in last week's paper and in the town meeting's agenda. It will be all about the errors in the legal notification. The errors on the budget summary were pointed out and corrected in a revised version posted to the agenda, but the real concern is in the mill rate calculation itself. The Town Revenue is noted as \$3,343,439. It should include the following revenue as per the latest Legal Notice:

- Fees \$990,690.
- Intergovernmental (Town) \$411,974.
- Revenue from money \$523,704.
- Charges \$653,12.
- Fund Balance \$296,000
- Other Revenues (other than tuition) \$46,576
- Tax Stabilization \$455,000
- Delinquent Taxes and Liens \$600,000
- Total = \$3,977,064.00

This is a total of \$633,579 in unaccounted revenue that could fund the numerous programs reduced or eliminated or it could further reduce the mill rate. If used in the mill rate calculation this would reduce the mill rate to 26.86 or just a 0.04 increase.

How does a fully-staffed financial department not get this legal notice correct, even after two attempts? How were errors not caught by the chair of the Board of Finance or the first selectman, both of whom spent months meeting during this budget season and both with six years' experience on the BOF?

Transparency is not just software; it needs to be in the entire process. It is also about trusting the numbers. How does this happen when numbers are wrong?

Mike Egan – Colchester

Memorial Day Gratitude

To the Editor:
Let it be known. On behalf of the Hebron American Legion, Post 95, Commander, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 8776, Commander, and the entire military contingent of the Hebron, CT Posts. We extend a heartfelt, thanks, of which, provided the encouragement and the gratitude to the Parade participants/marchers, and a special acknowledgment to the Memorial Day Parade viewers, the outpouring of patriotism, as the veteran and military contingent passed by was the apex of Memorial Day, the honorably feeling exuded from the viewing public, provided the uplift to a somber event. The audience adjacent to the Hebron green, assured the Veterans that the event was a memorial for those of us of whom made the Ultimate Sacrifice and that the attention given to the speakers was paramount.

It is an honor for the military to be positively received by the public, and Memorial Day 2023, accomplished that. As words were spoken at the podium, that honored the past giving the ultimate sacrifice and close to our hearts were names of Hebron Post(s) members of whom were called to duty. Thanks again, Hebron, for the tribute to the memories of our fallen comrades.

One last request, for the public; seeking any one of whom videoed the entire parade would be willing

in providing a list of participating parade marchers so as a more comprehensive listing may be provided next Memorial Day for greater parade assignment. Not seeking to view your video, just seeking names/identities of marchers in the order of march this Memorial Day! Thanks from the entire military contingent of the Hebron, CT Posts. To all, God Bless, be well stay safe, and give Memorial Day some thought the remainder of the year, the freedom symbol is our American flag, that what it's all about!

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the commanders, executive committees, and the entire Hebron veterans/military contingent.

**R. A. Mangillo, Hebron
American Legion Post 95, Adjutant
and VFW member**

Thanks from KOCO

To the Editor:
KOCO is East Hampton's largest not-for-profit child care center, and we take care of over 150 of the area's children ages 8 weeks to 12 years. We are grateful to have received today a huge truckload of witch hazel mulch from American Distilling, another East Hampton business, as a donation. KOCO uses mulch to cushion fall zones under outdoor play equipment like swings, climbers and slides. Every year, we must restore this mulch back to 8 inches deep, which can cost hundreds (sometimes even thousands) of dollars. The money this donation has saved KOCO will help us continue to provide a safe, fun and enriching environment for the kids of East Hampton.

I thank American Distilling on behalf of everyone at KOCO for being such a great East Hampton neighbor!

**Sincerely,
Janet Santos, Co-Director
KOCO Childcare Center**

Vote Yes for Hebron

To the Editor:
My family moved to Hebron several years ago for many reasons; the excellent school system, both elementary and secondary, town offerings including the library, open space, local businesses, churches, and the warm and wonderful community that is Hebron. We had never felt more welcome than when we moved to Hebron. We are so very grateful that our family resides here and our daughter gets to grow up here. That is why it is so important to me that Hebron continues to thrive.

Our last two referendums have failed and I have heard from several individuals that it was due to confusion on the ballot questions and/or wanting to support one budget and not the other. I humbly ask all Hebron residents to please vote yes for Hebron on Tuesday, June 13. We need to move forward for our town, and that includes education and town services.

Last Thursday, the Board of Finance held a meeting to discuss the budget. Kids were in attendance and are watching how adults treat them and act. I truly

believe our community as a whole is kind, caring and warm. I would ask those in leadership positions to not forget that children are a part of our community too and their voices should be valued.

As Pink said as part of her People's Choice Award speech, "I don't care about your politics, I care about your kids. I care about decency, and humanity and kindness....stop fighting with each other and help each other." The next referendum vote will be on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at Hebron Elementary School. Please Vote Yes for our beautiful town.

Heather Petit – Amston

Note: Petit is chair of the Hebron Board of Education but said she is speaking as an individual.

Proud and Feel Privileged

To the Editor:
I was honored to have been selected to give the Memorial Day address at the Andover Memorial Day parade this past Monday. I would like to thank the parade committee for organizing an excellent, well-coordinated event; the RHAM high and middle school bands for their performances (and to commend them for performing at three parades back-to-back and providing great music. I was also at the Marlborough parade and I did not see any lack of enthusiasm at the end of this long day of performances); the AES choir; all the other speakers and participants all along the way. And I would like to thank the Town of Andover for coming out to support this event.

When I was introduced as the speaker, John E. McCall, the master of ceremonies, stated that in recognition of the timeline the RHAM bands needed to follow, he would forgo going over my "impressive record." What I failed to state at the time and would like to correct the record in this public forum is: My record is no more impressive than any other person who has ever worn the uniform of the United States Armed Forces. In the end, it does not matter what your rank, how many medals you earned, where you served, or what your occupational specialty was, the most impressive and important part of any serviceperson's record is that they raised their right hand, swore to "support and defend the Constitution of the

United States, against all enemies, foreign and domestic...," and showed up to work to perform your duty to the best of your ability each and every day.

I am proud and feel very privileged to have been allowed to wear the uniform of my country. I am very proud and feel privileged to have all of you as part of my very extended military family.

**Susan Camoroda
U.S. Army, Colonel, Retired
Andover**

Increased Defeated Budget

To the Editor:
The people that run Hebron government must have lost their minds. The last budget went down to defeated by 59%-41%. The advisory questions indicated the town and BOE budgets were too 'high.' Instead of lowering the overall budget, the town side was adjusted downward by \$50K, but the BOE was increased by \$100K. Why would you increase a budget that was defeated by the taxpayers for being too high? This reminds me of the year Dr Silver did the same thing with the RHAM budget. That did not turn out well. It took, I believe, 13 votes to pass. Taxpayers do not need a \$400-\$500 tax increase right now.

Your arrogance is just setting yourselves up for a long-protracted referendum fight for the \$20 million truck garage that will never be approved at that cost. You are also deaf to what the townspeople are saying about its placement. Again, I use the word 'arrogance.'

Vote 'no' again on June 13.

Mike Czepiel – Hebron

Response to Council Chair

To the Editor:
A response to the Town Council chair:
Your response to me was personal and has nothing to do with the issues the voters have right now. Typical. Let me clarify though.

You backed me because you thought I'd be a puppet (not my words) like the four folks who sit to your left. I didn't run to unmask my children; I ran to cement

See Story, page 9

Editor's Desk continued from page 4

Upon the wide loom of the heavens weaving
Forms of fancies past believing,
And, with fantastic show of mute despair,
As for some sweet hope hurt beyond repair,
Melt in the silent voids of sunny air.

All day the cooing brooklet runs in tune:
Half sunk I' th' blue, the powdery moon
Shows whitely. Hark, the bobolink's note! I
hear it,

Far and faint as a fairy spirit!
Yet all these pass, and as some blithe bird,
winging,
Leaves a heart-ache for his singing,
A frustrate passion haunts me evermore
For that which closest dwells to beauty's
core.
O Love, canst thou this heart of hope restore?

See you next week.



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Needleman, Senate Build on Utility Reform Bill

By Jack Lakowsky

At the end of May, the state Senate unanimously passed strengthening changes to state Sen. Norm Needleman's (D-33) signature utility reform bill, the Take Back Our Grid Act.

Needleman, chair of the state senate's energy and tech committee, released information on the bill this week, and further details are available on the state's website.

Residents in this state are all too aware they pay some of the highest utility bills in the nation.

"Connecticut ratepayers deserve better than what they're getting, and it's our responsibility as legislators to seek a better path forward. Senate Bill 7 works to relieve the pressure so many Connecticut residents feel today from utility costs," said Needleman.

"It ties regulations to the quality-of-service providers give their customers, keeping them honest. It closes loopholes that will prevent companies from charging ratepayers for lobbying. It provides consumers with new resources to make their voices heard during rate hearings. It's a transformative, extensive piece of legislation that will improve quality of services in Connecticut."

Needleman said the bill aims to build on the regulative successes enacted in 2020 with the passage of the "Take Back Our Grid" Act, which was passed after Tropical Storm Isaias caused significant damage, and power outages as long as 10 days across the state.

That bill developed the framework of performance-based ratemaking for state utilities, tied executive compensation from ratepayers to company performance, developed minimum staffing levels for linemen and other needed personnel, and required utilities to provide bill credits and claims for food and medicine for outages lasting more than four full days and impacting less than 70% of the state.

According to more detailed information on the state's website, the bill also raises fines if utility companies like Eversource doesn't comply with reporting requirements, from \$500 to \$1,000 per offense, and gives the state's utility authority, the Public Utilities Regulation Authority (PURA) more sway over the frequency of rate increases.

The full bill also restricts CEO salaries to no more than 5% of an executive officer's or other higher-ups' salaries. It's not clear whether the state or PURA has authority to do this – especially if a given parent company is outside state borders.

It also requires these companies to give a monthly billing credit to their customers whenever the standard service rate or other service prices increase by more than 10% between billing periods.

For at least six months, the company incorporating the rate increase must give a monthly credit equal to the total compensation of its executives and officers that is recovered through

rates in the monthly bill. (It is unclear whether the companies could recover the costs of these credits through their rates.)

The law requires PURA-regulated utility companies, like Eversource, to mail a notification about a proposed rate amendment to each customer who would be affected by it. Under current law, this notice must state whether the proposal, in the company's best estimate, would increase any rate or charge by at least 25%. The bill lowers the applicable of this increase to 5% and makes the cost of providing the notices non-recoverable through rates.

It also removes a provision that currently limits the notices to one form for each customer class.

According to the bill, if a company fails to provide adequate notice, then PURA must consider the effective filing date of the company's proposed rate amendment to be the date that it provides adequate notice to customers, as PURA determines. Until that effective filing date, no days count toward PURA's deadline to decide on the proposal.

Needleman said its provisions include preventing utility service companies from using ratepayer funds for lobbying expenses as well as board of directors' and officers' food, drink, transportation and entertainment; creating a fund that will allow ratepayers and ratepayer organizations legal representation to challenge utilities' proposed rate increases; and creating a stronger regulatory environment for Connecticut's utilities.

Much of the bill focuses on stopping the company from paying for all its activities – legal, lobbying, advertising, what have you – with ratepayer money, based on the state senator's information.

It's been ten years since the state looked at these activities.

The bill has some new rules for PURA too.

PURA would be required to consider economic conditions, company compliance with laws and regulations, rate impacts on all customers and other issues deemed relevant in determining rates of return in rate hearing proceedings.

PURA would gain greater discretion to determine deadlines for electric distribution companies to refund funds exceeding authorized return on equity.

PURA would no longer be required to encourage using proposed settlements to resolve contested cases and proceedings; PURA could instead adopt proposed settlements when appropriate.

In rate case hearings, guardrails would be used for the use of settlements, important because this will give regulators more opportunities to delve into utility information.

Haines' Balloon Passes

Along with Needleman, East Hampton's state

Rep. Irene Haines (R-34) led the passage of a bill attempting to ease balloon waste. The remains of released balloon is a pollutive waste, especially when they get in water.

Haines' bill prevents the release of any balloons by any person or business, for any reason.

The bill doesn't seem to have many teeth, however.

Starting Oct. 1, this bill generally prohibits knowingly releasing, organizing the release of, or intentionally causing the release of helium or

other lighter-than-air gas balloons into the atmosphere.

Current law limits releases to fewer than 10 balloons within a 24-hour period. The bill exempts from the ban balloons deployed by the National Weather Service or similar research entities.

Additionally, the current penalty for a violation of the balloon release law is an infraction. The bill eliminates this penalty and instead requires violators to be issued a warning.



RHAM lacrosse senior Ciara Murray scored her 100th career point on May 22 in a victory over Rocky Hill. Murray is pictured with her teammates following her milestone achievement.

Standout Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

It's a double dose of *Rivereast* Standouts of the Week for the week of May 21 - 27:

Ciara Murray – RHAM High School (Lacrosse): Murray scored three goals and dished out five assists as the Raptors beat Rocky Hill 25-12 on May 22. Murray's eight points elevated her above the 100 point-mark, giving her 102 points (68 goals and 34 assists) for her career. Caitlin Rydel scored a team-high four goals in the victory, which was the Raptors ninth regular season win.

Brady Lalonde – RHAM High School (Lacrosse): Lalonde was named all-conference after playing in all 16 regular season games this spring and is a two-year starter that tallied 40 points. Lalonde, a senior midfielder, was one of three Raptors to make the All-Central Connecticut Conference (CCC team), joining junior Josh Weers and sophomore Ben Zigmund.

Samuel LaMalfa – Portland High School (Track and Field): LaMalfa won the 400 meters at the Shoreline Conference (SLC) Championships at East Hampton High School on May 24. The speedy sophomore ran a 50.94 to hold off Ryan Newberry of Coginchaug, who finished in 52.09. LaMalfa then teamed with Parker Thompson, Andrew Johnson, and Noah Decker for a third place showing in the 4x400 relay as the Highlanders finished 6th out of the 12 teams that competed at the conference finals.

Meghan McPhee – Portland High School (Track and Field): McPhee finished as the runner-up in both the 1600 meters and 3200 meters at the Shoreline Conference (SLC) Championships at East Hampton High School on May 24. McPhee, a junior, had personal best times in both events, running a 5:23.13 in the 1600 and 11:41.34 in the 3200 as the Highlanders placed 4th overall.

Andrew Fenton – East Hampton High School (Golf): Andrew Fenton fired a career-

best 42, finishing as the match medalist as East Hampton defeated Coginchaug (180-184) earlier this month, finishing 5-5 in the Shoreline Conference (SLC). Fenton, a freshman, was one of five Bellringers to shoot under 50 in the match with Chelsea Woods (43), Chase Palmer (47), Brodie Babcock (48), and Jacob Woods (49) also shooting under the mark.

Jordan Murphy – East Hampton High School (Track and Field): Murphy won the high jump at the Shoreline Conference (SLC) championships at East Hampton High School on May 24. Murphy, a senior, also placed second in shot put and fourth in javelin, achieving personal-best distances in both events. The Bellringers finished fourth overall at the conference meet.

Mason Pingree – Bacon Academy (Baseball): Pingree pitched into the sixth inning, striking out eight and retiring a dozen straight batters at one point during the Bobcats 9-2 victory over Griswold in the first round of the Eastern Connecticut Conference (CCC) tournament. Pingree, a sophomore, also came up big at the plate, connecting on a pair of hits to drive in a run and score another. Steven LaLiberte had a team-high three hits and Chris Lusignan added two. Jacob Ambrose picked up the save, registering the final out.

Ashleen Walsh – William J Johnston Middle School (Track and Field): Walsh won the discus and finished 3rd in the shot put, setting personal-best marks in both, at the 15th Annual Connecticut Middle School Track and Field Championships at Manchester High School on May 27. Walsh, an eighth grader, won the discus by a wide margin, covering a distance of 96' 03" to defeat the runner-up by nearly 10 feet to take home the first-place finish.

To nominate some as an Athlete of the Week, or to offer sports-related comments, email josh-howardsports@gmail.com.

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Tip-A-Musician Fundraiser

All are invited to the Flour Girl Cafe, 12 Main St. in Hebron, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, June 3, to enjoy the live music of Steve McCarthy, Gage Haines and the group Rough Draft with members Tracey Prendergast DeDonato, David Bell, David Thibodeau, Mike Markure and Diane Kasper.

All tips received will be donated to AHM Project Graduation "Class of 2023." For more information, contact Jenn Boehler at 860-228-9488 ext. 22 or jenniferb@ahmyouth.org.

Graduation Lawn Signs on Sale

Parents and friends of RHAM High School Class of 2023 seniors are invited to purchase graduation lawn signs.

AHM Youth and Family Services recently purchased extra lawn signs, and will continue to sell them until supplies run out. Signs are \$20 each. To order, visit ahmyouth.org/fundraisers-events/project-graduation. Note: if you don't already have a Rec Desk account with AHM, one will need to be created. If you do have an AHM Rec Desk account, select Project Graduation Lawn Sign Fundraiser from the program list.

Contact Jenn Boehler at jenniferb@ahmyouth.org or 860-228-9488 ext. 22 for more information.

FRC Summer Programs

The AHM Family Resource Center has summer programs available for young children and families. Find information at ahmyouth.org/recdesk.com/Community/Home.

Financial aid is available for families who qualify, by contacting Tressa Giordano at tressag@ahmyouth.org or going to ahmyouth.org/program-scholarship-application.

For more information about any of the programs, contact Becky Murray at 860-573-1260 or beckym@ahmyouth.org, or contact Ashlee Parks at ashleep@ahmyouth.org.

AHM Annual Golf Tournament

All are invited to AHM Youth and Family Services' 20th annual Charity Golf Tournament on Friday, July 21, at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron.

With the support of players and sponsors, this event benefits the mental health, drug prevention, and youth & family services AHM provides for local children, teens, young adults, families and seniors.

Cost per player is \$125. Registration includes 18 holes of golf, hole-in-one contests, morning and midday snacks, a swag bag with a commemorative 20th Anniversary AHM hat, a luncheon & hot dog cart provided by Ted's IGA, and more.

Visit ahmyouth.org/fundraisers-events/charity-golf-tournament to register.

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Stennett Secures Top Spot as Highlanders Clinch Conference

By Josh Howard

After finishing as the co-medalist at the Shoreline Conference (SLC) golf championships last year, Portland High School junior Luke Stennett was alone atop the leaderboard this spring, winning a conference title outright on May 23.

Stennett shot a course-best 71, besting Cromwell's Jack Wise by two strokes at Stanley Golf Course in New Britain.

A year ago, Stennett tied with Colin Murphy of Cognichaug for a share of the conference crown.

"I was just trying to have fun and play my game like I did last year and see what happens, and I was lucky enough to be by myself this time," recalled Stennett, who is good friends with Wise and the other top finishers. "It was obviously nice to win, but I had a great time. It was fun playing with those guys."

After missing a five-foot putt and shooting a bogey on the second hole, Stennett rebounded by sinking a nearly identical birdie putt on the third hole.

"I accepted it and moved on," Stennett said of his missed putt on the second hole. "I got my redemption on the next hole."

With the wind at his back on the third hole, Stennett used his pitching wedge off the tee, landing the ball within five feet of the hole again. This time he sank the putt, finishing in two shots on a par-three.

Stennett's confidence and rhythm increased as the day grew on, shooting a one-under on back-nine thanks to eight pars and a birdie on 16.

Despite leaving a few putts short, Stennett said the conditions and the course fit the way he plays.

"I was hitting the ball really well, but I wasn't able to execute on my putts sadly - but I was still happy with it," Stennett said of his round.

Along with Stennett bringing home some individual hardware, Portland also won the conference as a team, placing 20 strokes ahead of runner-up Cromwell (312-332) to win the conference for a third straight season.

All five Highlanders that competed finished in the top-16 out of the 55 golfers that participated.

Quinn Lapinski and Ben Fecteau (79) finished tied for 6th, Joe LaMalfa (83) placed 14th, and Gio Discenza (84) finished 16th.

Stennett said it's the "competitive factor" in practices that allows the group to thrive during competition. He also credited head coach Joe Santavenere with challenging the team by mixing it up in practice with a variety of drills.

"We always compete in practice and we balance it by having fun. We just love playing the game," stated Stennett. "We are lucky. We are able to have fun in practice and it carries over to the competition."

Now an upperclassman, Stennett noted that he has found himself mentoring the next generation of Highlanders. In a meeting to start the season, Stennett said he encouraged the younger golfers to use the team's junior and seniors as a resource.

The same day Stennett and the varsity team won a third straight conference, the program's junior varsity team defeated Coventry (153-155) in a dual meet at Portland Golf Course.

Four Highlanders shot under 41, with Julian Wilmer (36) leading the way. Jonah Lavalley (37), William Jahnke (40), and Frederick Bailey (40) each placed in the top-six overall.

"[They] are the future to Portland and I want

the dynasty to keep going," added Stennett. "We have a solid JV team that is going to be really good in a few years and we are really proud of that."

Regardless of the level of competition, the Highlanders have created a culture of success in Portland.

The conference win was the program's seventh to go along with six state championships, five since 2016.

"We just like proving that it doesn't matter the size of the school, it's just about the team and I think our team does a really good job," stated Stennett. "We are able to compete with top-tier teams and if we play well, we can beat most of them."

Next up is a return trip to Stanley Golf Course for the Division III state championships on Tuesday, June 6.

The Highlanders are seeking a third straight state title, winning the competition in both 2021 and 2022.

Stennett is aiming for an individual three-peat as well. He won the state championship as a freshman, shooting an even-par to finish atop the leaderboard at the 2021, and last year he was the co-medalist - again tying Murphy for a share of the state title.

Whether he was taking the state by surprise as a freshman or playing as the favorite going into the state meet, Stennett said his approach is the same.

"I am obviously trying to help the team and do the best I can for the team," added Stennett.



Portland High School junior Luke Stennett won the Shoreline Conference Championship last week, defeating a field of 55 golfers to finish atop the leaderboard in New Britain.

"My goal as a captain is to show everybody that it doesn't matter how you are playing, as long as you are having fun [that's] what matters."

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.

Save the Date - Read and Recycle: Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m.-noon. The Friends will collect gently used, books, DVDs, CDs and puzzles. Donations support library activities.

Summer Reading Kickoff - BMX Champ Chris Poulos: Wednesday, June 14, 6 p.m., at the Portland High School gymnasium. All ages welcome. Poulos is a world champion athlete and youth motivational speaker who shares powerful life lessons as he demonstrates bicycle stunts.

Summer Storytimes: For ages birth-5. Mondays at 10:30 a.m., June 26 and July 10-31. There will be stories, rhymes and songs about the ocean and its animals. A craft project will be offered.

Ocean Adventures: For those going into grades K-2. Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., June 21-Aug. 2; no program July 5. Explore animals and games about ocean life.

Mysteries Under the Sea: For those going into grades 3-5. Tuesdays at 11 a.m., June 20-Aug. 1 (no session July 4). Create coral reef crystals, make bioluminescent paintings, explore aquatic cryptids and analyze unsolved shipwrecks.

Family Show: Comic Mime Robert Rivest: Wednesday, June 21, 6:30 p.m. Held on the Town Green; in case of rain, the show will move indoors and registered participants will be notified.

Family Experience: Touch Tanks from Mystic Aquarium: Wednesday, June 28, from 5:30-

7:30 p.m. Guides from Mystic Aquarium will be on hand to answer questions and provide information. There will be ocean-themed crafts and activities to explore before and after.

Teen Program: Candy Sushi: Thursday, June 22, 3 p.m., for grades 6 and up. Make and try these rolls with chopsticks. Space is limited.

Teen Program: Sand and Seashell Mosaics: Thursday, June 29, 3 p.m., for students going into grades 6 and up. This is a hybrid paint and sand/seashell mosaic. Space is limited.

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

Adult Programs: June Book Discussions: First Thursday Night Book Club: June 1, 6:30-7:30 p.m. - *The Last Flight* by Julie Clark will be discussed; **Talk About Books:** Tuesday, June 6, 1-2 p.m. - *The Christie Affair* by Nina De Gramont will be discussed. **Mystery Lovers Book Club:** Tuesday, June 20, 1 p.m. - *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie will be discussed.

Tapping Into the Past: Tavern Life in Early Connecticut: Wednesday, June 7, 6 p.m. Learn about how taverns were an essential part of every Connecticut town. This is a Connecticut Historical Society presentation.

Seed Library: Now available for garden enthusiasts, whether beginner or seasoned. You will find free seeds available for your garden. Sign them out. Call Jenn Billingsley for more information, at 860-342-6771. If you have leftover seeds, donations are welcome.

Knifty Knitters: Saturdays 10 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Drop in, get helpful knitting tips and chat with others. Beginning knitters are welcome too. Check out some of the projects this group has created in the library's display case this June.



Portland High School seniors Harrison Collins and Natalie Przezzelski were recently honored at the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents' annual awards ceremony. They're pictured here with Portland Superintendent of Schools Charles Britton and PHS Principal Kathryn Lawson.

PHS Seniors Honored by Superintendent

On Monday, April 24, two Portland High School seniors were honored at the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents' annual awards ceremony.

Harrison Collins and Natalie Przezzelski were selected by Portland Public Schools Superintendent Charles Britton for their leadership at PHS, academic achievement and service to others in the community. They were invited, along with their parents, to a luncheon awards ceremony at the Water's Edge Resort and Spa, where they were joined by Britton and PHS Principal Kathryn Lawson.

Przezzelski has been steady and dependable throughout her high school career. She started her high school career off with a strong college preparatory program of study, but pushed herself to take 4 AP classes and a college level course this year. One teacher commented

that Przezzelski is "a rock - consistent and thorough." Przezzelski has earned Academic Excellence awards throughout high school in integrated physical science, advanced chemistry, biology, civics, accounting, and personal finance. A tennis player, Przezzelski is also a leader on the court. She is aiming for a field in either business or health sciences.

Collins, meanwhile, is a star on the basketball court and leads his team with integrity and skill. This year he took his team to the CIAC Division V semifinals, was awarded Shoreline All Conference 1st Team and was selected for the CHS-CA Division IV All-State Team for the 2022-23 season. It was an impressive run and Harrison leads the team. Collins also served as president of the class of 2023, has also been honored with Academic Excellence in English and civics, and in 2022 he was the recipient of the St. Michael's College Book Award. Collins is a strong proponent of Portland High School's Class Act program, encouraging positive sportsmanship on and off the court/field.

Resident Graduates

Adriana Kandro of Portland recently received a Bachelor of Arts degree from College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass.

Foodshare Truck

The Connecticut Foodshare truck comes to the Waverly Center, 7 Waverly Ave., every other Monday from 1-2 p.m., except for holidays. People do not have to be a Portland resident to attend. Please bring bags.

The next Foodshare visit will be Monday, June 6, at 1 p.m.

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Portland's Juneteenth Celebration Keeps Growing

By Jack Lakowsky

With new sponsors, attractions and events, Portland's Juneteenth Celebration, set this year for June 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Riverfront Park, has rapidly grown since its start just a few short years ago as a smaller, intimate picnic.

Now Juneteenth is a full-blown, celebrational and educational shindig complete with food trucks, music, poetry, booths and guest speakers.

Especially notable this year, said organizers Liz Hibino and Hope Jones, who, respectively, serve on the Portland Social Justice Coalition and the town's Committee on Solidarity, just two of the local groups that help bring the celebration together.

Juneteenth, which in recent years has been more widely embraced institutionally, commemorates the freeing of American slaves. It has become a way for African Americans to celebrate their culture and progress, and to vocalize the racism they still face in their everyday lives.

Juneteenth's official date is June 19.

According to Juneteenth.com, the holiday dates to 1865, when the Union army arrived in Galveston, Texas to spread the news of emancipation. This was two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. The document had little immediate impact in the Deep South.

Reasons for the delay are debated. They include the murder of a messenger carrying news of the treasonous Confederacy's defeat to a deliberate withholding by enslavers to keep their human property in chains.

Exciting this year, Hibino said, are some new

sponsors – among them Portland's True Vine Holiness Church, which is entering its 100th year serving the local Black community, as well as Habitat for Humanity, Liberty Bank and Gospel Lane's Del Printing.

True Vine's leaders, Barbara Shaw and David Roane, Portland natives, helped plan the event and have shared powerful stories about growing up in town during the '60s and '70s, a time when the Civil Rights movement and desegregation were new, and, especially in the South, racist violence was common.

A huge plus this year, they said, is welcoming Black-owned businesses to Juneteenth. Hibino said this is a first. Middletown-based vendor Crab Shack King will be there selling seafood and chicken, and, Hibino said, the truck's owner, Reggie White, supports other local Black-owned businesses by selling their goods, like lemonade and sweet potato pies. That's three Black-owned businesses supported, Hibino said.

"This year we really wanted to lift up Black entrepreneurs," said Hibino.

Hibino said she was happy to see there is a robust and well-populated Black-owned business community regionally and in the state. Equity is far from achieved, she said, there are resources like ShopBlackCT.com working to close the gap and drive revenue into Black businesses.

This is the 5th year having a Juneteenth celebration in Portland, first ran by Caroline Murray and a diversity group formed in 2019 to look at ways make Portland a more equitable, sensitive place.

Hibino, Jones and organizers want the event

to be as entertaining as it is educational, saying they hope white people leaving knowing more about the struggles of marginalized groups and that Black attendees leave feeling celebrated, their struggles and triumphs and value properly recognized.

A veteran of the large Middletown Pride celebration, Portland's welcoming DJ Mx. Chalk. Along with his music he has an art project planned for the town – a special "chalk car" that folks can mark up with messages about Juneteenth.

One among several guest speakers will be equity advocate and researcher John Mills, whose descendants were enslaved in both the north and south.

Mills focuses on unearthing little-known people and stories of this country's history in slavery and the transatlantic slave trade. Mills presents research through the lens and perspective of a descendant, with intent to inspire understanding and empathy. Mills is a member of the Connecticut Freedom Trail and the Webb Deane Stevens Museum Council, and is also working with an international team funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in an effort to deliver transformational impact on digital methods in cultural institutions...a means to decolonize museums.

Finally, Mills is "working with the state of

Connecticut, business leaders and scholars in Middletown, CT to honor and memorialize a former enslaved individual by the name of Prince Mortimer."

There's some local talent lined up too. Local Portland High School student Dorothy Riley will again take the stage to sing the Black National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

But wait – there's more! Also featured will be a treasure hunt focused on Black inventors – complete with prizes – a bounce house, a Story-Walk featuring the book *A Flag for Juneteenth* by Kim Taylor, free ice cream, lawn games and free facepainting by local artist Ana Ughetti.

Also, the Juneteenth celebration will feature tables with local groups like the historical society, youth/family services and the Middlesex NAACP.

Indeed, Portland's is one of the more robust Juneteenth celebrations in the area, and Hibino and Jones both said the momentum is largely due to support at the town government, along with good grassroots support.

"In Portland there's a lot of support for issues on social justice and equity," said Hibino. "We get bipartisan support and we're really, really grateful for that."

Interested in doing your part to make Portland a more serviceable, equitable place for all? The Committee on Solidarity has a few openings. Email portlandctsolidarity@gmail.com for more information.

High School Honor Roll

Principal Kathryn Lawson announces the Portland High School Honor Roll for the third marking term of the 2022-23 school year:

High Honors

Grade 12: Victoria Bailey, Rowan Bell, Sophie Binezewski, Landry Carroll, Amelia Ciarleglio, Kayla Deckelman, Faith Doyle, Lauren Eckert, Shannon Farley, Ryan Green, Kyle Guibord, Alexander Hair, Olivia Hungerford, Gregory Ives, Tyler Ives, Ryan Kerr, Anton Kiwimagi, Camille Kopacz, Mckenzie LaMalfa, Lily Larson, Annette LeShane, Ginia Lin, Caymus Lopez, Leah Masal, Heather McDougall, Sean Mearman, Wynitch Michel, Mya Mogulnicki, Katharine Nedobity, Olivia Porter, Natalie Przestrzelski, Mia Quesnel, Maureen Reyes, Emma Warshaw and Joseph Woszczyna.

Grade 11: Cooper Beck, Lillian Carroll, Gabriela DeLeon, Camryn DiMauro, Evan Guilmette, Isaac Handel, Lincoln Hanks, Joshua Hanna, Erin Hunter, Abigail Keavens, Sarah Kresser, Mason Lavallee, Philip LeShane, Sunny Lin, Rachel Mailhot, Ava Maselek, Abbey Pickel, Tyler Quinn, Selena Shukis, Benjamin Sorrell, Morgan Sundell, Lillian Tabellione, Pierson Webster, McKayla Wilk and Corinne Woszczyna.

Grade 10: Gabrielle Arnold, Frederick Bailey, Chloe Brennan, Elizabeth Bustamante, Keeleigh Christensen, Landon Currie, Emily DeRing, Amelia Dietrichsen, Emelia Eckert, Paige Fitzgibbons, Evangeline Graham, Nathan Green, Aiden Jahnke, Alina Kroeber, Jack Larson, Abigail Leone, Raymond Lin, James Marquis, Annabelle Maruschock, Cassidy Maruschock, Owen McGinley, Elizabeth Nedobity, Nicholas Oliva, Claire Palma, Aidan Peterson, Morganne Pineda, Avery Quesnel, Gracie Roberts, Ella Royea, Anna Stone, Teagan Strycharz, Parker Thompson, Madelyn Varano, Caitlin Walsh, Summer Wright and Maryn Yost.

Grade 9: Cayleb Alvarez-James, Cristina Austin, Elizabeth Barr, Aiden Burrus, Hailey

Bustamante, Maksim Connolly, Cole Coppolino, Brady Daggett, Drey Farmer, Lillian Gaetani, Evelyn Hair, Gerry Hall, Toby Hunter, Logan Kehoe, Jonah Lavallee, Rita Lin, Caleb MacKay, Leana Mierzejewski, Cade Modon, Ryan Modon, Patrick O'Rourke, Romeo Overton, Evan Piacente, Logan Prince, Nathan Quesnel, Skyla Rascati, Liam Rowe, Emelia Rowland, Kiley Scott, Cate Stone, Allison Tine, Mara Tuttle, Kai Vardon and Ethan Wells.

Honors

Grade 12: Rachel Brown, Harrison Collins, Ethan Dean, Andrew DiMauro, Benjamin Fecteau, Amelia Hair, Nathalie Liranzo, Isabelle McClelland, Brandon McPhee, Gaspar Miranda-Ajpop, Ashton Rambarose, Mason Tuttle and Austin Vess.

Grade 11: Matthew Binezewski, Alexander Dawson, Noah Decker, Rocco DiMauro, Giovanni Discenza, Ariana Hettrick-Rivera, William Jahnke, Ryan LaPila, Quinn Lapinski, Jamison Lasky, Benjamin McGrew, Meghan McPhee, Erik Medvecky and Jackson Williams.

Grade 10: Matteo Brousseau, Laurel Carroll, Zachary Dickson, Kaitlyn Hickey, Lillian Kagan, Kathryn Laverty, Alyssa Madden, Ty Mazzotta, Gianna Phelps, Michael Rambarose and Elliott Rowland.

Grade 9: Joshua Abbott, Joseph Angersola, Peyton Black, Evan Brown, Breckin Burke, Hayden Burke, Aaron Ciarleglio, Dylan Cohen, Adam Dean, Gracie DeRing, Jayden Dorsey, Ella Klotz, Leah Lamson, Cameron Lopez, Ryan McGrew, Dzejla Medunjanin, Eunice Ngunjiri and Joshua Rosado.

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.

Next Week's Programs: Monday: Senior center closed for Memorial Day; **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; no Watercolor Lessons today; Coupons for Troops, 1-4 p.m.; setback, 1 p.m.; Beginning Dulcimer, 5 p.m.; Progressive Dulcimer, 6 p.m.;

Wednesday: Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Tai Chi Quong, 1 p.m.; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday, multipurpose room. **Thursday:** Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Mahjong, 12:30 p.m.; Scrabble, 1 p.m. **Friday:** Light aerobics, 9:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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Sharades to Perform at Trinity

On Saturday, June 10, at 7 p.m., Brownstone Vital Connections will present The Sharades, featuring music from the '50s, '60s and '70s.

The performance will take place in the brownstone and stained glass sanctuary of Trinity Church at 345 Main St. There is room to dance and light refreshments will be available. All proceeds will be donated to Middlesex Land Trust.

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 the day of the show, and are available by emailing trinityvitalconnections@gmail.com or calling 860-463-6444. You can also purchase tickets on Eventbrite for an additional fee.

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Scholarship Winner... Heather McDougall (right) was this year's recipient of the Portland Exchange Club's John W. Goodrich Memorial Scholarship. Presenting her the award is JoAnn Leonard (left) of the Portland Exchange Club. McDougall plans to study business management at Endicott College in Beverly, Mass.

Portland Quarry Celebration Day

The 2023 Portland Quarry Celebration Day event will take place Saturday, June 3 (rain date June 4), from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Quarry View Historic Park and Campground, located at 311 Brownstone Ave., will host an arts and crafts show set-up alongside the park's display of brownstone monoliths and quarry artifacts. On the opposite side of the street, The Portland Riverfront Park will have a variety of fun happenings for the whole family. Food vendors will be located near the park entrance with culinary delights sure to please everyone.

To complete the menu, The Brownstone Quorum will hold a bake sale fundraiser with a great selection of sweet treats, and 50/50 raffle tickets will be available. On the Riverfront Park Stage, performances by area musicians will continue throughout the day. On the west side of the park field, The Chatham Children's Connection will offer games and activities for kids, and many town civic organizations will have informational booths set up. The east side of the field will feature The Gasket Goons Car Club Show, a large automotive for car enthusiasts of all ages.

Knights of Columbus Car Show

Knights of Columbus Freestone Council No. 7 will present its seventh annual car show Friday, June 2, starting at 3 p.m., at St. Mary Church, 45 Freestone Ave. The show is dedicated to Antonio "Buddy" Hernandez. Classic cars, muscle cars, street rods, trucks and more are welcome. There is a \$15 entry fee, with proceeds to benefit local charities. The Knights' Kitchen will be open, offering burgers, hot dogs, sausage and pepper grinders, and beverages. There will be a raffle, with prizes including signed Joey Logano collectibles, car accessories, electronics, gift baskets, wine and more. Awards will be presented for Best of Show, Oldest, Classic, and Truck.

Food Bank Holiday Closing

The Portland Food Bank, located in the lower level of the Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave., will be closed Monday, June 19, for the Juneteenth holiday. The Food Bank is normally open Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon. You 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 to access the food bank's services. Donations are only taken during food bank hours. Call 860-342-6795 for more information or for volunteer and donation opportunities.

Foodshare Truck

The Connecticut Foodshare truck comes to the Waverly Center, 7 Waverly Ave., every other Monday from 1-2 p.m., except for holidays. People do not have to be a Portland resident to attend; however, everyone must bring their own bags. The next Foodshare visit will be Monday, June 5, at 1 p.m.

Transfer Station Summer Hours

Through Labor Day, the Portland Transfer Station's summer hours are in effect. They are: Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Wednesday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Saturday, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The scale closes 30 minutes before closing.

Dean's List

William W. Crawford Jr. of Portland, a student in the Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences at the University of New Haven, has been named to the spring 2023 Dean's List. Crawford is a member of the class of 2026 and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice.

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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. Services are held at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School is in session and held during the service. Children ages 4-12 are welcome to attend Church School. 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 is also a gathering in the church office at the same time,

for Anglican Prayer beading. No prior beading experience is required. All are welcome. Check out more information, the church's calendar of events, donate, or listen to past sermons at www.trinitychurchportlandct.org. If you have any other prayer requests to lift up, email the church office at trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com. For more information or to make an appointment with the Rev. Darryl Burke, email trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com or call 860-342-0458.

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 takes place every Sunday during the worship. The worship service is livestreamed as well as available for later viewing on the church's YouTube channel: First Church of Portland CT. The building is handicapped-accessible. On Sunday, June 4, the worship will be led by Seminarian Grace Winakor and her sermon is titled, "The Ultimate Road Trip." Coffee hour, which is a time of fellowship, follows the service

and all are welcome to worship and coffee hour. 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.

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. **Youth LGBTQ+ Drop-In Night:** Wednesday, June 7, 6-8 p.m., in the Wagner Room of Portland Library. There will be games, art supplies and other activities, along with snacks. **Little Hikers:** Friday, June 9, 10:30 a.m., at Portland Riverfront Park on Brownstone Av-

enue. Note the new date. **Plant & Learn: Aloe:** Saturday, June 10, at a time and place to be determined. All budding gardeners and their parents/grandparents/caregivers are invited to learn about aloe and replant the "pups" into containers to take home. **After School Drop-In & Draw:** Tuesday, June 13, 2:30-4:30 p.m. **Drop-In & Draw Arts & Crafts:** Friday, June 16, 10:30-11:30 a.m. **Youth & Parent LGBTQ+ Support-Style Groups:** Wednesday, June 21, 6-8 p.m. **Summer Kick-Off:** Monday, June 26, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Save the date! There will be a mobile petting zoo, ice cream, lawn games and more.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

Parks and Recreation is offering the following. To register or for full program descriptions, visit portland.recdesk.com, 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. **Lady Highlanders Hoops Camp:** For grades 3-6. Wednesdays, June 7-28, 6-8 p.m., at BIS. Portland High School basketball coaches and players, as well as members of the 2011 PHS championship team, will instruct. Cost is \$20 for this 4-week class. **Summer Quest Camp:** Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at the Portland high/middle school complex. Week one begins June 26 and week seven ends Aug. 11. Base Camp is for grades 1-6, and Teen Camp is for grades 7-9. Teen campers will go on an average of two field trips per week. Cost for the camps varies by week. **Themed Ballet and Tap Classes:** For ages 3-6, held at The Inner Circle. **Bluey & Bingo's Big Ballet** is Wednesdays, June 21 and 28, from 4:30-5:15 p.m.; **Fancy Dancy** is Wednesdays, July 19 and 26, from 4:30-5:15 p.m.; and **Enchanted Fairies Dance** is Wednesdays, Aug. 9 and 16, from 4:30-5:15 p.m. Fee per two-week class: \$25. **Themed Dance Classes:** For ages 6-8, held at The Inner Circle. **Barbie Blowout Jazz & Ballet** is Thursdays, June 22 and 29, 5:15-6 p.m.; **Magical Unicorns Ballet & Tap** is Thursdays, July 20 and 27, 5:15-6 p.m.; and **Rhinestone Round-Up Tap & Jazz** is Thursdays, Aug. 10 and 17,

5:15-6 p.m. Fee per two-week class: \$25. **Adult Tap Dance Exercise:** Wednesdays, June 21 and 28; July 19 and 26; or Aug. 9 and 16, at The Inner Circle. All levels welcome. Cost is \$50. **Come Dance with Me:** For ages 18 months-4 years. Thursdays, June 22 and 29; July 20 and 27; or Aug. 10 and 17, 4:30-5 p.m., at The Inner Circle. Fee: \$50. **Slamma-Jamma Basketball Camp:** Monday, June 26-Friday, June 30, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Portland High School, for boys and girls in grades 3-8. Cost: \$150. **Kiddie Camp:** For ages 3-5. Weekly sessions start July 17, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at PHS. Cost: \$115/residents, \$125/non-residents. **Little Ninjas:** For ages 3-6. Thursdays, July 6-Aug. 10, 4-5 p.m. or 5-6 p.m., at The Inner Circle. Cost: \$72. **Kids' Gymnastics:** For ages 6 and up. Saturdays, July 8-Aug. 12, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at The Inner Circle. Open to all skill levels. Cost: \$72. **Kids' Karate:** For ages 6 and up. Tuesdays, July 11-Aug. 15, 4-5 p.m., at The Inner Circle. Cost: \$72. **Self-Defense for Women:** Sundays, July 9, July 23, or Aug. 13, 6-7 p.m., at The Inner Circle. Cost: \$30. **Tiny Tumblers:** For ages 2-4. Mondays, July 10-Aug. 14, 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m., at The Inner Circle. Children will learn the basics of gymnastics. Cost: \$72. **Kickboxing:** Mondays, July 10-Aug. 14, 7-8 p.m., at The Inner Circle. For both the beginner and advanced student. Cost: \$72. **Skyhawks Tennis Camp:** Monday-Thursday, July 17-20, 9 a.m.-noon, at the Portland High School tennis courts. For beginning, intermediate or advanced players. Cost is \$145. **Restorative Yoga Workshop:** Wednesday, July 19, 6-7:15 p.m., at Portland Riverfront Park. Space is limited to just five people. Cost is \$20. **Skyhawks Camps:** Monday-Thursday, Aug. 14-17, 9 a.m.-noon, at Portland Riverfront Park. Cost is \$189 for Sports and Games Camp, and \$145 for Mini-Hawk Camp.

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Resident Designs, Produces at Shows

Alexandra Stevas of Portland was a graphic designer, behind the scenes video producer, and social media team member for the recent RUNWAY fashion shows at Lasell University in Newton, Mass.

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Portland High School students Dorothy Riley (pictured in the left photo) and McKayla Wilk (right photo) recently received Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Student Leadership Awards. Also shown in both photos are PHS Principal Kathryn Lawson and Superintendent of Schools Charles Britton.

PHS Juniors Receive Student Leadership Awards

Portland High School juniors Dorothy Riley and McKayla Wilk were recently recognized by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) with Student Leadership Awards.

Students are nominated to receive this award by their school principal. Students nominated should exhibit the following leadership skills: willingness to take on challenges, capability to

make difficult decisions, concern for others, ability to work with others, diplomacy, and the ability to honor a commitment.

For the past three years, Rikey has maintained a level of academic excellence in honors and AP classes while also being involved in several extracurricular activities. She has served three consecutive terms as the vice president for the Class of 2024, is one of the student represen-



tatives chosen by the superintendent to report to the Board of Education, is a leader in DECA, a member of National Honors Society, and a member of the Portland Public School Equity and Inclusion Coalition.

Wilk excels in honors and AP classes and is involved in a number of extracurricular activities, including DECA, National Honors Society, varsity cross country, basketball, and track and

field. She has been recognized for her outstanding service and leadership for DECA and her continuous efforts fundraising for the Class of 2024.

Superintendent of Schools Charles Britton, PHS Principal Kathryn Lawson and the Portland Board of Education recognized these students at a recent school board meeting.

Connecticut Trails Day

On Connecticut Trails Day, Saturday, June 3, at 10 a.m., the Portland Air Line Trail committee and the Middlesex Land Trust are partnering to provide a hike through the Palmer Taylor Preserve including a detour onto the Air Line Trail – see how these two trails intersect to provide a varied walking experience.

The hike will be at a slow to moderate pace, with some moderate inclines for short distanc-

es and occasional tricky footing, but generally suitable for new hikers. Hiking boots are recommended, as the trail crosses some wet areas. Bring water and snacks. Well-managed dogs are welcome.

Rain date is Sunday, June 4, at 11 a.m. Complete details and sign-up information is at trails-day.org/events/portland-air-line-trail-palmer-taylor-preserve.

Library Friends Book Sale

The Friends of the Portland Library groups has fiction, romance, teen and children's used books, as well as DVDs, at the Second-Hand Prose Bookshop at Portland Library, 20 Free-stone 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 unless marked otherwise. There are large-print mystery and general fiction books that have been removed from the library collection on sale for 50 cents each, as well as TV series on DVD for

50 cents each disc.

FPL also has "I Love CT Libraries" reusable bags on sale for \$1 each. See a sample at the front desk and purchase them from the library staff.

All proceeds benefit programs funded by the Friends, such as the library's museum pass program, children and adult programs, and the library's DVD collection.

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

Registration for Fall Travel Soccer

Portland Soccer Club (PSC) has announced registration for the fall 2023 travel soccer season is now open. All eligible players must register online, at www.bluesombrero.com/portland-soccerclub.

Cost per travel registrant is \$170. All players must prepay for registration prior to evaluation.

Registration closes June 7. Any registrations received after this date will be charged an additional \$30 late fee, and are not guaranteed a spot on a travel team.

Evaluation sessions will be Sunday, June 11, at the Portland Recreational Complex, located on Route 17 (Gospel Lane) in Portland. Evaluation times will be by birth year: those born in 2015 and 2014 will be evaluated from 5-6 p.m.; 2013 and 2012 will be 5:15-6:15 p.m.; and 2011 and 2010 will be 5:30-6:30 p.m.

If you cannot come for your time slot, a make-up slot will be available from 7-7:45 p.m.

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.

All are welcome. For more information or if in need of pastoral assistance, call 860-342-2860, email zion.lutheran@snet.net, or visit zionlutheranportland.org. Sara Stall-Ryan is pastor.

PHS Alumni Soccer Game

Calling all former Portland High School soccer players! Get your former teammates together and come Saturday, June 10, at Brownstone field (behind the Post Office).

Alumni will play the current PHS teams. Girls kick off around 5 p.m., with boys to follow around 6:30 p.m.

For more information and to sign up to play, contact (Girls) Giuliana Discenza on Instagram [@giulianadiscenza](https://www.instagram.com/giulianadiscenza) or by email at discenziagiuliana@gmail.com or (Boys) Gio Discenza on Instagram [@gdisc10](https://www.instagram.com/gdisc10) or by email at gdiscenza@gmail.com.

United Methodist Church News

Portland United Methodist Church, located at 381 Main St., is a member of the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church. The church is an open and affirming congregation, welcoming everyone. The building is accessible.

In-person worship services are held Sundays at 9 a.m., with a Fourth Sunday weekly Communion service at 1 p.m. replacing the regular 9

a.m. service on those Sundays.

The Portland United Methodist Crafters meets alternate Fridays at 2 p.m., at the Pastor's Residence. If interested in joining, call 518-729-8215.

The church mails a monthly newsletter from the pastor, the Rev. Dr. Judith Johnson-Siebold. To join the church mailing list, email Portlandctumc@gmail.com.



'Go Baby Go' Held in Portland

The Portland chapter of the National Honor Society partnered with Central Connecticut State University this spring to host Portland's third annual Go Baby Go event.

CCSU brought Go Baby Go to Connecticut in 2015 by Dr. Michele Dischino and student leader Megan Hislop. Current Portland High School teachers Dylan Bernard and Tyler Richards both participated in that first event in 2015 when they were students at CCSU.

Go Baby Go offers children with significant mobility impairment a means of mobility to explore their world. College students partner with high school or middle school students to modify ride-on cars for children with various life challenges who don't have a lot of independence or mobility. Oftentimes, these cars are the first time these children are able to move on their own.

In spring 2019, Go Baby Go came to PHS through a partnership with the school's engineering program. In early 2020, the National

Honor Society took over facilitating the event.

Students from Portland High's Robotics, Engineering Design and Development, and Electronic Publications (yearbook) classes assisted in modifying the cars with our National Honor Society students on March 31 and April 1. Students from CCSU mentored the PHS students through the process. Portland High School class of 2022 alumnus and current CCSU student Matt Hernandez also returned to PHS for this event.

During the event, Power Wheels cars were modified for the children by rewiring the pedal to a jelly bean button mounted to the steering wheel. A safety switch was added to the back so parents or guardians can turn the car off quickly if needed. Finally, a support structure out of PVC piping and pool noodle to adapt the car for each recipient's needs. Four children received a Go Baby Car for free on Saturday morning.

More on Go Baby Go is at adaptivesportsconnection.org/sports-programs/go-baby-go.

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BOF Sends Budget Back to Referendum

By Michael Sinkewicz

The Hebron Board of Finance unanimously advanced a budget proposal for the 2023-24 fiscal year following a contentious meeting last week.

The general fund operating budget was reduced by \$50,000, with \$50,000 coming from town government; the Hebron Board of Education budget, meanwhile, was increased by \$100,000.

In total, a \$39.11 million proposal is heading to referendum. Voting will be held Tuesday, June 13, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m., at Hebron Elementary School.

The mill rate would set at 33.54, a 1.84-million increase; the average household's tax bill increase would be \$456. The median tax bill would've been an \$442 increase with the second referendum amount and was slated to be a \$594 increase with initial first budget proposal that failed at referendum.

Compared to the amounts presented at the first referendum, the town budget has now decreased by \$300,000 and the school budget has been cut by \$150,000; both budgets are above their current-year spending levels.

Currently, the proposed town budget is at \$10.92 million — around \$375,000 more than the 2022-23 fiscal year. The school budget is \$12.79 million — around \$590,000 more than the current year.

Still, while the restoration to the school budget brings the proposal closer to the district's original spending outline — \$13.98 million budget; a \$1.77 million or 14.5% increase — the school board may still have to make difficult decisions.

"We are thankful that the Board of Finance restored \$100,000 which will certainly help with a position(s) if the budget passes," Hebron Board of Education Chairman Heather Petit said in an email to the Rivereast. "The board will still have to make other decisions on the remaining cuts. The Board of Education values children, staff and our wonderful schools and will do the very best it can with the funds available to continue to serve them well."

Hebron Superintendent of Schools Thomas J. Baird said the school board can pull back "one or two" of the proposed staffing reductions.

"Most feedback we have received is to restore the 4th grade teacher position, lowering class-size, and I believe that would be a good decision for kids," he stated.

Last week in a letter addressed students, staff,

families and community members, the school board outlined what a \$1.3 million reduction to its proposed budget would've looked like: increased class size in 4th grade, elimination of the dedicated STEAM class at Hebron Elementary School, reduction of instructional supplies, elimination of the tutoring program, reduction in speech and reading intervention services, and elimination any possibility of offering additional preschool classes, resulting in a lengthy wait list of families in need, the school board said.

Arriving at the restoration of school funding wasn't easy, and at time the Board of Finance meeting was somewhat contentious.

Public comment at the beginning of the meeting was limited to 15 minutes, and may community members, including students were in attendance to speak.

According to Nicole Matthews, a school board member, one sixth-grader attempted to read a prewritten letter, but was dissuaded from speaking when pressed by Board of Finance Chairman Diane Del Rosso if they were a registered voter. A school board member then accompanied the student at the microphone.

After banging her gavel, Del Rosso requested that a police officer, who was stationed outside the room, come inside.

Matthews told the Rivereast that the exchange was "antagonistic" and that there was "no reason" to prompt a police presence.

One child, she said, intended on speaking but left the meeting in tears because he "though he would be arrested."

"It escalated for no reason and it was uncalled for," Matthews said.

A second public comment section was added to the meeting, and the chair did apologize to children and citizens for the events that transpired.

On Thursday, after press time, the school board hosted a special meeting to allow students who were uncomfortable with speaking at last week's meeting an opportunity to voice their opinions.

Petit stated that "it is important to hear all children's voices; especially when they so eagerly want to be involved in civic engagement."

She added, "As several children left after the beginning events of the meeting, we wanted to give them an opportunity to do just that which is why we scheduled a special meeting."

Baird expressed that moving forward, the

community should be able to unite.

"I hope that we can all come together to pass a budget that is supportive of our students and the town."

Daniel Larson, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, told the Rivereast he's "very upset" by the budget process this year.

The town budget continues to be slashed, he said, and for some voters to claim the bottom-line is "too high" feels disingenuous. He previously stated that additional funding was added to the budget for emergency services, in part because residents were not volunteering as much.

"Stand up and do something for the community," he said during a phone call this week. "Small towns used to be built on volunteerism."

The town, he continued, has high expenses and reductions to that budget are felt more since the overall bottom-line is less than the school budget to begin with, he contented.

Furthermore, the town is trying to aboard the added costs resulting from retirements. Municipal spending also covers certain school district expenses, such as the school resource officer.

This year, he said, the school board "didn't seem to want to be cooperative on solutions."

On Thursday after press time, the selectmen were expected to determine where the addition-

al \$50,000 cut would come from in the spending plan.

"There's going to be impacts," Larson said, adding that he's brainstorming ideas. "Hopefully, it will be minimally effective to the town."

Larson also took issue with certain school administrative staff potentially getting salary raises. In this current economic climate, he said, that would be "shameful."

When asked if any staff were receiving substantial raises, Baird told the Rivereast: "Our unionized administrators will have a 3% salary increase as part of their collective bargaining agreement next year."

He continued by stating that the school board "has not yet discussed contract renewals with me or the business manager."

"Our contracts are not typically renewed until after the budget is passed," he wrote.

He said the current contracts are "within regional norms for compensation for our level of experience."

Regarding the tone of the finance board meeting, Larson expressed that people came to the meeting "with an agenda" and that he'd imagine officials were trying to maintain the tone of the night as a "business meeting."

Parks and Recreation News

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

Therapy Dog Reading: Saturday, June 3, 10-11 a.m., at the Burnt Hill Park pavilion. Meet Sheena the therapy dog, and have a chance to read your favorite book to her and her dog friends.

Summer of Swish Basketball Camp: June 19-22, 8 a.m.-noon, at RHAM High School. Cost: \$110.

Summer Adventure Camp: Runs June 26-Aug. 18. Camp will feature sports, games, nature, arts & crafts, field trips, theme days and more. Hours are 6:45 a.m.-5 p.m. Must register in advance.

Football Camp: June 26-30, 8-11:30 a.m., at RHAM High School. With RHAM Football's head coach and the RHAM football players. Fee: \$125.

Crafting Camp: June 26-30, 8:30-11:30 a.m., at Douglas Library. Fee: \$130.

Babysitters Training: Thursday, June 29, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Gilead Hill School, for ages 11-17. This is an entry level course intended to teach age-appropriate skills to care for children of all ages. Basic first aid, including adult and child CPR, will be taught. Cost is \$80.

Nerf Zone and Schoolyard Games Camp: July 3-7, 8:30-11:30 a.m., at Hebron Elementary School, for grades 1-6.

Minds in Motion RE/CO Robot Camp: For ages 8-12. July 10-14, 9 a.m.-noon, at Gilead Hill School. Fee: \$145.

Minds in Motion Future Engineers Camp: For ages 8-12. July 10-14, 12:30-3:30 p.m. at GHS. Fee: \$145.

Building Up S.T.E.A.M. Lego Camp: For ages 5-6. July 17-21, 9 a.m.-noon, at GHS. Fee: \$140.

S.T.E.A.M. Works Using Lego Summer Camp: For ages 7-10. July 17-21, 1-4 p.m. at GHS. Fee: \$140.

Calling All Musicians

The Town Center Project (TTCP) is once again bringing Make Music Day to Hebron. Make Music Day is an international event dedicated to the celebration of music.

This year's festivities will be held Wednesday, June 21. All levels of musicians are welcome, in all genres. Musicians will line Main Street, bringing back the "Mile of Music."

To sign up to participate, or for more information, visit thetowncenterproject.org or [facebook.com/towncenterprojectinc](https://www.facebook.com/towncenterprojectinc), or email ttcp@thetowncenterproject.org.

Dean's List

Amston resident Douglas Blinn and Hebron resident Giovanni Vecchiarino made the spring 2023 Dean's List at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass.

Blinn is a member of the Class of 2026, majoring in biochemistry. Vecchiarino is a member of the Class of 2024, majoring in mechanical engineering.

Dean's List

Liron Golan of Amston made the spring 2023 Dean's List at Furman University in Greenville, S.C.

Golan's parents are John and Liat Golan.

Dean's List

Trent Sargent of Hebron made the spring 2023 Dean's List at Assumption University in Worcester, Mass.

Sargent is a member of the Class of 2026.

Resident Graduates

Nathan Skopas of Hebron recently graduated from Stonehill College in Easton, Mass.

Absentee Ballots for Budget Referendum

Absentee ballots for the June 13 budget referendum are available at the town clerk's office at the Town Office Building, 15 Gilead St. Office hours are: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Friday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

In-person voting will be held at Hebron Elementary School, 92 Church St. Polls will be open Tuesday, June 13, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

For more information, visit hebronct.com or call 860-228-5971.

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Resident Graduates... Samuel Walls, son of Michael and Deborah Walls of Hebron, recently graduated from the University of New Haven with a Bachelor of Science degree in marine biology. Walls completed his senior thesis on "The Behavioral Responses of Penguins to Enrichment," in collaboration with Mystic Aquarium. He has accepted a position with Mystic Aquarium as an instructor in the education department.

Gilead Congregational Church News

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

Sunday Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m., followed by Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall. Services are also available on YouTube at www.bit.ly/GileadChurchUCC and on Facebook at tinyurl.com/GileadChurchUCC.

Scheduled Events/Meetings: 6/5: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; 6/5: Board of Christian Education, 7 p.m.; 6/6: AA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.; 6/8: Trustee Meeting, 7 p.m.

Prayer Shawl Group: On break for the summer months.

Choir: Following the June 4 service, the choir will be on break for the summer

months, and will reconvene after the Hebron Harvest Fair. However, the choir will make a cameo on June 18 for the Rev. Matt McCaffrey's final service (see below).

Yoga in the Fellowship Hall: Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Call Jennifer Goodine of Wise Warrior Yoga to register, at 860-531-2217. There will be no yoga Saturday, June 3.

Father's Day Cards: The Board of Missions will sell Father's Day cards in support of the Church World Service Tool Program.

Transition: The Rev. Matt McCaffrey's final Sunday worship is June 18; there will be a retirement reception following the service. Pastor Brian Hardee will start July 5, with July 9 being his first worship service with the congregation.

The Worship Center News & Notes

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

Worship: Services are Sundays at 10 a.m., indoors, and are also broadcast on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheWorshipCenterConnecticut and on YouTube; go to tinyurl.com/yby64wph to access.

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

Journey Group: For grades 6-12. The mission of the group is to support the youth of Hebron and surrounding towns in their spiritual development. Meets every other Sunday directly after the service; lunch is provided. Next meeting: June 4.

Youth Group: First Friday Fellowship: Held the first Friday of each month from 6-9 p.m. at the church. All are invited.

1st Wednesday Prayer: June 7, 10-11 a.m. at the church. All are invited to come with their prayer requests.

Virtual Prayer Night: Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., via Zoom. All are invited to pray for each other, the community and the country. Contact the church office or website for a link and meeting ID.

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

Fellowship Luncheon: Sunday, June 4, following the 10 a.m. service. Held on the patio (weather permitting), the theme is Mexican Fiesta. There will be a taco/burrito bar. Bring a dish and/or lawn game to share.

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

Movie Night: Friday, June 16, 7 p.m., at the church. *Jesus Revolution* will be shown. All are invited.

St. Peter's Tag Sale

St. Peter's Episcopal Church will hold a tag sale on Friday and Saturday, June 2 and 3, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. both days, at the church, 30 Church St. (Route 85) in Hebron. No early birds, please. The sale will be both indoors and outdoors.

There will be small kitchen appliances, glassware, jewelry, small furniture, cards and gift bags, holiday decorations, pots and pans, dishes, lamps, arts and crafts, children's toys,

outdoor gardening, tools, camping and sports equipment, and more.

A luncheon will be served each day, with some seating outdoors on the deck, weather permitting. As part of the St. Peter's outreach programs, a portion of the proceeds will go to the Columbia Food Bank.

For more information, call 860-228-3244 or visit www.StPetersHebron.com.

Library Book Sale Rescheduled

The Friends of Douglas Library group has announced that, due to construction at the library, its next book sale will be moved from Saturday, June 3, to Saturday, Aug. 12. They Friends will cancel its usual September sale, and resume its regular schedule Nov. 18.

While the sale is delayed, books and other items for sale are available in the Friend's Boutique, on the main and children's floors of the library.

Donations for the sales are being collected, and access to the covered donation bin to the right of the main entrance has now been re-

stored. For assistance with large donations, call the library in advance, at 860-228-9312. Donations of fiction, science-fiction, mysteries, romances, non-fiction, recent textbooks, CDs, DVDs, and children's books are always welcome. Please do not donate VHS tapes, encyclopedias, magazines, or *Reader's Digest* condensed books. All donated items should be in good condition, not mildewed, moldy, dirty or torn.

Proceeds from the book sales are used to purchase new material for the library, museum passes, equipment, as well as to pay for children's and adult programs.

Juneteenth Celebration Returns June 17

The Coalition on Diversity & Equity (CoDE) is sponsoring its second annual Juneteenth Celebration Saturday, June 17, from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., in collaboration with Hebron Parks & Recreation Department's Hebron Day.

Juneteenth is a national holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. A variety of educational activities will be offered for children, youth and adults, to be held in and around the historic Peters House, 150 East St.

During the event, attendees will learn about the lives of formerly enslaved residents of Hebron, including Cesar Peters and his family, and about the path to freedom for all African Americans.

Live entertainment will include world-renowned master drummer Bolokada Conde;

EvaE Peart and Nia Arts, a West African drumming and dancing troupe (audience invited to participate); Lisa Clayton Singers; Hartford's Proud Drum, Drill and Dance Corp.; and Hartford Poet Laureate Frederick-Douglass Knowles II. In addition, Sisters by Sisters: Joined by the Cloth, a quilting guild celebrating culture, color, design and tradition through an African American perspective, will display quilts and share the history of quilts and quilt-making among the Black community.

Kids' activities will include a Story Walk with the book, Juneteenth for Mazie, written and illustrated by Floyd Cooper; face painting; arts and crafts, and more. Families can also take a narrated bus tour of several sites in Hebron where Black Americans lived and worked and tour the Peters house.

Senior Center News & Notes

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

Adopt a Plot - Beautify the Senior Center: Would you like to help beautify the senior center? If so, there are 4x4 plots (general size) available to adopt. Create a spot with flowers and maintain throughout the season. Call Linda at the senior center for more information or to adopt a plot.

Massage Therapy: Mondays and Thursdays, by appointment. Massage therapist Beverly Williams will perform 25-minute (for \$25) or 50-minute (for \$50) chair or table massages or hot stone massages. Appointments available from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday and from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Thursday. Call the senior center to make an appointment.

Bus Transportation to Mobile Food Truck and Food Bank: Every other Tuesday; call the center for dates. Pick-ups start approximately 10:30-10:45 a.m., and the food truck arrives at 11:15 a.m. at the Church of Hope/Red Barn at the corner of routes 85 and 66. Food bank arrival is approximately 11 a.m. Bring your own bags. Must sign up by 10 a.m. the day before.

Senior Transportation: Offered to ages 60 and up and all adult disabled individuals, for medical care, personal needs care, grocery shopping, or other pre-approved needs. Transportation available Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Appointments

must be scheduled a minimum of 24 hours in advance, but 48 hours is recommended - and required for new riders. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call the center.

Recurring Daily/Weekly Happenings: Some programs have a fee, some are free, and most require pre-registration. Detailed information is in the monthly newsletter or at the senior center. **Exercise Equipment Room:** Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m.-noon. **Community Café:** Monday-Thursday, pre-registration required, suggested donation is \$3.

Mondays: Technology Assistance: Dates vary, call for times; Enhance Fitness, 9-10 a.m. via Zoom; Yoga, 10:15-11:15 a.m.; massage, second and fourth Mondays of the month, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Movie Monday (once per month; call for date and title).

Tuesdays: Knitting/Crocheting/Needle Group, 10:15-11:45 a.m.; mobile food truck and HHS Food Bank transportation, 11 a.m.; Hand and Foot Canasta (cards), 12:45-3:15 p.m.; Card-Stamping, 1-2:15 p.m.

Wednesdays: Enhance Fitness, 9-10 a.m. via Zoom; Yoga, 10:15-11:15 a.m.; Mindful Meditation, first and third Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15 a.m.

Thursdays: Massage, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sunshine Singers, 10:15-11:45 a.m.; Mahjongg, 12:45-3:15 p.m.; Bingo, 1-3 p.m.

Fridays: Enhance Fitness, 9-10 a.m. via Zoom; Fun with Stitches Open Quilting Group, first and third Fridays of the month, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; Created to Create Open Arts Group, second and fourth Fridays of the month, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

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Church of Hope News & Notes

Hebron Church of Hope, 1 Main St., holds worship Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Church of Hope is a biblically-driven Christ-centered church.

Worship is in person and via livestream on the church website. For more information, and the guidelines for in-person worship, visit www.hebronchurchofhope.org.

The church office is closed until further notice. Pastor Jordan Brown can meet by appointment; use the church website to set up a time.

For more information about Hebron Church of Hope, visit the website or look for the church on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

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Douglas Library News & Notes

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

Friday Films: June 9, *The Quiet Girl* (rated PG-13); June 16, *A Good Person* (PG-13); June 23, *65* (PG-13); June 30, *Sweetwater* (PG-13.) Bottled water and individually wrapped snacks will be provided.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Tuesday, June 6, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., in the community room. Register on redcross.org.

Want to Program Games?: Tuesday, June 20, 6-7 p.m. Are you an adult or young adult interested in programming games? Come meet up with others looking to start a group for collaboration.

Book Discussion at American Legion: Wednesday, June 21, 7 p.m. Book discussion

at the American Legion, located next door. *One Italian Summer* by Rebecca Serle will be discussed. Copies of the book are available for checkout at the adult circulation desk. Must be over 21 years of age to attend.

Teens & Adults Take-and-Make: Pick up your kit from the adult circulation desk while supplies last.

Chess Night: There are pickup games every Thursday in June, starting at 4 p.m., in the Community Room. All skill levels are welcome.

Teen Tag: The teen meeting will be on Wednesday, June 7, from 2:30-3:30 p.m., to start planning for the Haunted Library to be held Oct. 21.

Knitwits: The knitting circle meets Mondays, 6-7 p.m. Crochet and needle pointers are welcome as well as all skill levels. No registration required; bring your project or questions.

Church of the Holy Family News

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

Church Collecting for Homeless Shelter: The church collects items for the Windham Region No Freeze Hospitality Center, which provides assistance to homeless adults. Camping equipment is needed for clients for whom the shelter has been unable to acquire temporary or permanent housing; two-person tents with waterproof features, if possible [new or used (clean) with all parts; all other sizes not needed at this time]; 8'x10' and larger tarps (brown or green; no bright colors); tent cord or rope; tent stakes; sturdy adult backpacks (new or used in

good condition); and foldable shovels. Additional critical needs: men's flip-flops (S,M,L,XL; used as shower shoes); men's and women's deodorant and razors; paper towels (great need; mainly used for cleaning and sanitizing); toothpaste; men's boxer briefs (all sizes but XL in particular); women's briefs (sizes 6-10); shower curtain rings; small plastic bottles to fill with hand sanitizer; the shelter has a supply of large bottles; insect repellent; sun screen; \$15 Stop & Shop gift cards for gas mainly to support people living in their cars; and Walmart gift cards (\$15-\$25). Call to arrange the pickup of gift cards. Place donations of goods in the designated collection box next to the church's Cry Room. Place large quantities of donations in the Cry Room. For more information, call Monica or John McKerracher at 860-228-4211.

Hartford Chorale Golf Tournament

The annual Hartford Chorale Classic golf tournament will be held Monday, June 26, at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. Registration is at 9 a.m., with a 10 a.m. shotgun start.

The activities include 18 holes of golf with a scramble format, lunch on the course, contests, prizes, raffles, and dinner at the clubhouse. There is also an online auction, that can be viewed at hartfordchorale.org/classic2022.

The Hartford Chorale is the primary symphonic chorus serving the Greater Hartford community. The annual tournament is an end-of-season celebration and fundraiser.

There are many ways to participate in the golf event. For more information or to sign up, visit hartfordchorale.org/classic2022. Sign up is also available at www.Blackledgecc.net.

Christ Lutheran News & Notes

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

Sunday Worship: Sundays at 9 a.m. People can also watch live online at www.facebook.com/clchebron/live.

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

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

Caring Shepherds: Watch for the date of the next Open Pantry. 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. The center is taking applications for summer camp; the application form is at www.clecchebron.org.

Celebrate Trails Day with a Hike!

All are invited to celebrate Connecticut Trails Day on Saturday, June 3, at 10 a.m., at the Hibernat Preserve.

Take a guided hike on marked trails and discover the open space preserve at 310 Old Colchester Road, just north of the Air Line Trail and south of Northam Road. Trail Ranger co-leaders will lead the hike, first stopping at a 1700s mill site and leading to an 1800s dam site on the beautiful Raymond Brook, with several special features along the way. The trail is an easy to moderate two miles round trip with

some muddy spots, so hiking shoes are recommended.

Park either on the grassy area along the west side of Old Colchester Road (near the yellow "caution-pedestrian" sign before the Air Line Trail) or at the Air Line Trail designated parking. As always, tick protection is recommended as are clean soles of shoes when entering any open space preserves. Allow 1.5 hours to enjoy this hike.

All are welcome. Heavy rain cancels the event.



When We Sing... "When We Sing...songs of hope and comfort," a positive choral concert, was performed May 24 at St Peter's Episcopal Church, by the Hebron Community Chorus. The 23 voices came together to sing as part of the Sanctuary Performing Arts Series, under the direction of Andrey Stolyarov and accompanied by pianist Blake Hansen. The series is part of The Town Center Project (TTCP), whose commitment and vision brought the group together and supports their efforts. They sang to a full church of community neighbors who gathered afterwards for a reception of fellowship. The chorus is in its second year and is always looking for new singers. To learn more about the chorus, look to The Town Center Project Facebook page or email HebronCommunityChorus@gmail.com.

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ADA Head to Talk 'Positive Approach to Blindness'

By Jack Lakowsky

Bill DeMaio, Superintendent of the Newington Parks and Recreation Department and President of the ADA Coalition of Connecticut, will explore how people with blindness use canes, guide dogs, iPhone technology and even the potential use of futuristic robotic guide dogs at a talk set for Wednesday, June 7, at 1 p.m., at the St. Patrick Church Hall, 47 W. High St.

The program is free and sponsored by the International Lions Club Foundation (ICLF).

DeMaio, who is blind, told the *Rivereast* the program is great for blind people or anyone with a loved one losing their sight, going over the benefits and costs or canes v. guide dogs, and the advancements of tech for blind and other disabled people.

"It's a big part of my speech, that technology moves faster than medicine," DeMaio said.

He goes over things as advanced as robotic guide dogs and as grounded as which iPhone apps are best for blind people, demonstrating them too.

"I'm encouraging as many as possible to come," he said.

DeMaio is a 1980 graduate of Springfield College, with a community recreation degree. He was an assistant Parks and Recreation director in Rocky Hill, a recreation supervisor for Newington Parks and Recreation, a director at the New Britain Parks and Recreation Department, and has spent the last 8 years as superintendent of the Newington Parks and Recreation Department.

DeMaio has been a president of the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association, a chairman of the New England Regional Council of the National Recreation and Parks Association and was a board member for the American Parks and Recreation Society of the NRPA. He currently is a board member, appointed by the governor, for the State Rehabilitation Council and is president of the ADA CT

Coalition.

DeMaio is noted for his ability to develop private/public partnerships.

He raises over \$2 million each year for the Newington Parks and Recreation Department's enterprise budget.

He learned much of his revenue-generating skills during his time with both the New Britain Rock Cats and managing the CT Wolves professional soccer team.

Among all these accolades, DeMaio still finds time to bring knowledge to blind people, their families, teaching them about guide dogs and, certainly just as important, learning how to navigate a world not built with their needs in mind, one where they face discrimination, particularly in the workplace. The ADA bill passed in 1993 and towns across the board are still struggling to bring their facilities up to date. In fact, nearby, in Marlborough, the town selectboard nixed a project to bring the town's Richmond Memorial Library into ADA compliance.

The biggest challenge for people with blindness, DeMaio said, is transportation.

Of the discrimination they face, DeMaio said people look down on people with disabilities, thinking less of them, or worse, insulting them.

Like marginalized people everywhere, the goalposts for disabled people move much farther downfield, held to higher standards and under harder scrutiny. They have to work twice as hard to get half as far as their nonmarginal colleagues.

A great help to DeMaio adjusting to life without sight has been his own guide dog, Lyrice, his friend and partner for three years now.

"When she's in harness she's all about work," said DeMaio. "But once we're home and we take it off, she's a friendly, fun dog."

For more information on "A Positive Approach to Blindness," call Mary Krogh at 860-977-5760.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

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

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

Kids Church: Music and hands-on interactive activities about God's love are offered for kids in the Fellowship Hall during the worship

service. All are welcome.

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

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

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

Middle Haddam Public Library News

Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles Rd., Middle Haddam, has announced the following. To register or more information on any program, email middlehaddamlibrary@gmail.com, visit middlehaddamlibrary.com or call 860-267-9093. 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: With Erin Day of Ten Summit Yoga. Mondays at 9 a.m. and Tuesdays at 7 p.m. No Saturday classes until summer. Cost is a \$10 drop-in fee. Register at tensummitst@gmail.com.

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

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

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

Weekly Activities: **Quilting Group:** Mondays, 9 a.m.; **Mexican Train Dominoes:** Mondays, 9:30 a.m.; **Setback:** Mondays, 1 p.m., and Thursdays, 1:15 p.m.; **Bible Study:** Tuesdays, 1 p.m.; **Bingo:** Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m., in person and via Zoom; **Cross Stitch:** Wednesdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m. - all levels welcome; **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; **Mahjong:** 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 outdoors, weather permitting, or indoors or via Zoom.

Hayride on the Air Line Trail: Tuesday, June 6, at 1:30 p.m. Call the senior center to sign up and for more details.

Movie Day: Friday, June 9, at 1 p.m. *The Woman King* will be shown. Snacks will be pro-

vided.

Free Blood Pressure Screening: Monday, June 12, noon-1 p.m., at the senior center. Sponsored by the Chatham Health Department. All are welcome to stop by and monitor their blood pressure; no appointment necessary.

Mighty Magnificent Men's Group Now Twice a Month: Mondays, June 12 and 26, 10:30 a.m. This is a casual opportunity to meet others and discuss what's on your mind.

Ageless Meditations with Victoria: Mondays, June 12 and 26, 1-2 p.m. Techniques engage in healing, self-compassion and gratitude in a group setting.

Book Club: Tuesday, June 13, 11:30 a.m., at Sadler's Ordinary. Have a review of *Vanishing Half* by Britt Bennet over lunch. Each member is responsible for their own meal. Let Donna know if you will attend. The senior center van will be available for transport. The group will not meet in July or August.

Celebrate Flag Day Ice Cream Social: Wednesday, June 14, 1-3 p.m. There will be music and ice cream in memory of Bob Atherton.

Leaves Up Close: Wednesday, June 21, 10:30 a.m. Master Naturalist Lynn Kochiss will discuss the role leaves play in helping the planet, and how they guide people to know trees better.

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

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Self-Defense Students... On May 6, East Hampton police officers Caleb Cavanaugh and Sgt. Adam Brault conducted a Women's Self Defense Class in the police building. The class was well-received and everyone had a good time. There was so much interest, the local police have a waiting list for the next one! Police said they plan to do another one sometime after July 1. In recent years, based on a myriad of media reports, women's self-defense classes have gained traction as an important means of preventing violence against women, domestic or otherwise.

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Grants Awarded... The East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission recently distributed two grants of \$250 each to support two East Hampton High School capstone projects. The winners will present their projects during a Capstone Fair planned for the end of the school year at EHHS. One grant went to EHHS seniors Eshani Karkun and Kira Roloff, who offered a tennis clinic for East Hampton children in March at the high school tennis courts (pictured at left). The EHACC funds helped with the purchase of tennis equipment and healthy snacks. Approximately 25 children participated in the clinic. A second grant was awarded to EHHS senior Jewel Miranda who formed a nonprofit organization to help local students with anxiety. The EHACC funds helped with the purchase of journals, fidget toys (pictured at right) and workshops, to provide resources and tools to help students struggling with anxiety.

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RE11-521

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OHD Parade to Honor Fire Department

On Saturday, July 8, the Old Home Day Parade honors the men and women of the East Hampton Fire Department and its 100-Year Anniversary. Several area firetrucks of all sizes and sounds are expected for the parade.

All local businesses, organizations, groups, clubs and teams are invited to participate in the parade. If you are designing a parade display, please consider these themes: "100 Years of Service – Thank You East Hampton Fire Department!"; "Local Recognition – Did a

citizen or group in East Hampton recently receive an award or recognition for their recent contribution to their school, town, state or country?"; or "The Power of Education – How can your display educate spectators?"

If interested in participating, fill out the Parade Request Form online at www.ehohd.org. For more information, contact Bo Tinson, parade chair, at 860-414-9712 or RLTinson@gmail.com.

Garden Tour and Plein Air Paint Event

The second annual East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission Garden Tour and Plein Air Paint Event will be held Saturday, June 17, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., featuring six private and two community gardens.

Locations include 23 Old Skinner St., 82 Young St., 11 Markham Rd., 69 Collie Brook Rd., 32 Daly Rd. and 26 Barton Hill Rd., as well as the community garden at the Air Line Trail/Cranberry Bog on Smith Street and Epoch Arts at 27 Skinner St. Seven local artists have also registered to set up easels and paint live during the event.

A closing reception will be hosted by Mc-Clean Hill Farm on Depot Hill Road in Cobalt from 2-4 p.m. Visitors are welcome to visit the

garden sites on June 17 and enjoy the splendor – admission is free and donations to the East Hampton Food Bank are appreciated.

Informational fliers will be posted around town and maps will be available soon at the town clerk's office, the public library and various businesses in the East Hampton Village Center on Main Street.

For more information, email arts@easthamptonct.org or call Melissa Pionzio at 860-993-5311.

Church Tag Sale

St. John Paul II Parish will hold a tag sale at its St. Patrick Church location, 47 W. High St., on Saturday, June 3, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

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 welcome. Contact the Rev. Joanne Neel-Richard for information at jneelrichard16@gmail.com.

Diaper Drive: This is the last Sunday to donate! Diapers in sizes 3 and 4, and Pull-Ups in sizes 3, 4 and 5, can still be dropped off in the Parish Hall.

Donations: Food items may be placed in the black totes at the rear of the church. Clean returnable bottles and cans go in the designated cans by the shed.

Church Directory: It is not too late to have your picture taken for the updated church directory. See Dick Napoletano after the service. If your information needs to be updated, contact Regina Starolis at regina.starolis@yale.edu.

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

Police News

5/17: Terri Sears, 48, of Lebanon, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle under suspension, misuse of plates and operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, East Hampton Police said.

5/18: Kimberly Crumb, 47, of Branford, was arrested and charged with criminal violation of a protective order, police said.

5/21: Daryl Nurse, 46, of Colchester, was issued a summons for failure to drive right, misuse of plates and operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

5/27: Mark Barton, 55, of 26 Bevin Blvd., was arrested and charged with third-degree assault, police said.

5/28: David Lafave, 19, of 78 Skinner St., was

arrested and charged with traveling unreasonably fast, reckless driving, disobeying the signal of an officer, failure to drive right, unsafe passing – left side, improper turn/stop – no signal and failure to obey a traffic control signal, police said.

From May 15-28, officers responded to 24 medical calls, six motor vehicle crashes and 14 alarms, and made 66 traffic stops, police said.

Resident Graduates

Victoria Kelpen of East Hampton recently graduated summa cum laude from Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y., with a bachelor's degree in music education.



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Quilt Raffle... East Hampton Old Home Days is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a piece of history. Handmade by Delores Morgano of East Hampton a "Quilt of Old Home Days Past." King size natural cotton batting made with T-shirts from past Old Home Days. The quilt is on display at the East Hampton Town Hall. Tickets will be \$5 (cash or check) available at East Hampton Public Library or the East Hampton town clerk's office. Drawing to be Saturday, July 8, at 8 p.m. You do not need to be present to win. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold. Visit www.ehohd.org or call Pam Greenwald 860-965-4646 for more information.



Local author Jack Matthew (center) will be among 40 area authors on hand at "Books and Brews II," taking place June 10 and 11 at Rule of 3 Brewing. Also pictured are the brewery's co-owners, John Vitale (left) and Scott Cross (right), who is also Rule of 3's brewer.

Local Brewery, Authors Team Up for Event

On Saturday and Sunday, June 10 and 11, from 1-4 p.m. both days, local authors will team up with Rule of 3 Brewing in East Hampton for "Books and Brews II."

John Vitale and veteran brewer Scott Cross opened their new brewery last August and offer beers brewed on the premises including IPAs, stouts, porters, pale ales and Kolsch-style beer. Earlier in the year they teamed up with local author Jack Matthews to plan an event featuring both local craft beers and local authors.

That event was such a success that they decided to hold it again, only for two days instead of one, and with many more authors participating. Matthews recently reached out to other authors in the area to participate in this event and, as a result, anyone who stops by Rule of 3 on Saturday or Sunday will have a chance to chat with 40 local authors, buy signed copies of their books, and experience a locally brewed craft beer.

At Rule of 3 Brewing, offerings include 1st Rule, Heckyl's Revenge, Secret Rule, and Exception to the Rule, just to name a few. The brewery's new facility, set back from the road, on Route 66, features seating at both the bar and tables scattered throughout the 4,000-sq.-ft. premises.

The works of the 40 authors selected for the two-day event represent a wide variety of genres, including murder mysteries, historical fiction, military, poetry, horror, romance, children, and young adult.

Rule of 3 Brewing is located at 201 West High St., Unit B1, East Hampton.

Tag/Bake Sale

The Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam, located at 52 Middle Haddam Rd., will host a Tag/Bake Sale Saturday, June 10, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., in the lower hall.

The sale will feature a range of baked goods, gently used pieces, Rada cutlery, and various crafts including hand-painted bottles with mini lights. There will be 50% off oil paintings by Heidi House.

The church is handicapped-accessible. Parking is across the street and in an upper-level parking lot to the left.

Golfers Needed!

All are invited to East Hampton Sports Boosters' 31st annual Golf Tournament on Tuesday, June 27, at Blackledge Country Club.

The Boosters support various team requests along with awarding two scholarships to graduating seniors.

To register, go to tinyurl.com/bp8szmcx or call Jeff at 860-398-1263.

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REG-27-23



Habitat for Humanity Build... Eight members of Christ Episcopal Church, Middle Haddam, worked at a Habitat for Humanity site in East Hampton on May 20. The group helped hang sheet rock in what will be a four bedroom house located on Route 66. Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit dedicated to helping individuals to obtain decent, affordable housing, for themselves and their families.

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.

National Trails Day Bike Rodeo! Saturday, June 3, 10 a.m.-noon, at Center School. Learn about bicycle safety, practice your skills on an obstacle course, register for Summer Reading, and more.

Summer Reading Kick-Off! Friday, June 23, 5-7 p.m. Head over to the fields at Center School to sign up for this year's program. There will be free SnoCones, an inflatable obstacle course, baby goats and water balloon painting, plus special guests DJ Montez and Epoch Arts.

Friends of the Library: Booksale Donation Dropoff Ends: Wednesday, June 7 is the last day to drop off gently used book donations at the library. A gently used book is a book that you would like to read, give, and enjoy; that is in good condition, free of mold, stains or smells. Then come visit for the book sale on June 9 and 10.

Children's Programs: Storytimes Notice: Toddler Time, Stories & Songs, Mindful Move-

ments, and Baby Rhyme Time will resume starting June 14.

Hatch the Chicken! Stop by and visit the library's newly-hatched baby chicks before they go back to the farm on June 6.

Teen Program: Nintendo Switch Game Play for Grades 6-12: Saturday, June 17, 2-3:30 p.m. Come to the library to play *Mario Party: Superstars*. All skill levels welcome.

Adult Programs: Cookbook Club - The Salad Days of Summer: Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 p.m. Bring your favorite salad and copies of the recipe to share.

Daniel Corr Classical Guitarist: Tuesday, June 13, 6 p.m. Listen to an evening of music, with light refreshments to follow.

Belltown Book Blast: Friday, Jun. 16, 10 a.m. Come for coffee or tea and bookish banter. No registration needed; just drop in.

LibrarYoga with Amie Meacham: Saturday, June 17, 10:15 a.m. Meacham, a Yoga 200 certified instructor, will lead an hour of gentle yoga in the Community Room. All levels welcome.

Book Club: Tuesday, June 20, 6:30 p.m. *In a Sunburned Country* by Bill Bryson will be discussed. Copies are available for checkout at the circulation desk.

Parks and Recreation News

East Hampton Parks and Recreation has announced the following upcoming programs. For full descriptions, call 860-267-7300 or visit easthamptonct.myrec.com.

Kick Back and Bowl: June 14, 1-3 p.m., for grades 4-9. Cost is \$30.

Adult Tennis: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9-10:30 a.m., at the high school tennis courts. Pre-registration not required. For more info, call or text Natalie Hurt at 860-227-8538.

Water Olympics: June 26-30, 9 a.m.-noon, Sears Park, \$100.

Adult Pickleball: June 7, 14, 21, 28, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$25.

EV Owners Sought for Electric Car Show

The East Hampton Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) invites owners of electric and hybrid vehicles to show off their cars at the Electric Car Show on Saturday, June 3, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at East Hampton High School, 15 North Maple St. Rain date is June 4.

More and more people want to know what it is like driving electric, the CETF said, adding that no one is better to answer those questions than existing owners.

Owner registration is fast and free. Go to www.tinyurl.com/ehcarshow and complete the online registration.

Town-Wide Tag Sale

Folks need to sign up by Thursday, June 8, to be included on the free maps to be handed out on Tag Sale Day Saturday, June 17, sponsored by the Chatham Historical Society.

Applications are available at the town clerk's office or the public library.

Official signs and balloons will be delivered to all participants.

For more information, call Debbie Day at 860-267-4732.

Scouts Sought for New Troop

Troop 57 is starting a Scouts BSA Girl Troop for girls in East Hampton and surrounding towns. Girls ages 11 to 17 are invited - particularly if they're interested in hiking, camping, outdoor cooking, learning first aid, fishing, boating and other skills.

There will be an informational table from 9 a.m.-noon on Trails Day, Saturday, June 3, at the Air Line Trail just east of Cranberry Bog. Follow the signs for a short walk to the Scouts BSA table.

For more information, call Annette Kowalczyk at 860-267-2962 or Eric Buckley at 860-833-7567.

Library Friends Book Sale

The Friends of East Hampton Public Library will hold a book sale in the community room of East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., on Friday, June 9, from 2-7 p.m., and Saturday, June 10, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Donations of used books in good condition may be dropped in the community room through June 7. Email any questions to friendsofeph@gmail.com.

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Middle School Honor Roll

Honor roll students for the third quarter of the 2022-23 school year at East Hampton Middle School are:

High Honors

Grade 8: Hailey Adams, Lee Barron, Rohnan Burke, Azalea Cartier, Hunter Cashin, Alexis Castellani, Andrew Christensen, Arielle Clark, London Clark, Kota Cloutier, Olivia Correia, Madeline D'Elia, Ryan DiPalma, Lilly Engel, Kayleigh Engle, Michael Farrell, Owen Fielding, Daniel Fields, William Finn, Luke Garcia, Kellen Garvey, Pearl Gaston, Shea Gaughran, Isla Gerrie, Kaelyn Gould, Kailyn Granatowski, Justin Hotchkiss, Nora Hyte, Joseph Jarzabek, Benjamin Kohler, Dolan Krasnitski, Mineth Kulatunga, Ryan Lopes, Kelsey Lynch; Madison McGlynn, Helena McMillan, Madison McMillian, Emma Meleo, Madeleine Mohr, Eva Moren, Paige Ottone, Braelyn Paddock, Bryn Parmelee, Skye Peck, Lillian Pinkleton, Devin-Patrick Preble, Gabriela Proxee, Aubrey Root, Dempsey Russell, John Salafia, Zephra Sanderson, Daniel Sullivan, Kaylan Sullivan, Teagan Sullivan, Logan Supinski, Adelle Sylvester, Nathan Tiano, Empress Valencia, Taylor VanBlaricom, Aubrey Varni, Mya Viveiros, Valery Volchynska, Andrea Wanat, Helena Wisniewski, Sebastian Woodson, Ethan Worrall, Maria Zabroski, Caitlynn Zory.

Grade 7: Carmelo Aresco, Alexis Bailey, Julia Barry, Thomas Bertelsen, Jr., Kylie Bigelow, Anna Bothamley, Mathias Bueno Olascuaga, Noah Cahoon, Savannah Carrington, Amelia Chrin, Julia Clark, Samantha Coleman, Brandon Coppolelli, Kailyn Crowley, Olivia Currier, Noah Cyr, Anja Czaja, Charlotte Daniels, Elijah Dickson-Cotto, Giuliana DonAroma, Taylor Dudek, Cole Eighmy, Lauren English, Hadley Fazekas, Gabriel Finn, Adriana Garcia, Brett Gustavson, Brianna Gustavson, Cailan Hall, Abigail Hambidge, Sean Hargreaves, Holden Hines, Jason Hurt, Grady Johnson, Kaitlynn Johnston, Addison Jump, Shonali Karkun, Eliana Kiernan, Eli Kloepfer, Grace Krug, Emily Le Moine, Caden Lee, Kenzie Lee, Ella Lessard, Alyssa Levenduski; Alexander Maalouf, Trent Mackie, Brenna Mai, Jasmine Martin, Preston McGrath, Hudson Milardo, Noah Miro, Jack Morrell, Leah Murphy, Nethum Nakandala, Mackenzie Napiello, Kaya O'Brien, Kaeden Owen, Addison Perkins, Bryce Pierson, Sadie Pinaud, Ava Ploszay, Travis Raines, Mason Rall, Emily Rawlinson, Ryan Reola, Elise Roy, Jakob Stevens, Katelyn Stiles, Mackenzie Strickland, Brooklyn Thorpe, Logan Thorpe, Avery Trombino, Annabel Tucker, Kaelah Van Wey, Samuel Vitiello, Juliana Ware, Peyton Wentworth, Elizabeth White, Zoey Wilks.

Grade 6: Patrick Adams, Aehan Amith, Alyssa Arnold, Emily Baer, Samuel Bafumi, Landon Baillargeon, Matthew Balamucki, Alana

Banks, Addyson Bear, Brooke Bellemare, Arianna Blancato, Ryder Bonin, Samantha Braga, Chloe Brown, Luke Burr, Jack Busher, Avery Cashin, Garrett Chretien, Georgia Clark, Gabriella Cooke, Kailynn Cruz, Wren Cuthbertson, Samuel D'Amore, Gianna Doll, Olivia Doolittle, Emma Egan, Alexandria Ellison, Corbin Engle, Ryan Flannery, Brayden Flynn, Skylar Ford, Peyton Frucce, Bennett Galovich, Hadley Galovich, Giana Garuti, Hayden Groeper, Connor Guarino, Avery Guild, Derek Guiliano, Meadow Hart, Vitaliy Herasym, Charlotte Hills, Alayna Jensen, AmyAnne Jewart, Aloma Johnson, Alexander Jovel, Emma Kissane, Gianna LaFleur, Lily LaPlant, Tamzin Lemire, Aubrey Lisboa, Landen Lord; Shannon Mahoney, Lila Malinka-Morgan, Nathan McCormick, Aurora McMahon, Thomas McMahon, Molly McWade, Makayla Mikulski, Riley Millett, Mia Milton, Reagan Moquin, Joaquin Moren, Ethan Mortimer, Jackson Moulthroppe, Ama Nakandala, Garrett Neary, Miya Nichols, Patrick Nunes, Hayden O'ryan, Charlotte Palma, Dash Palmer, John Perez, Daniel Peterson, Kayleigh Philbrick, Lachlan Plante, Aoife Pont, Emma Riddell, Tristan Robinson, Sofia Rodrigues, Quinn Rurka, Kendall Sawyers, Alexander Scanlon, Logan Seaman, Jasmy Skinner, Summer Smith, Emma Snyder, Ciarán Stanton, Mason Stino, William Supinski, Adam Tiano, Mason Tierney, JohnPaul Vlaka, Mckayla Wanat, Reid Wilk, Donzel Williams, Gianna Zadroga.

Honors

Grade 8: Raymond Basley IV, Ray Beauparlant, Macie Coleman, Abbie Dipace, Grace Flannery, Madison Grgas-Tucilo, Savannah Groeper, William Haslam, Maja Kieda, April Kleszcz, Brian Kostoss, Alexander Kowalczyk, Julian Kramer, Avery Leitch, Hudson Lombardi, Bryce Lumbr, Kenji Nichols, Cormac Odonez, Peyton Paiva, Brett Paresi, Hunter Pelletier-Gates, Vanessa Perdion, Danielle Riley, Axl Rostosky, Darren Schwedler, Robert Tinney.

Grade 7: Ethan Arcari, Brody Buckey, Luke Davidson, Owen Flannery, Aiden Kelly, Addison Kentzler, Gavin King, Brendan Kissane, Gavin Kloepfer, Addison Marzi, Vincenzo Niosi, Cassandra Owocki, Aidan Poston, Raelyn Saucier, Hunter Steiner.

Grade 6: Joshua Clark, Nora Foster, Brody Ghagan, Maddox Hansen, Aiden Hatcher, Tristan Hickey, Gianna Jarzabek, Cameron Jeffers, Max Jensen, Angelina LaFleur, Joseph Landon, Mark Marozzi, Logan Matte, Nathan Philbrick, Julianne Poe, Maximus Schunk, Lili Shoenfelt, Ashton Shumbo-Jenks, Olivia Violette.

YPCCA to Present *Rent* This Summer

The Young People's Center for Creative Arts is now accepting registrations for its summer theater camp for students in grades 6-12. YPCCA will run Monday through Friday, June 26-July 23, from 8:30 a.m.- 2:45 p.m., at East Hampton High School.

Mornings at the camp are devoted to various workshops, while afternoons are spent in rehearsals for the summer mainstage production – which this year is *Rent*.

For teens interested in a leading role in the show, auditions are held a few weeks before camp. Auditions, however, are not mandatory and students who do not audition will be featured in the ensemble. There are also opportuni-

ties to learn behind-the-scenes skills involved in theater work and many campers work as stage and set crew.

Admission is \$675 per child; additional children in a family are \$625 each. A \$100 deposit is required at registration, and payment in full is due by the first day of camp.

Registration and more information on the camp is available by visiting www.yppcca.org. Scholarships are also available for students with financial need. Email info@ypcca.org for more information.

Boy Scout Tag Sale

Boy Scout Troop 8 will hold its annual Tag Sale Saturday, June 3, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m., at the VFW, 20 North Maple St.

Donations will only be accepted on Friday, June 2, from noon-7:30 p.m., at the VFW.

The following will not be accepted: TVs, computers, printers, textbooks, encyclopedias, couches, cribs, car seats and mattress.

Dean's List

Maxwell J. Karrenberg of East Hampton made the spring 2023 Dean's List at University of Pittsburgh – Greensburg in Pennsylvania.

Resident Graduates

Isabella Iorio of East Hampton recently graduated from Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pa.

No Second Congregational Services

For the month of June, the Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam members and friends will worship at the Haddam Neck Congregational Church, 408 Quarry Rd., Haddam Neck.

All are invited to the 10 a.m. service there.

No worship services will be held at the Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam during June. The church will, however, hold its annual tag/bake sale Saturday, June 10, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam, 52 Middle Haddam Rd.

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A Debt 'Our Nation Can Never Fully Repay'

By Michael Sinkewicz

Colchester residents lined the streets for Sunday's Memorial Day parade, as the community honored military veterans, active service men and women, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Patrons cheered as members of the Connecticut Army National Guard, 1109th TASM-G, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Reserve, U.S. Air Force Reserve, American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Colchester Veterans Honor Guard made their way through the parade route — spanning down Norwich Avenue before turning onto Main Street.

American flags flanked either side of the road and large crowds flocked to the Town Green for one of the most notable days of the year in Colchester.

"Today is a special day," Art Shilosky, who served as Grand Marshal, told the *Rivereast*.

Shilosky has lived in town for 49 years, serving the community in a variety of ways, including as first selectman; he currently serves on the Board of Finance but is slated to retire when his term expires later this year.

He served in the Marine Corps from January 1961 to April 1966 and his family has deep service connections. His son and grandson have been in the service and, he said, "this is for them."

"I was honored when I was asked to be the grand marshal," Shilosky said. "It couldn't be any better."

For Shilosky, the emphasis was on community.

"You see people that you haven't seen in months or years, and wave," he said. "It's a great feeling. This town is a great town."

Colchester, he added, gets these events right. "We're a town of people that care about people," he asserted. "That's why we've been living here 49 years — because of the people. Nothing's perfect, but this is the best you can get."

Residents were treated to a gorgeous afternoon and some were lucky to park their lawn chairs in the heavily coveted shady spots.

Both the Bacon Academy and William J. Johnston Middle School marching bands made their way through town along with numerous other groups.

A convoy of military vehicles cruised by, followed by a procession of Colchester Hayward Company fire engines, including the 1854 Hunneman Hand Engine — a fan favorite.

Of course, swarms of kids representing their little league teams and respected scouting unit marched along the roughly one-mile route.

Diego Sanhueza, a Montville resident, enthusiastically cheered on his 11-year-old son, who was walking with the Chung Do Kwan Taekwondo Academy.

His first parade in Colchester was proving to be memorable.

"It's a beautiful experience when you live in these kind of small towns," Sanhueza said. "It's unique."

Sanhueza emphasized the importance of communities coming together and supporting each other.

"This is how people unite," he expressed. "Gathering is what makes the towns be strong."

As the Taekwondo Academy walked by, his son — showing-off his talent — broke a board.

"That's my kid!" Sanhueza exclaimed.

There were plenty of notable appearances, and awards were presented afterwards. Colchester Youth Lacrosse took home the prize for best marching unit. The Blu Carbon Band — who was performing live on the back of a trailer — won most original float. A parade staple, the Colchester Community Theatre, was recognized as the most patriotic float.

Following the parade, a ceremony was held on the Veterans Green.

The St. Andrew's Choir performed the Star-Spangled Banner to start the program.

The highlight of the ceremony may have been the remarks made by Capt. James DePaola, a USMC tank officer who was on active duty from April 2004 through August 2010. He was deployed to Iraq as a platoon commander in the 2nd Tank Battalion in 2005 and as a company executive officer in 2007. DePaola served in billets of Company Commander in 2nd Tank Battalion and Inspector-Instructor in 4th Tank Battalion.

DePaola stated that the "true heroes" were the people who did not return home.

"They were young, some of them maybe a year out of high school," he said. "They were best of us. There were so many that sacrificed to get us here today."

The cost of freedom, he continued, is painful and people have a choice with how to use that freedom.

He referenced President John F. Kennedy's inaugural address: "Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country." This mindset, he said, can be channeled through everyday life.

"When we choose to use our freedom for good, when we choose to serve our country and our community — we keep their sacrifice alive by allowing this gift of freedom to endure and



Members of the Colchester Hayward Fire Department push along the 1854 Hunneman Hand Engine during Sunday's Memorial Day Parade

pass along to future generations," DePaola said.

For months, he mapped out his speech, a seemingly impossible task.

"It's all about honoring those men and women that sacrificed everything for our freedom," he told the *Rivereast*. "I think we all understand it, but how to put that into words is difficult; you can't express how much it means to us. It's a deep, profound meaning for me and I think a lot of people really carry the true meaning of this day."

The parade represented an opportunity for citizens to honor those who served and community spirit, DePaola said, makes a difference.

"This is what they fought for," he explained. "This is what it's all about; it's about the people and the communities. When we get the chance to come together, I just think it's great."

He expressed that it was "a little overwhelming" at first when he was invited to speak because of the heightened emotions of the day. Up until this year, he said his reflection process has been mostly internal, but the speech allowed him to capture the true meaning of Memorial Day.

"I think every year, you think of the people that you knew and even the people you didn't know because you know a lot of their stories and you feel a connection to them," said DePaola, who's lived in Colchester since 2010.

Later in the ceremony, the choir sang "God Bless America." The names of service members killed in combat were read aloud, as well as the poem "In Flanders Fields."

A rifle salute was done by the Colchester

Honor Guard, followed by the playing of Taps.

The ceremony ended with the Middletown Police Benefit Association Bag Pipe Band playing "Amazing Grace."

In his proclamation, First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos recognized all service members who sacrificed their lives.

"Their embodiment of the American spirit should be honored every day as our nation can never fully repay the debt we owe to these fallen heroes and their families."

Chris Rivers, a member of the Colchester Board of Education, reflected on his own military service; he was deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan.

"In modern life, we're so busy all the time that it's very rare for a community to come together and any moment where a community can come together that's about remembering something as impactful as Memorial Day, is inherently a good thing," he told the *Rivereast*.

Rivers expressed that his personal challenge is that he's lost many friends over the years in combat. During the weekend, it's perfectly normal to barbecue and enjoy the weather, but it's also important to keep the significance of the moment in mind.

"While I'm glad people get together and hang out with friends, I hope that people take a moment somewhere over the course of this weekend and just ask, 'What am I doing to make myself worthy of the sacrifice that other people paid without me even knowing it?'" Rivers said. "And that's how I think we get the true value out of Memorial Day Weekend."

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.

Anniversary Service: All are welcome Sunday, June 4, at 9 a.m., for a special worship service to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of being a Welcoming, Open & Affirming Church. All are

encouraged to wear colorful clothing to show their support.

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.

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.

Parks & Rec News & Notes

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

Card-Making Class: Thursdays, June 15, July 20 and Aug. 17, 6-8 p.m., at Town Hall. Cost: \$15 per class, per person (\$20 for nonresidents).

Gentle Yoga: Online with Facebook Live. For ages 45 and older. The four-week classes are held Mondays from 4:45-5:45 p.m. Choose June 12-July 17 (no class June 19 or July 3), or July 24-Aug. 14. Cost per four-week session: \$35/residents, \$40/non-residents.

SPT Summer Soccer Camp: For ages 5-15. Monday-Friday, June 19-23, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the RecPlex. Cost is \$225/player for full-day (9 a.m.-3 p.m.), and \$150/player for half-day (9 a.m.-noon). There will also be a camp Monday-Friday, July 24-28, from 5-8 p.m., at the RecPlex.

Cost is \$150/player.

Bus Trips: Registration forms are available online. Bus will leave from Town Hall. For full itineraries, see the website. Newport Flower Show: June 25, \$150/person; Niagara Falls: June 26-28, \$679/person double occupancy; Montreal Festivals and Fireworks: July 2-5, \$1,249/person double occupancy; Block Island Breeze: July 18, \$150/person; Spooky Salem: Oct. 21, \$114/person.

Volunteer Opportunities: Parks and Rec. is always looking for volunteers to help with events and programs. Call the office if interested.

Internships: College students looking for an internship in the recreation field can contact Parks and Rec. to set something up. Internships are available any time of the year. Call the office to discuss options.

Community CPR/AED/First Aid Classes: Cost is \$90/person. Class dates: Sept. 19, 6 p.m., Heartsafe CPR & First Aid; Oct. 17, BLS CPR; Nov. 14, 6 p.m., Heartsafe CPR & First Aid.



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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. 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.

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 on how God fits in your life.

Vacation Bible School: Monday-Wednesday, July 24-26, from 9 a.m.-noon. This year’s theme is “Army of God.” Contact the church for more information.

Ahavath Achim News

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

Tuesday: Aggadath class, 6 p.m.; Talmud, 6:30 p.m.; 8 p.m., Kabbalah.

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

Friday night service, 6:30 p.m., Zoom and live; Shabbat morning service, 10 a.m., hybrid in-person and via Zoom.

There are daily Facebook Live classes on Ken

Alter’s Facebook page. Also on the page: “Ask the Rabbi” and the Positive Affirmation of the Day.

Upcoming Events: Friday, June 9: Friday Night Service with Cantor Tami Cherdack Sherman at 6:30 p.m., followed by birthday dinner for Rabbi Ken Alter. RSVP by June 5.

For more information, call 860-537-2809. Office hours are Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, noon-2 p.m.



CBA Awards Scholarships... The Colchester Business Association presented a scholarship check to the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department cadets at the CBA’s May 2 meeting, held at Fresca Bar & Grill. The scholarship will pay for tuition for a cadet to attend the ‘Introduction to Fire Service’ program at the Connecticut Fire Academy. In addition, the CBA also awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to a Bacon Academy graduate. The CBA provides support and assistance to local businesses through dinner meetings and programs; proudly supports local scholarships; organizes the annual ‘Colchester on the Green’ event, the scarecrow decorating contest, a holiday dinner auction and more. To learn more about the CBA, visit www.ColchesterCBA.com. Pictured here, Chuck Maynard, president of the CBA, presents the check to the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department cadets.

Bacon Class of ‘73 Reunion

The Bacon Academy Class of 1973 will conduct its 50th year reunion at St. Joseph’s Polish Club on Saturday, June 17, at 6 p.m. Cost is \$50 per person, payable to Debra Martin.

The reunion committee is presently looking for information on the following classmates: Charles Arnold, Dina Bienvenue, Terry Corn, Robert Giguere, Diana Hula, James Kellogg, Debra Skut, Donald Smith, Wayne Zielinski and Bruce Zuidema

Anyone with questions or information email BaconAcademy73@gmail.com.

Scouts Sought for New Troop

Troop 57 in East Hampton is starting a Scouts BSA Girl Troop for girls from the area – including Colchester. Girls ages 11 to 17 are invited, particularly if they’re interested in hiking, camping, outdoor cooking, learning first aid, fishing, boating and other skills.

There will be an informational table from 9 a.m.-noon on Trails Day, Saturday, June 3, at the Air Line Trail in East Hampton, just east of Cranberry Bog. Follow the signs for a short walk to the Scouts BSA table.

For more information, call Annette Kowalczyk at 860-267-2962 or Eric Buckley at 860-833-7567.

Dean’s List

Aidan McLoughlin of Colchester made the spring 2023 Dean’s List at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass.

McLoughlin is a member of the Class of 2026, majoring in architectural engineering.

Carnival on the Green

The Colchester Lions are holding their annual Carnival on the Green through June 3. Hours are Friday, 6-10 p.m., and Saturday, noon-9 p.m.

There will be food vendors and a variety of rides. Ride bracelets will be available for purchase at carnival for \$30 daily.

Bracelets cannot be purchased, and are not valid, after 5 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets must be purchased to ride on Saturday after 5 p.m.

Land Recording Fraud Alert

The town clerk’s office offers a service designed to help people protect their home from fraudulent recordings.

This program allows users to sign up and receive email alerts whenever a document is recorded in Colchester under their name, such as a deed, mortgage or lien. To access this option, go to colchesterct.gov, click on Town Clerk and then Important Links, or go directly to searchiqs.com/fraudalert.

For more information, call 860-537-7215.

Ukrainian Catholic Church News

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

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

CYSS Summer Trips

It’s time to register for Colchester Youth and Social Services’ summer trips!

The summer trip calendar has been released and features trips revisiting some favorite places and included a few new ones too. Colchester students entering grades 4-12 will have the opportunity to come on trips throughout the season. Copies of the calendar can be found in our office in the Town Hall, on Facebook, the digital backpack, and online at www.colchesterct.gov/yss.

Registration for trips will continue all summer. This is an online-only registration program; there is no in-person registration.

Call CYSS for more information, at 860-537-7255.

Scouting for Girls

Girls age 11-17 are now eligible to join Girl Scouts, and even though Colchester doesn’t have a female troop at this time, there is still an opportunity to participate.

Troop 1028 in Hebron has an active girls troop. It meets Wednesday evenings at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church Parish Hall on Route 85 from 7-8:30 p.m. Call 860-670-8351 to get more information.

Residents Graduate

Colchester residents Cole Gustavsen and Andrew Janus recently graduated from Stonehill College in Easton, Mass.



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Putting Out Flags... Colchester Business Association member Jack Faski and longtime devoted Colchester resident Paul Picard worked quickly to put out flags along the parade route through town on Memorial Day. This has been a tradition for over 20 years.

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, June 5: 8 a.m., Garden Club; 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise with Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mahjong, Bridge; 12:45 p.m., Set Back

Tuesday, June 6: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10:30-11:30 a.m., Summer Safety with Dementia; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle, AARP Installation Lunch at Papa Z's; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Wednesday, June 7: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Walking Group meet-up at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 10 a.m.-noon, Sewing Circle; 1:30 p.m., Cardio Drumming I; 2 p.m., Cardio Drumming II.

Thursday, June 8: 9 a.m., Exercise with Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; noon-3:30 p.m., Senior Benefits Counseling with Ellen; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

Friday, June 9: 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 11 a.m. Yoga; 11:15 a.m., Chatham Health Education Series; 11:45 p.m., Blood Pressure Clinic; 12:30-1:30 p.m., Ice Cream Truck; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Eating Healthy for Bone Health: Tuesday, June 13, 11:15 a.m. TVVCA registered dietician Andrea Deedy will discuss eating to prevent

bone loss. This is a free program; no registration required.

Ham Radio Meeting: Friday, June 16, 2 p.m. All are invited to come to this monthly meeting and learn about the broadcasting site. No registration required.

Party Like It's 1993 & 2013: Friday, June 16, 11 a.m. Ginny Stephenson and Patty Watts are both celebrating milestone work anniversaries, so all are invited to celebrate their dedication and commitment to the center. Refreshments will be served, and there will be a decades trivia game. Registration is required for this free program.

Father's Day Breakfast: Friday, June 10, 9 a.m., sponsored by Apple Rehab. You don't have to be a dad to enjoy this free breakfast of your choice of egg and cheese or bacon, egg and cheese breakfast sandwich served with yogurt, fruit cup, coffee and orange juice served at the senior center. This is a free event for senior center members only; registration is required, and space is limited. Register by June 5.

"Fintastic" Father's Day Luncheon: Wednesday, June 21, 10:45 a.m. Celebrate all the important men in your life, both past and present, with a fishing-themed luncheon. Wear a silly tie or hat. Enjoy a barbecue chicken lunch with baked beans, coleslaw, and strawberry shortcake. Musical entertainment will be provided by the hilarious Elderly Brothers. Register by June 14 or until full. Cost is \$9 per person.

Upcoming Land Trust Events

The Colchester Land Trust has announced the following upcoming events:

Forest-Bathing in the Salmon River State Forest: On CT Trails Day, Sunday, June 4, at 10 a.m., at the Air Line Trail (hairpin parking lot) on Bull Hill Road. CLT board member Andrea Stannard will lead this moderately slow-paced three-mile, adults-only hike. The hike involves the engagement of all senses, with stopping points along the way for re-centering and observation. Call Stannard for directions at 860-

912-0144.

Fairy Solstice Event at the Bulkeley Hill Preserve: Sunday, June 25; time to be announced. CLT board member Liza Sivek leads this all-ages day of walking along the trail, seeking fairy houses and creating forest-friendly fairy homes from found natural materials. Includes a make-and-take fairy house craft.

14-Mile Goodwin Trail: This event has been postponed to the fall.

Troop 13 Seeks Tag Sale Items

Boy Scout Troop 13 of Colchester is seeking tag sale items for their booth at the Colchester (Tag Sale) on the Green, Sunday, June 11.

Donations such as toys, books, holiday decorations, kitchen items, and small household items will be accepted. No clothing, TVs or outdated electronics, please.

Call Gail at 860-212-1743 or email troop13tagsale@gmail.com to arrange for pickup or drop-off of donated items.

Resident Completes Research Project

Colchester resident Jakob Misbach, a member of the class of 2023 majoring in computer science at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), recently completed a senior thesis that is required of all graduating seniors as part of the university's project-based educational experience.

The project, Convert a Windows-based software (BoGL) to a Web-based system, was Misbach's Major Qualifying Project (MQP), one that is usually team-based and often focuses on very specific issues or needs of an organization that has partnered with the university to sponsor the student's work.

Fish & Game Club Steak Night

Colchester Fish & Game Club will have a Steak Night, featuring live music by Vic, on Friday, June 2, at 7 p.m., on Old Amston Road (near the town transfer station). Cost is \$20 per ticket; tickets will be available at the club bar.

Kindergarten Registration

Children who live in town and will be 5 by Jan. 1, 2024, can register for kindergarten for the 2023-24 school year at the Colchester Public Schools website, www.colchesterct.org. Select the "For Families" tab, and then "Registration and Residency."

Complete and submit the pre-enrollment form and then follow the necessary steps outlined on the website and in the email you receive from the central registrar.

Colchester on the Green

The 43rd annual Colchester on the Green event is happening on June 11 (rain date of June 25) and the Colchester Business Association is accepting applications for tag sale booths, craft fair and business booths, nonprofits and entertainment.

The Colchester Business Association organizes this annual event and you can learn more about it and apply for a booth online at www.colchesterCBA.com or by sending an email to info@colchesterctbusiness.com.

Resident Graduates

Colchester resident Jakob Misbach recently graduated with a bachelor's degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass.

Misbach majored in computer science.

Car Wash Fundraiser

The Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Cadets, along with the Connecticut State Police Troop K Explorers, will hold a car wash fundraiser Saturday, June 10, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Colchester Fire Headquarters, 52 Old Harford Rd.

Advisors will assist with this event using foam power sprayers.

Donations will be accepted. For more information, or if you are a business interested in donating lunch for the cadets, call Debi at 860-204-1598.

A Civil War Christmas

St. Andrew Ladies Guild is promoting a new travel opportunity, and all are invited.

A Civil War Christmas will take place in Gettysburg, Pa., from Nov. 29-Dec. 1. Cost: \$555/person double, \$639/person single. Includes: Transportation, hotel, two breakfasts, two dinners, admissions, gratuity for the driver, and escort. Trip protection coverage is strongly recommended.

For full details or to make a reservation, contact Barbara Gozzo at 860-537-0179 or barbgozzo@gmail.com. The trip is first-come, first-served, so early registration is suggested.

Aging in Place

Aging in Place, a vendor fair sponsored by the Colchester Commission on Aging, will be held at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., on Wednesday, June 14, from 4-7 p.m.

Several agencies will be present to provide information on the resources available to help you or a loved one remain in home safely. Vendors present will include services such as homecare, assistive equipment, transportation and more.

School Readiness Program

Colchester's School Readiness Program is offering grant-subsidized preschool for the 2023-24 school year. Spaces are limited. Parent fees are based upon a sliding scale.

There are three options available, including part-day at Colchester Elementary School, school-day at Castle and full-day at Town & Country Early Learning Center.

Colchester residents who want a five-day-a-week program and may find it difficult to pay for preschool are invited to apply. For the application and more information, go to ColchesterC3.org/school-readiness.

Local Author Seeks Volunteers

Robert Tougias is a Colchester resident and author of birding books. His latest book is the *Birder on Berry Lane*, a chronicle of bird life in Colchester over the last 20 years.

Tougias suffered an injury a year ago and is looking for two or three volunteers to help with his recovery so he can get back outside and enjoy and study the town's bird life. Prior to his injury he was discussing with the Colchester Land Trust a project involving erecting nesting boxes for birds whose populations could use a little help. He said he hopes to get back on the trail and continue his work.

Interested volunteers to help Tougias can contact him at roberts90tgias@yahoo.com.

Book and Bake Sale Returns

The Friends of Cragin Memorial Library will hold the Book and Bake Sale at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave. All are invited.

The sale begins Friday, June 2, from 4-7 p.m., with a pre-sale admission of \$5. The sale continues with no admission charge on Saturday, June 3, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, June 4, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; and June 5-7 during regular library hours. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday are the \$5 special days; fill a box or bag for \$5.

The sale will feature books, music, movies, puzzles and games. Baked goods will be individually wrapped for safety. All proceeds benefit programs funded by the Friends. These programs include, but are not limited to, museum passes, adult programs, children's programs, summer reading programs, and other materials to benefit patrons of the library.

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Abundant Life Church News & Notes

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

Sunday Services: Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. and the main service is at 10:30 a.m. There is also Children's Church available for ages 4-11. All are welcome. The main service is also broad-

cast live each week on Facebook. Visit www.facebook.com/groups/abundantlifeCT or look for the church on Facebook. For more information, call the church.

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

Westchester Church News

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

Sunday School meets during the worship service.

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

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

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

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

Bacon Academy Honor Roll

Bacon Academy has announced its honor roll for the third quarter of the 2022-23 school year.

Honors with Distinction

Grade 9: Oakley Adams, Benjamin Buyniski, Emma Cote, Melanie Couture, Ethan Creutz, Bailey Elliot, Kiley Filloramo, Charlotte Galarneau, Liam Goodine, Leyia Hall, Brynn Herboldt, Anna Ibey, Andrew Mertz, Scarlett Morsch, Alyssa Nelson, Sokhano Nguon, Joseph Papale, Ashlyn Perra, Deyaneira Ruiz, Mia Santini, Skyelyn Shoen-Rene, Corinne Toennes, Chase Williams.

Grade 10: Jackson Budrow, Julia Cavaliere, Madison Coons, Edward Hageman, Caitryn Holt, Amber Hostetler, Isha Kansagara, Fiona Lin, Ethan LoVetere, Audrey Palmer, Kevin Reas, Alex Sanchez, Chloe Sanders, Chase Vendrillo, Jason Zingler.

Grade 11: Kayla Balsler, Abigail Belding, Sarah Churchill, Jonathan Curry, Grace Eveleigh, Garrett Geleney, Qingyang Frank Gu, Jessica-Willow Harris, Taylor Herboldt, Leah Hochholzer, Mariam Kasli, Alexa Lebiszczak, Christopher Lusignan, Neil Malloy, Maya Mancuso, Kaylee Marshall, Melinda McKenzie, Tyler Pulse, Leah Putprti, Arlo Waters.

Grade 12: Olivia Adams, Keegan Appleby, Noah Auden, Alexander Blanchette, Megan Braga, Alexander Constant, Maya Crowell, Mackenzie Dean, Andrew Fick, Jillian Filloramo, Grace Gorreck, Neely Hart, Jack Holmes, Michelle Jolly, Robert June, Samantha Kinsey, Anna LeGault, Lillian Litwinko, Vivian Lubinsky, meaghan Malone, Heather Martyszczyk, Theresa Mathieu, Nico Matteucci, Layla Meekins, Ryan Moores, Charlotte Murphy, Gabriella Papale, Christopher Post, Dante Ricci, Connor Tuttle, Michael Vilardo, Mia Voiland, Miranda Waters, Elisabeth Westerfeld, Samantha Willauer, Eric Zeng.

High Honors

Grade 9: Emma Aivaliotis, Riley Anderson, Alyssa Blanchette, Julian Dean, Arianna Elliott, Hurley Fontaine, Joseph Gignac, Emma Gyn-gell, Sasha Koopman, Vera Korzhoff, Madison Levasseur, Evan Lovegrove, Lanie McIllduff, Madeline Meyer, Olivia Meyer, Sawyer Naus, Allen Quinones Jr., Rachem Rumph, Jillian Snow, Abigail Stillwell.

Grade 10: Avery Anderson, Julia Carrington, Alexa Chiarella, Birch Collins, Isabella Falkowski, Elizabeth Gould, Cate Grasso, Abigail Grimm, Ivy Huang, Anthony Liu, Juliana Martino, Charles Rose, Gavin Shkutzko, Veronica Smith, Olivia Sobota, Meghan Zingler

Grade 11: Carolyn Baehr, Allison Bartiss, Mia Belcamino, Madison Brown, McKayleigh Capone, Kevin Claffey, Emyliah Colon, Samantha D'Atri, Emily Ferrigno, Aaron Fidrych, Brady Gould, Sean Jolly, Aisha Kasli, Jace King, Emma Liberty, Johannes Liebenberg, Shannon Lovegrove, Samuel Ringuette, Sebastian Santini, Sarah Skilton, Shea Sweet, Brianna Taskey, Luke Torneo, Patrick Walsh, Dylan Ward, Daniel

Guardian Angels Parish Offering Italy Trip

Guardian Angels Parish – which encompasses St. Andrew Church in Colchester and St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lebanon – is making a pilgrimage to Italy from Oct. 30-Nov. 9.

The Rev. Richard Breton will lead pilgrims through Florence, Assisi, Sorrento, Amalfi Coast, Pompeii and Monte Cassino, ending in Rome. The trip will include an audience with Pope Francis.

Cost is \$3,479, and the trip departs from New York. All admissions, fees and hotel services are included.

For more information, contact Angela Corentin at 860-402-8316 or acorentin1219@gmail.com.

Wozniak.

Grade 12: Odeen Brown, Maddox Burton, Henry Callan, Olivia Carnelli, Paula Castrillon, Kaylie Couch, Andrew Darling, Sophia Falkowski, Grace Galarneau, Camryn Grasso, Rhiannon Higgins, Brandon Losier, Zachary Perreault, Mitchell Rathbone, Brooke Rodgers, Ian Sarget, Audrey Schuck, Kaitlyn Sierra, Reina Spearin, Joselyn Thomson.

Honors

Grade 9: Elijah Banks, Harrison Billiot, Kylie Boerenko, Cody Brault, Maily Bravo, Caroline Brown, Hailey Brown, Ashton Capone, Aiden Colwell, Lucian Dean, Bela Dec, Mikayla Farrington, Emma Fidrych, Julia Gale, Taryn Gray, Mia Hageman, Colby Hlasyszyn, Troy Johnson, Lucas Jones, Caden King, Lily Koziol, Michael Krol, Grayson Mahon, Ian McClain, Alondra Rodriguez-Rivera, Ahviel Rodrigueuez, Lorelei Romasanta, Syris Sciremammano, Delaney Smith, Liana Southworth, George Stula, Liam Sweeney, Cameron Taskey, Colton Waterman.

Grade 10: Preston Belmont, Kaitlyn Brennan, Zoe Carlson, Zachary Carroll, Elias Chiaverini, Callum Cuadro, John Dalton, Weston Dzwonchyk, Joshua Fenton, Jean-Paul Fougereuse, Lillian Healy, Aaron Hosford, Teagan Hubbard, Benjamin Jordan, Timothy Kastrop, Tanner Kundahl, Oliver Markham, Kaitlyn Meltsner, Josiah Nolsoe, Katelyn Novak, Ashley Nowakowski, Emilee Pac, Marissa Parola, Madden Roderick, Dominique Sanchez, Vincent Shi, Sawyer Simone, Kaden Treat, Morgan Tyrrell, Liam Yates.

Grade 11: Logan Brown, Allison Deane, Andrew Ferrigno, Jamie Filbert, Xavier Gudelski, Jara Hester, Theodore Koutsofavas, Madelyn Koziol, Logan Lammey, Josh Little, Jack Mallett, Alexander Mauldin, Sophie Melmed, Morgan O'Connor, Rohan Patel, Eric Prates, Audra Putorti, Chelsea Smith, Lourzinas Sosa Torres, Kiera Stewart, Shane Strzalka, Hunter Walsh, Juan Yanez, Amaya Zavistoski.

Grade 12: George Barrow-Boekweg, Hailey Brault, Cecilia Carnelli, Chloe Coogan, Madison Crook, Emmet Day, Jaden Espejo, Catherine Field, Trinity Georgens, Grace Graff, Luke Grimord, James Gumbs, Isabella Kress, Steven Laliberte, Matthew LaRosa, Ariel Nair, Marissa Nudd, Kalie Purcell, Brendan Reas, Mason Romanowski, Michael Akerman, Lindsey Smith, Jack Stillwell, Megan Swanke, Jordyn Tassmer, Krista Tracey, Michael Viggiani, Brook Vivero.

Students Complete Internships

Residents Sidney Petro and Olivia Zumpano were among the Eastern Connecticut State University students completed internships this spring 2023 semester.

Petro, a senior majoring in social work, who interned with Apple Rehabilitation Center. Zumpano, a junior majoring in communication, interned with the Department of Sustainability's social media accounts.

"I have always had such great experiences in my natural science courses, from the professors who taught them to the material covered," Zumpano said. "When I saw this opportunity that combined my passion for renewable energy and sustainability, with my love for social media, I couldn't pass it up. This opportunity has made my experience at Eastern even better."

Dean's List

Grace Reilly of Colchester made the spring 2023 Dean's List with Distinction at Grove City College in Grove City, Pa.

Reilly is a communication arts major, a 2020 graduate of Saint Bernard High School, and is the daughter of Jennifer Twachtman Bassett from Colchester.



Detergent Drive a Success... On May 19 at the Recreation Complex playground, C3's People Empowering People Class of 2023 held a community event along with a Laundry Detergent Drive to benefit the Colchester Food Bank. The UConn People Empowering People (PEP) program is a personal, family, and civic leadership development program with a community focus. The program culminates with a community group project. Participants work together to design a project that reflects their interests and the needs of the community. Pictured with the collected laundry detergent are Courtney Lewis, Chelsea Long with her daughter Caroline, Candace Michaud, Brittany Goodwin, Christina Stewart, Natalie Holcroft, Robli Bell and Joy Lenares (program facilitator). To learn more about C3 (Collaborative for Colchester's Children) and PEP, visit ColchesterC3.org.

Senior Center Trips

Colchester Senior Center is offering a pair of trips. Call 860-537-3911 for more information. Trips are available to Colchester Senior Center members and their adult guests over the age of 18.

Best of Boston: Tuesday, July 11, departing at 8:15 a.m. See the New England Aquarium, have lunch on your own at Quincy Market, then take a narrated tour of Boston ride aboard the "Duck," an amphibious vehicle that rides on land and becomes a boat in water. Cost is \$138/person. Book your trip at the senior center, 95 Norwich Ave., by June 9.

Block Island Breeze: Tuesday, July 18. Enjoy a ferry ride for the 12-mile trip to the island complete with an enclosed passenger area, cocktail bar, and galley. There will be a guided tour of the island, lunch at the National Hotel (make meal choice in advance),

and time at the beach or gift shops. The bus departs at 8:15 a.m. and returns approximately 8:15 p.m. The cost is \$150 per person.

Maine Lobster – Kennebunkport, Maine: Wednesday, Aug. 16. Have a lobster dinner (or prime rib) at Bull N Claw in Wells, Maine. Then take a guided driving tour of Kennebunk and Kennebunkport. There will be time for shopping. Cost is \$139/person. The bus departs from St Andrew Church at 7:45 a.m. and returns at approximately 8:30 p.m. Sign up before July 14.

Essex Steam Train & Riverboat: Thursday, Aug. 24, 10:15 a.m. Have a three-course lunch on a restored 1920s Pullman Diner as part of this four-hour train and riverboat sightseeing excursion along the Connecticut River. Cost is \$72 per person. Space is very limited. Registration required by Aug. 1.



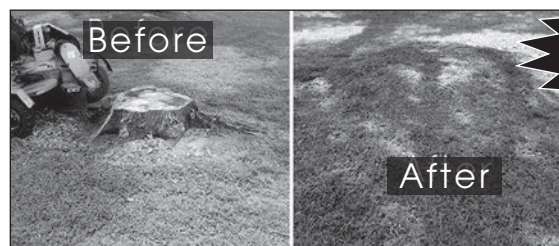
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Learning Knife Safety... BSA Troop 109 members Ben Winicki and Dominic Cusano helped Cub Scouts Drew Martin, Liam Raulerson and Delaney Berta learn how to use pocket knives safely at the scouts' pack meeting on April 20 at Westchester Congregational Church. For more information, email westcongchurch@gmail.com.



Thanks, TNT... The Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Cadets would like to thank Tony Benedict from TNT Heating and Cooling for his donation of \$850 to send a cadet to the Connecticut Fire Academy summer camp. Pictured are the cadets attending the 2023 Introduction to Fire Service camp at the Connecticut Fire academy this summer, with their captain, Gina Didato. From left are Cadet John Marks, Cadet Nick June, Lt. Zerrin Ratzler, Capt. Gina Didato, Tony Benedict with Cassie, and Cadet Garret Geleney.



Resident Graduates... Martin and Michalle Grant of Colchester have announced the graduation of their daughter, Alicia Grant, from the University of Rhode Island. Grant received a bachelor's degree in communicative science disorders and graduated summa cum laude. While at URI, she was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha, URI Saves and the Sign Language Club. She will attend Northeastern University in Boston in the fall, to pursue her master's degree in speech-language pathology.

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Notice for Andover Veterans

The lieutenant governor of Connecticut will host an appreciation ceremony honoring Korean War-era and Vietnam War-era veterans in the Andover community. The ceremony is tentatively scheduled for January 2024. All veterans who served during the Korean War era from June 27, 1950 through Jan. 31, 1955, or in the Vietnam War era from Feb. 28, 1961 through July 1, 1975, are asked to email

their name, branch of service, and years of service to Veterans@andoverct.org, or call Susan Camoroda at 703-472-3209 or John Botti at 860-839-3481. All veterans who served during these two eras are eligible, no matter where they were stationed. Contact the Andover veterans' representatives for more information.

Cemetery Tours

As part of the 175th Anniversary events, on Saturday, June 3, folks will be able to tour two cemeteries in town. This is a free event. Meet at Town Hall by 10:15 a.m. to board the bus that will travel to Olde Andover Burying Ground Cemetery. Lisa Brown, owner of Beyond the Gravestone, which has been restoring OABGC, will share facts about the cemetery. Two members of the committee will speak about those who founded the town and are buried there. The second stop will be at the Townsend Cemetery, a more modern-day area. Sexton Rob Whitcomb will give a tour and speak about the background of the cemetery.

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.

Library Friends Seek Members

The Andover Friends of the Library group is looking for members. Membership spans the January-December calendar year; a donation is all that is required to become a new or renewing member. To join the Friends or renew your membership, visit the library at 355 Route 6, or access the membership form at tinyurl.com/ymfw-z6bk. For more information, email andoverfol@gmail.com or call the library at 860-742-7428.

Vacancies on Boards, Commissions

Any Andover elector interested in serving on the following appointed town boards and commissions for a two-year term starting July 1, 2023 should send a letter of interest to townclerk@andoverct.org: Library Board of Directors, Farmers Market, Conservation Commission, Economic Development Commission, Wetlands Commission, Capital Improvement Plan Committee, Norton Fund Commission, Memorial Day Committee and the Recreation Commission.

President's List

Barbara Knight of Andover made the winter 2023 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

Commission on Aging Vacancy

Any Andover elector interested in serving on the Commission on Aging for a term ending June 30, 2025 should send a letter of interest to: Town of Andover, c/o Commission on Aging Vacancy, 17 School Rd., Andover, CT 06232, or email townclerk@andoverct.org.

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★ Letters cont. from page 9

is used only regarding the states. As much as Sam Prentice wants to deny it, the constitution requires interpretation. If he wants to stick to textualism, how would he rebut the contention that the Supreme Court has no authority to strike down Connecticut gun laws. After all, there is no reference to judicial review in the Constitution. There's no enumerated power to strike down federal laws, let alone state ones. Nothing else in his fanciful letter - or in Ed Kozlowski's perpetual nonsense - is worth rebutting, except to note that Mr. Prentice has clearly not read the actual Mueller report.

Sincerely,
Scott Sauyet - Andover

Mental Health

To the Editor: Mental health in schools has become a growing issue, especially following the pandemic. Increasing student's access to mental health resources in schools will change the lives of many students and teachers. Many students seek mental health support in school, but the ratio of students to school psychologists makes it difficult for students to receive the appropriate help and attention they need. Lack of support in school can negatively impact students' behavior and productivity, which reflects badly on teachers and the school. Delayed identification and treatment of mental illnesses in schools can make it significantly harder for students to improve. Especially after the pandemic, students feel isolated, behind, and helpless. Mental health should no longer be a taboo subject. As a current senior in high school, I have witnessed peers struggle with attendance and behavior in class, but instead of receiving help, they are punished and lose time in the classroom. There is no one to blame, there simply needs to be more conversations about how these issues can be identified and treated. We are given two mental health days a year, but realistically this does not make a difference for students who are genuinely struggling. Schools have options when it comes to providing these resources for students. School-community partnerships will overcome the financial obstacle that hiring more support presents. With these partnerships,

community organizations, like hospitals, can provide clinicians in schools. These clinicians can work directly with students, or help better prepare school counselors and psychologists. By looking into these opportunities, schools can help students feel heard, and potentially provide life changing resources that can positively impact everyone in the community. Sincerely,
Sophia Falkowski - Colchester

Unnecessary Hostility

To the Editor: I am a senior at Bacon Academy and more recently have become more involved in our community. This started with attendance at one of the first meetings with the Board of Finance this budget season. As a student I am more interested in the aspects that affect the schools. Throughout this process I had an understanding with both sides of the argument. I understood the need for the budget increase, more so than someone who isn't a student at this time, because as was stated in the meetings, you don't know what it's like unless you're there. I've watched my teachers scramble to get something as simple as printer paper in their hands, and I've watched as a teacher that most of us have come to know, lost their job. On the other hand, I do have an understanding of how an almost 10% increase in budget is hard to accommodate. I also understand that a tax increase is not ideal for anyone. Ultimately I am on the side of the schools, and education. However, my letter today is less about our schools and more about the attitude that our Board of Finance members take to these meetings. At the meeting I attended, and in the summaries of the meetings written here, there is a certain hostility and 'drama' that isn't necessary. I found their actions immature, and I was sitting in a room full of people who were supposed to be older and wiser than me. I found myself cracking a smile because of the immaturity in the room. The unnecessary accusations and hostility made the already uneasy topic more of a nail-biter. I feel that when you are discussing something that puts jobs, department, and the ease of access to certain opportunities for students at stake, you should at the very least remain respectful. Lillian Litwinko - Colchester

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Andover, Colchester Awarded Summer Program Grants

By Michael Sinkewicz

State Sens. MD Rahman (D-4) and Norm Needleman (D-33) announced grant endowments last week for their districts through the state's Summer Enrichment Program – endowments that will benefit both Andover and Colchester.

Rahman's district — which includes the *Rivereast* town of Andover as well as Bolton, Glastonbury and Manchester — was awarded \$258,992.

Specifically, Andover Elementary School will receive \$42,000 in the summers of 2023 and 2024.

Needleman's district covers 12 towns, including the *Rivereast* communities of Portland, East Hampton and Colchester.

For this grant, the 33rd district received \$665,527, with Colchester's Summer Day Camp taking home \$148,595 in 2023 and \$148,803 in

2024.

The state announced \$13 million in grants provided to 110 organizations across Connecticut for the next two summers.

"Especially after the last few years, children need every opportunity to learn, grow and develop, and I'm proud that these grants will help foster that," Rahman stated. "Children all around our state will have new, hands-on opportunities to learn thanks to these investments in our future. I'm grateful to the governor and the Department of Education for their support of state education services."

Needleman also expressed gratitude for the funding and excitement with the award's implications.

"Local children will have new opportunities to learn and grow, all while having fun, this summer thanks to these important grants," he

stated.

The program is meant to support students whose schooling was impacted by the pandemic; students across the state and country are still trying to recover lost learning.

The grant aims to provide low, or not cost, enrichment programs during the summer, including summer camps and childcare centers. Communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic were given priority support.

Andover Superintendent of Schools Valerie Bruneau told the *Rivereast* that the grant funding will allow the district to do "a ton of stuff."

The Andover school system will partner with Community Organized & Operated Latch Key [COOL], a licensed child care center in Andover, to execute the programing.

The money allows the school to expand its programs that are already offered during the school year throughout the entire summer.

A variety of activities will be provided, from swim lessons to American Sign Language instruction.

"In a nutshell, it's an expansion of our enrichment activities," Bruneau said. "And no kid will be turned away."

Because the grant was intended to target communities negatively affected by the pandemic, the results of the grant will unequivocally help reverse those side effects and by-products.

During the pandemic, Bruneau explained, many students were essentially locked inside, often glued to their devices. Inherently, these summer activities are geared away from that mindset, instead focusing on "extra socializing."

"It's really catching kids up on the un-measurable stuff," she expressed. "Families are thrilled for the summer. It's fantastic."

The reality, Bruneau continued, is that with strict budget realities, school districts and municipalities often cannot earmark funds for the "fun" things.

When money comes in from an external source and covers those types of programs, the impact on the community can be immense.

"It makes for happier kids," she asserted. "This is great."

In January, Andover was also awarded an American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) grant of \$221,575 for the district's after-school program.

With those funds covering the remainder of this academic year from January-June, as well as the entire 2023-24 school year, along with the two summers covered through the enrichment grant, Andover is in great shape for the foreseeable future.

Bruneau works diligently on the grants, and she said the payoff is always worth the effort.

Program on Midway Battle

In conjunction with the Saxton B. Little Free Library of Columbia and the Canterbury Public Library, Andover Public Library will host a Zoom program Tuesday, June 6, at 7 p.m.

This program is presented by the National Museum of the American Sailor and the topic is "The Battle Of Midway." Known as the U.S. Navy's greatest victory, the three day Battle of Midway (June 4-7, 1942) effectively turned the tide for the Allies during the War in the Pacific, the library said. This program will provide an

overview of the decisive battle and explore the far-reaching impact of that American victory.

Pre-registration is required. Email Cait at corlomoski@columbiactlibrary.org to get the Zoom code to watch from home. If there is enough interest, Andover Public Library will set up a viewing screen at the library, located at 355 Route 6, for in-person viewing.

Call Andover Public Library for more information at 860-742-7428.

Five Organizations Receive Local Grants

The Andover Greater Together Community Fund has awarded its third round of financial grants to local nonprofit organizations that benefit Andover residents. The total amount of grants range from \$750 to \$5,000.

In 2019, the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving created funds in 29 Hartford area towns with a \$100,000 grant to each community. Half of the money is in the form of an endowed fund while the other half, \$50,000, is available for immediate use. Each town appointed an all-volunteer advisory committee of residents to administer the grant process and consider applications for grant funding from local nonprofits for projects that serve and benefit their town residents.

Current members of the Andover Advi-

sory Committee are: Marianella Chalfant (Co-Chair), Kirsten Erlandsen, Jody Gross, Suzanne Heis (Co-Chair), Amy March, William Penn, Michele Duluco, Lori LaCroix, Stewart (Chip) Ware.

This year, grant applications were accepted until March, and grants were awarded earlier this month. Grants went to:

Andover Friends of the Library – \$750 for Nature Photography program; Latchkey Summer Camp – \$5,000 for CDL training; Norton Children's Fund Commission – \$1,000 for a scholarship for an Andover high school senior; AHM – \$1,500 for the Andover CHORES program; Andover Cub Scout Troop 124 – \$1,500 for uniforms.

Saturday Storytime

The next session of Saturday Storytime at Andover Public Library, 355 Route 6, will be held on Saturday, June 3, at 10:30 a.m.

During this session, Library Friend Ellen Repay will read a story and there will be a craft – both of which relate to the theme of Flag Day. Pre-registration is not necessary, but for planning purposes, it's appreciated.

For more information, call 860-742-7428.

Mercy Honor Roll

Andover resident Caitlyn Russo, a sophomore, made Highest Honors on the Mercy High School for the third quarter of the 2022-23 school year.

Farmers Markets Start June 14

The Andover Farmers Market will take place the second Wednesday of each month, starting June 14, from 4-7 p.m., along Route 6 at the First Congregational Church.

There will be several farmers, bakers, a food truck and music. The markets are held outside.

The final market will be Saturday, Nov. 4, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and will include crafters.

175th Birthday Library Program

Andover Public Library presents a program in celebration of Andover 175th birthday Saturday, June 10, at 2 p.m.

Town Historian Scott Yeomans and mural artist Sara Walling will be at the library to present "All About the Andover Mural." The event will be held outside, rain or shine.

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



Here's Lois!... Lois Popoff, the eldest active senior in Andover, is shown here on Memorial Day riding in an antique car driven by George Knox in honor of the 175th Anniversary of Andover.

Funky Monkey Artisan Fair

Over AndOver Barntique and Scott's Tree Farm, owned by the Fitch Family Farm, are hosting another Funky Monkey Artisan Fair Saturday, June 3, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

There will be over 25 vendors offering items ranging from jewelry to furniture, glass-art, salvage finds, rustic barn treasures, reclaimed woodworks, lighting & functional art, pottery, candles, mixed media, repurposed fabric goods, handbags, to cookie & candy vendors. There will be two food trucks: Skyscraper

Sandwiches and Square Peg Pizza.

The fair will take place from Over AndOver's store location to Scott's Tree Farm with lots of space to park at 11 Bunker Hill Rd. There is an open trail through the tree farm that connects both ends of the fair, so park once and walk.

The show will go on in light rain. Heavy rain date is Sunday, June 4, so follow @overandover on Instagram or Facebook for updates.

Garden Tour and Plant Sale

As part of the Town of Andover's 175th Anniversary Celebration, Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6, will hold a Garden Tour and Plant Sale Saturday, June 10, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Four Andover area gardens will be open to the public. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and include guided tours of the gardens as well as coffee and breakfast pastries at the church prior to the tour. The plant sale, featuring perennials, will be held from 9 a.m.-noon at the church. The church will also be offering a tag sale of gardening-related items and equipment.

Tickets for the Garden Tour are available at Andover Landscaping and OverAndOver, or by calling the church at 860-742-7696.

Donations Sought: Tag sale organizers are looking for garden-related donations for the sale – including hand tools, pots, hanging baskets, pruners, statues, wind chimes, fountains and birdhouses. The church will begin accepting donations for this sale on Wednesday, May 31, at 3:30 p.m. Also, if you have yard stuff you want to sell you can rent a space on the lawn for \$20. Call the church at 860-742-7696 for more information or to rent a space.

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, 6/6; Manchester, 6/13.

Booster Clinic: Friday, June 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Town Hall.

Bus Trip to Cemetery: Bus available for the Saturday, June 3, trip to the Olde Andover Burying Grounds to hear Lisa Cornell talk about the history of restoring stones for the cemetery. Next stop is Townsend Cemetery and lastly stop at Andover Congregational Church Cemetery. Call Palazzi with questions.

PZC Public Hearing: Wednesday, June 7, at 7 p.m., there will be a public hearing for the Planning & Zoning Commission. The commission will talk about the Community Building and obtaining a permit to move forward. It is imperative that the seniors attend this meeting and a bus will pick you up at your house. Call Palazzi for a ride.

Senior Trips: Rose trip to Elizabeth Park

with lunch at Chili's, 6/9; train/boat ride to Gillette Castle, 6/30; Main Moose, 7/14 and 8/11. Sign up with Carol Lee at 860-742-0188 ext. 2.

Rides to Food Pantry: The bus is now available for the Food Pantry on Mondays at 5 p.m. and for the Wednesday Foodshare or food pantry – all of which take place at Andover Congregational Church.

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

Rides to Farmers Market: The market opens Wednesday, June 14, from 4-7 p.m., at the Congregational Church. Call Palazzi for a ride.

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.

Congregational Church News

Andover Congregational Church, UCC, located at 359 Route 6, invites all ages to worship Sundays at 10 a.m. The service also streams live on the church's Facebook page (First Congregational Church, Andover, CT). For more information, call the church office at 860-742-7696, email andoverctchurch@gmail.com or visit www.andoverctchurch.org.

Children's Church: Sunday school is provided.

Food Pantry: Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Bring your own bags. The **Foodshare Van** comes to the church every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is June 7. The senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is June 14.

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

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

175th Anniversary Events

Several events have been planned for the Andover 175th Anniversary. Offerings include:

Monday, May 29: Memorial Day Parade, 9 a.m.

Sunday, June 4: Doris Chamberlain Trail Hike, 9-11 a.m.; Saturday, June 10: Andover Library Mural Lecture, 2-3 p.m.

Saturday, June 17: Pollinator Garden Tour, 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Saturday, June 24: Finale – Andover Lake BBQ Beach Party, at a time to be determined.

For more information, search for "Andover CT 175th Anniversary" on Facebook.

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Junior Bakers... The Junior Youth Group at the Marlborough Congregational Church recently held a bake sale with bake sale donations for Marlborough Food Bank and American Lab Rescue in Willington. From left are Charlotte Bunting, Genevieve Kukich and Amelia Smith.

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday Worship and Sunday School at the Congregational Church of Marlborough, United Church of Christ, 35 South Main St., is at 10 a.m. Worship is streamed every Sunday at mcc.marlconchurch.org and recorded for later viewing at the website. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided downstairs in the nursery but children are always welcome at the worship service.

June 4: Worship will be led by Christian Education and Junior Youth Director Gwen Lawson.

June 11: Music Appreciation Sunday, with music from various groups including the bell choir, chancel choir, and saxophonist Bruce Phelps, followed by a reception in the church lounge. The Connecticut Valley Field Music drum and fife will provide a musical welcome as parishioners arrive for worship.

The 276th Annual Program Meeting will be held in the meetinghouse on June 11, following the Sunday service.

Outreach: The church supports a variety of mission projects. Second quarter mission-giving will go to AHM Mental Health Fund. 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 for Marlborough Food Bank clients usually on the last Sunday of every month (except July and August). Once a month the youth groups prepare and serve a meal to residents at Florence Lord Housing. Once in May and November, the church sponsors the evening meal at the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen in Middletown.

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: Through June 24, the shop will feature its annual year-end 50% off sale of handbags, totes, jewelry, framed artwork and Christmas items. The 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 email office@marlconchurch.org.

Fife and Drum Corps Accepting New Members

The Marlborough Jr. Ancient Fife and Drum Corps is now recruiting children between the ages of 8 and 17 to join the ranks.

Members learn to march and play the fife, snare drum or bass drum from our very capable instructors, free of charge. Members have opportunities to travel throughout New England while the Corps performs at parades, musters and other events. This year's performance

schedule includes performances at Minuteman National Park in Massachusetts, Fort McClary in Kittery, Maine, and Fort Griswold in Groton.

The Marlborough Jr. Ancients meet every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. for musical instruction and marching practice. For more information, visit www.MarlboroughJrAncients.com or email MarlboroughJrAncients@gmail.com.

'Horsepower' Car Show

All are invited to the first-ever car show at The Farm at Carter Hill, 86 E. Hampton Rd., Marlborough, on Sunday, June 11, to benefit the horses of the CT Draft Horse Rescue. Car entries must arrive between 9 and 11 a.m., and general admission starts at 11 a.m.

Car entry tickets and general admission tickets are available at tinyurl.com/3xk7yz5b. Cash entries are available during the day of the event. Awards will be presented at 2:30 p.m. There will be live music by local band Beth and the Boys.

Food and drinks will be available for purchase. There will be raffles and games, trophy awards and more.

The CDHR is a nonprofit organization located in East Hampton, 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.org or www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue, or email ctdraftrescue@aol.com.

Parks and Rec Programs

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

Adult Program: Zumba: Thursdays through June 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the Marlborough Elementary School gym. Fee: \$50/residents, \$55/non-residents, or \$12 drop-in fee each week.

Trips: Boston Red Sox vs. New York Yankees Bus Trip: Saturday, June 10, at 7:35 p.m., at Yankee Stadium. Fee: \$209. Bus departs Putnam park and ride in Glastonbury at 3 p.m. and returns at around 1 a.m.

Sip and Shop Bus Tour: Saturday, June 17. Trip includes a charter bus, a wine-tasting at Brotherhood Winery in New York, lunch, shopping at Woodbury Commons Premium Outlets (over 220 stores), and games and prizes on the bus. Bus departs Putnam park and ride in Glastonbury at 3 p.m., and returns at 1 a.m. Fee: \$80.

Youth Programs: Family Sewing - Beach Tote: Saturday, June 10, 10-11:30 a.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. For ages 8 and up. Students will learn the basics of machine operation, and create and take home a beach tote. All supplies are included. Fee: \$48/resident, \$53/non-resident.

Netto Summer Day Camp: For grades K-7. Weekly sessions run June 19-Aug. 11, at Blish Park. There will be camp games, arts & crafts, swimming, sports, field trips and special events. All campers are supervised by counselors and lifeguards trained in CPR/First Aid. Fee per week: \$175/residents, \$185/non-residents.

Swim Lessons: Lessons will begin the week of June 20, at Blish Park. All lesson levels are offered. Fee: \$65/residents, \$70/non-residents.

Kids Summer Beach Yoga Nights: For ages 3-6. Meets biweekly on Wednesdays, June 21-Aug. 16, 5:30-6:15 p.m., at Blish Park. Each week, children and their parents/guardians will embark on a "yoga adventure" centered around movement, play and mindfulness. Fee: \$60/residents, \$65/non-residents, or a \$15 per week drop-in fee.

Skyhawks Basketball Camp: June 26-30. Ages 5 & 6 are 9 a.m.-noon, and fee is \$139/residents, \$144/non-residents. Ages 7-12 are 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and fee is \$179/resident, \$184/non-resident.

Horseback Riding Lessons: For ages 5 and up. Days and times are flexible. Fee for four lessons: \$200/residents, \$205/non-residents.

Acrylic Landscape Painting: July 5 and 6, 9 a.m.-noon, at Marlborough Elementary School, for grades 3-6. Students will learn techniques to guide them through a landscape painting on canvas. Fee: \$90/resident, \$95/non-resident.

Skyhawks (Soccer, Baseball and Basketball): July 5-7, 9 a.m.-noon, at Blish Park. Mini-Hawk is for ages 4-6, and Multi-Sport is for ages 7-10. Fee: \$115/residents, \$120/non-residents.

Lego: July 10-14, at MES. Ninjaneering, for ages 5-7, is 8:30-11:30 a.m., and Ninjaneering Masters, for ages 8-12, is noon-3 p.m. Fee: \$145/resident, \$150/non-resident.

Tiny Twirlers Dance Class: For ages 2-3 with caregiver. Tuesdays, July 10-Aug. 19, 6-6:30 p.m., or Thursdays, July 12-Aug. 21, 9-9:30 a.m. Class held at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Fee: \$78.

Other Dance Classes: All held Tuesdays, July 10-Aug. 19, at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Fee: \$108. Offerings are: Funky Tumblers, for ages 4-7, 6:30-7 p.m.; Sparkling Spinners, for ages 3-5, 9:30-10 a.m. or 4:30-5 p.m.; Hip Hop Dance Class, for ages 9 and up, 7:15-8 p.m.; Dazzling Dancers (Tap), for ages 3-5, 10-10:30 a.m. or 5-5:30 p.m.

Watercolor Painting: For grades 3-6. July 11-13, 9-11 a.m., at MES. Fee: \$90/resident, \$95/non-resident.

Peewee Craft Corner: For grades 1 and 2. July 11-13, noon-1:30 p.m., at MES. Cost: \$55/resident, \$60/non-resident.

Openings on Commissions

The Marlborough Board of Selectmen is looking for people to join one of the following commissions:

Economic and Community Development alternate, Water Pollution Control Authority regular seat plus two alternates. The application form can be accessed from our website at www.marlboroughct.net; the link is at the bottom of the page on the left-hand side.

For more information about any of these commissions, email CEO@marlborough.ct.net.

Resident Graduates

Noah Dubitzky of Marlborough recently graduated magna cum laude from Southern New Hampshire University, with a degree in computer science.

Dean's List

Jacqueline Killea of Marlborough made the winter 2023 Dean's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

President's List

Alexander Demosthenous of Marlborough made the spring 2023 President's List at Bentley University in Waltham, Mass.

Discovery Zone learning Center



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Officials, Locals Honor Those That Gave All

By Jack Lakowsky

On Monday, the town turned out in a big way to support its military veterans, both living and passed, with a short parade from Marlboro Cemetery to the green by Town Hall, where the traditional wreath was laid.

Local and state officials, the local American Legion (which organized the parade), Marlborough emergency services, local scout troops and marching bands waved, trumpeted, and shouted their thanks to local servicemembers.

Marlborough has a highly active community of veterans, and the town has recently made moves to recognize them. Local selectperson and former first selectman Greg Lowrey is a military veteran. The late Ted May, a Vietnam vet who died of complications from exposure to Agent Orange, was highly active in town.

Just before the parade, Marlborough resident and Vietnam vet Bob Hamilton briefly spoke with the *Rivereast*, saying that in Vietnam, he lost "10 brothers in 11 months, from 1970 to '1971."

While they didn't serve personally, Board of Selectmen interim chair Deb Bourbeau and interim vice chair Betty O'Brien said they have known many that served – those that survived, and those that sadly did not.

Bourbeau had three uncles fight in World War II, and her husband served in the Air Force.

"Anybody that serves deserves to be honored," said Bourbeau. "Whether they passed or not. These were young boys just starting their lives and they get called away. So many were lost be-

cause of that."

Bourbeau said in her hometown of Canaan, she recognizes far too many names on its Vietnam War memorial.

"There were names of kids I started kindergarten with," said Bourbeau.

Like many, O'Brien came of age during Vietnam, and remembers a tense, confrontational time.

"It was a sad time," she said. "Sad, sad, sad." O'Brien said the least people can do is show vets appreciation for their sacrifices.

Living up the somber spirits were local bands. Marlborough-based CT Valley Field Music director Jim Clark said the band's performed the parade all 35 years it's been around.

"It's a small-town parade that really feels like a small-town parade," said Clark.

Freshman state Rep. Steve Weir (R-55) attended the parade, telling the *Rivereast* that while he has not personally served or had close family that did, he feels he can now advocate for veterans' needs with his new, prominent position.

State Sen. Cathy Osten (D-19) was also there. Osten served in the U.S. Army. She was on her fourth parade of the day.

"I've been looking at work by federal government to bring people home," said Osten, the government has brought home 1,500 men and women home in the last several years. She said she's thinking about service people both home and still abroad.

Events like parades give local kids a chance to showcase their talents, and this year, the Marl-



On Memorial Day, residents and officials, instead of barbecuing and hitting the beach on what was a day of sunshine and blue skies, gathered in town to honor, mourn and celebrate those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Pictured here are men and women in uniform marching proudly down North Main Street.

borough Fire and Drum Corps, a kids' group, did not disappoint.

Director Wayne Seidel, who's been with the group since he was a kid and has marched the parade for over 30 years, said this is just the start to a big year for the local band (which is currently recruiting, he said).

"This'll be a wonderful summer of good things," he said. "These kids are extremely talented."

Locals should watch out for September, when the Marlborough Muster, once a staple for forty years, will return after more than a decade of absence.

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, June 5: Free Bread and Bakery Goods, 10 a.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Setback or a card game of choice, 1-4 p.m.; Congregate Meal, Noon. Menu: 100% fruit punch juice, smothered chicken, Lyonnaise potatoes, spinach, 100% white wheat bread, wholegrain fruit bar.

Tuesday, June 6: Grocery Shopping, 8:30 a.m.-noon; free bread and bakery goods, 10 a.m.; Meals-on-Wheels, noon.

Wednesday, June 7: Not Just Quilters, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: roasted pork loin with gravy, rice pilaf, California-blend vegetables, wheat bread, Mandarin orange cup; setback, 1-4 p.m.; Sophisticated Ladies, 5-6:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 8: Tai Chi, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Meals-on-Wheels, noon.

Friday, June 9: Assistance, 8-Ball Pool, Mahjong Playing Cards, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: mild beef and bean chili, baked potato, sliced carrots, oatnut bread, 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, Tuesday and Thursday. Transportation available to the senior center, shopping, and medical and non-medical appointments. A 36-hour advance registration is required. Masks are also required, as well as appropriate distancing.

Food Bank: Located at 3 Willhenger Drive (860-295-6008), the food bank is open Tuesdays 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 physically challenged individuals is available; call the senior center for a ride.

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 richmond-programs@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. The program will be held in the upstairs meeting room unless an accessibility accommodation is needed.

Pottery Paint Night Fundraiser: The Friends of the Richmond Memorial Library will host this fundraiser at Glazed Pottery Painting and Art Studio (60 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury) on Thursday, June 8, from 6-9 p.m. A percentage of the sales will go to Richmond Memorial Library. All ages welcome. Advance registration is required.

Short Books for Long Days: This new book club will next meet Monday, June 26, from 7-8 p.m., outside of the library (the club will be moved indoors if weather necessitates). Discussed will be Seanan McGuire's *Every Heart a Doorway*.

Mushroom Identification: Tuesday, June 9, at 6:30 p.m. The 3 Foragers will share some of the secrets of the fungal world and teach people how to safely identify wild mushrooms using various available tools and techniques.

Wonderbook Chapter Books: The library has recently purchase approximately a dozen Wonderbook chapter books. These books are designed for 8- to 12-year-olds and have been

an item requested by several families in town.

Birds of Prey Night and Day: Horizon Wings Raptor Rehabilitation and Education will return Tuesday, June 27, at 4:30 p.m. Explore the world of raptors who share the same habitat but are active at different times – day and night. This family-friendly program will be held outdoors but may move to the senior center. Registration is required.

Pajama Storytime with Yoga: Thursday, July 6, 6:30 p.m. Children of all ages are invited to enjoy a couple stories and then practice yoga. Wear comfy pajamas and bring your favorite stuffed animal or blankie. Registration is required.

Tween and Teen Crafters Club: Mondays, June 5 and 12, 4 p.m. Tweens and teens (ages 10 and up) are invited to come hang out and create something awesome. Bring a craft project you're working on, or there will be one that day you can make. Registration recommended but not required.

Input Sought on Food Security

The Marlborough Sustainable CT Team has been formed to examine the town's sustainability and resiliency policies and to engage the community in conversations that lead to new community actions that promote what the team calls "a more inclusive and sustainable Marlborough."

As part of this effort, the Marlborough Sustainable Team is seeking community input on food security. The team requests that residents fill out a short survey available on the town website (www.marlbroughct.net), and copies are available at the Richmond Memorial

Library, Senior Center, and Town Hall.

Drop your surveys off by June 16 in the survey return box in the foyer of Town Hall. You can also mail them to Land Use Office, P.O. Box 29, Marlborough CT 06447.

The Marlborough Sustainable Team members are citizen volunteers working with the Marlborough Planning Commission to achieve state certification. If interested in joining the team, email Peter Hughes, Planning & Development director, at planner@marlbroughct.net, or call 860-295-6202.

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. Heather Mancini is church secretary and can be reached at 860-295-0001; hours are Monday-Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. People are asked to call before heading over or connect via email at stjohnfisher30@yahoo.com.

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Sundays, 4-5 p.m.

Weekly Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays, 3-3:30 p.m., or by appointment

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. Sandwich-making and collection is the last Thursday of the month for St. Vincent de Paul in Middletown. The Community Garden is once again breaking ground to benefit Marlborough Food Bank and supply fresh produce in season. Garden 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 other programs or adult faith formation, youth group, RCIA, Knights of Columbus or other ministries, call the office, visit www.stjfcchurch.org, or look for the church on Facebook (Saint John Fisher Roman Catholic Church).

President's List

Scott Mansfield of Marlborough made the winter 2023 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

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Obituaries

Manchester

**Sherry L. Thompson
Celebration of Life**

A Celebration of Life for Sherry Lord Thompson of Centreville, Ala., formerly of Manchester, will be held Saturday, June 10, at North United Methodist Church, 300 Parker St., Manchester. A visitation with family will be held from 10-11 a.m., followed by a service from 11 a.m.-noon.

Thompson, beloved wife, mother, neighbor and friend, passed from this life to be with her Lord on Monday, Dec. 5, 2022, at the age of 73. She leaves husband, Jonathan, of Centreville, Ala.; daughter, Dorothy, of Manchester; and sons Michael, of Manchester, and Christopher, of North Hollywood, Calif.

Colchester

Lynn Starkweather

Lynn Starkweather passed away at her home in Colchester Saturday, May 13, at the age of 73. A native New Yorker with family roots in Colchester, Lynn was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Oct. 2, 1949, daughter of the late Donald and Esther (Nelkin) Starkweather. At the time of her passing, Lynn was actively employed as a coordinator at Citigroup's Center for Culture Art and Archives Collections in Manhattan, a position that she enjoyed immensely.



A lifelong supporter of the arts and city culture, Lynn enjoyed many years of attending Broadway and off-Broadway plays, dance company performances, art galleries, museums and countless restaurants in the city. She was prolific in crocheting, especially afghan blankets, and put her talents to use as a long-time participant in Citi Volunteers by donating many handmade pieces to patients in palliative care. Quiet, but astute and witty, Lynn was also a wordsmith and devotee of Scrabble and NY Times word puzzles.

Lynn leaves a sister, Caryl Estes (and Sonny King) of Maine; a brother, Stephen Starkweather (and wife Joan) of New Jersey; nieces, Christine Burton (and James Moffa) of Connecticut, Karyn Estes-Lewis (and husband Ryan) of Maine and Stacy Gradaille of Florida; nephews, John Estes (and wife Susan) of New York and Scott Starkweather of Florida; many beloved cousins, extended family members and friends, especially her cousin Lynda Verrill (and husband Richard) of Colchester.

A graveside funeral service will be held Saturday, June 10, at 11 a.m., at Linwood Cemetery, Linwood Avenue in Colchester.

Donations in Lynn's memory may be made to organizations she supported: the American Cancer Society at donate.cancer.org; the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society at givenow.lls.org; St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at www.stjude.org; the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department at 52 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, CT 06415; and the ASPCA at www.aspc.org or other charitable organization for the humane rescue and treatment of animals.

The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home has been entrusted with care of arrangements. To sign the online guestbook or share a memory of Lynn, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton

William Chapman Rand

William (Bill) Chapman Rand, 93, of Old Saybrook, husband of his late wife Gail Marie Rand, passed away peacefully Saturday, May 27, surrounded by his loving family during his final days. Born in Old Town, Maine, on Jan. 12, 1930, he retired from Pratt & Whitney after 40 years of dedicated employment. Bill will be remembered for the great man he was and the positive impact he had on his family and friends.



Bill took great pride in the fact he grew up in Maine. He played basketball, football, and ran track while attending Old Town schools. It was after graduating from school that Bill met Gail in Old Town and moved to Hartford. They married in 1951 and he was proud to have loved and admired her for the next 70 years. Eventually, he settled his family in East Hampton where they raised their five children. During the years that followed, his family grew to include 14 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Bill took great pleasure in making his family laugh, sharing his many treasures with them, and providing his unconditional love. He spent endless hours tinkering in his yard and creating "Billy Brook Park" behind his home for all to enjoy. He loved playing golf, horseshoes, Set-back, and riding his bike backwards to entertain the neighborhood children. He loved old coins and accumulated quite the collection throughout the years.

Bill and Gail enjoyed traveling to many places around the country and each year would return to Maine for a family vacation. They eventually retired to Old Saybrook where they relaxed and enjoyed magnificent views of Long Island Sound. Bill loved to visit with his friends while touring the neighborhood on his golf cart. He was an avid fan of the UConn women's basketball team, the New York Yankees, and the New York Knicks.

Bill is survived by his five children: Kathleen Erlandson, Valerie Stockburger (Donald), Wayne Rand (Maria), Mary Beth Julian (Daniel), and Cheryl Rand; 13 grandchildren: Jason Stockburger, David Erlandson, Scott Erlandson, Melanie Warren, Meaghan Rand, Steven Rand, Ashley Tuchmann, Taylor Rand, Arden Rand, Emilie Ackerman, Olivia Revicki, Jenna Julian, Ally Julian; 12 great-grandchildren: Talan and Kayl Stockburger, Wade and Keily Erlandson, Neilly, Wyatt and Bridey Erlandson, Grady and Mason Warren, Grayson Nix, Freya and Faryn Tuchmann; sisters Doris Dearing and Bertrice Smith; brother-in-law, Joseph Ferraro; sister-in-law, Nadia Rand; several nieces and nephews; and longtime friends Michael and Theresa Brady.

Bill was predeceased by his father and mother, Warren and Madeline Rand; granddaughter, Anita Ackerman; brothers, James and Warren Rand; and sisters, Carolyn Coughlin and Barbara Walsh.

A private burial has been arranged for the family. A public reception and greeting of the family will be held at 12 Billow Rd., Old Saybrook, today, Friday, June 2, from 4-6 p.m. In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. To leave online condolences, please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

East Hampton

John Edward "Poppy" Dash

John Edward Dash, affectionately known as "Poppy," peacefully passed away Friday, May 26, surrounded by his loving family. He was a devoted husband, cherished father, proud grandfather, and adored great-grandfather. Poppy was born on Feb. 15, 1933, in Baldwin, N.Y., to the late Edward and Helen Dash.



John's commitment to his Catholic faith extended beyond his role as a faithful parishioner. He was a proud member of the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree. Through his involvement in this prominent fraternal organization, Poppy demonstrated his unwavering dedication to serving the church, community, and those in need. His commitment to the principles of unity, charity, fraternity, and patriotism was an inspiration to his fellow Knights and the community.

John was a proud Marine and served in Okinawa as a captain in the 3rd Marine division, D Co 3rd MTBn.

John's love for his family was boundless. He shared a profound bond with his wife, Jeannine Dash, celebrating nearly five decades of marriage. Their love was a testament to the strength of their commitment, providing a solid foundation for their family and a shining example of enduring love.

John's role as a father was marked by guidance, wisdom, and unwavering support. His sons, Kenneth and Noel, were the pride and joy of his life, and he instilled in them his values. His daughter in-law Dawn was truly a daughter to him, as she dedicated the last five years to him.

Poppy's legacy lives on through his grandchildren: Alexandra, Gregory, Kaitlyn, Kenneth, Christopher, Natalie, and Matthew. Their lives were enriched by his love and guidance. His great-grandchildren, Jack and Cameron, brought additional joy and laughter to his life, creating cherished memories that will be treasured for generations.

Poppy's dedication to his family were an extension of his deep-rooted Catholic faith. He found solace, strength, and spiritual nourishment through his relationship with God and his active participation in St. Patrick's Church.

John had a wide range of interests and hobbies. He enjoyed attending East Hampton's sports events, supporting the local teams with his characteristic enthusiasm. Whether it was baseball, soccer or basketball, his presence in the stands brought a sense of community and encouragement to the athletes.

John Edward Dash leaves behind a legacy of love, sacrifice, and unwavering faith. He will be remembered as a true gentleman, a role model, and a source of strength to all who had the privilege of knowing him. Although his physical presence will be deeply missed, his memory will continue to inspire and guide his family, friends, and the community he served.

A funeral service to honor and celebrate John's life will be held at St. Patrick's Church at 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 7. Family, friends, fellow Knights of Columbus members, and community members are invited to gather and support one another during this time of remembrance.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to a charity of your choice in John's name. By extending acts of kindness and generosity, we honor Poppy's legacy of giving and continue the positive impact he made on the lives of others.

Rest in eternal peace, John Edward Dash. May your soul find comfort in the embrace of heaven, and may your memory be a blessing to all who knew you.

Colchester

Rodney Fraser Blythe

Rodney Fraser Blythe, affectionately known as Rod, passed away Tuesday, May 23, at 87 years of age in Colchester, with his loving family by his side. For the last 23 years of his life, Rod never let Parkinson's Disease conquer his indomitable spirit. Rod was born in Providence, R.I., on June 7, 1935, son of the late Fraser and Elizabeth (Baker) Blythe. Rod was a proud graduate of UConn. He and the love of his life, Mary Cragan, were married 64 years.



They raised their family in South Attleboro, Mass., where as a pharmacist, Rod owned and operated Blythe Pharmacy for many years. Rod was an active member of the community in which he lived, serving on the Attleboro City Council, chairing the Attleboro Redevelopment Authority, sponsoring youth sports teams, and founding the South Attleboro Lions Club.

In 1980 Rod and Mary returned to East Greenwich, R.I., where they had met and fallen in love. They spent 18 wonderful years sailing the waters of Narragansett Bay as they finished their careers.

Upon retiring, Rod and Mary moved to Fairway Village in Largo, Fla., often summering in Chatham on Cape Cod. Once again, Rod actively participated on many boards and committees. In his free time, Rodney enjoyed boating, golfing, and practicing his skills as a master gardener. Corn revered him and quahogs feared him because he was the master digger and shucker. Most importantly, he will be remembered as a hardworking and loving family man, and in true "Blythe Spirit" was often heard saying his greatest fortune was his family.

His passing will be mourned by many, especially his loving wife, Mary; his children and their spouses, Robert (Cindy) Blythe of Virginia Beach, Va., Mark (Sharon) Blythe of Richardson, Texas, Todd (Anne) Blythe of Georgetown, Mass., Betsy (Frank) DiCostanzo of Colchester; nine grandchildren, Barbara and Rodney, Justin (Amber), Joshua (Ashley), Ian, Robert and John Blythe, Andrew and Megan DiCostanzo; two great-grandchildren, Cragan and Kylah; Rodney's sister, Libby Johnson of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; and many extended family members and friends.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his beloved brother-in-law, Karl Johnson.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Friday, June 9, at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 65 3rd Street, East Greenwich, R.I. Burial will follow in St. Patrick's Cemetery, 65 3rd St. East.

Donations in Rodney's memory may be made to the charity of one's choice. The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester has been entrusted with care of arrangements.

To sign the online guest book or share a memory of Rod, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON**

The East Hampton Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. during the Regular Town Council Meeting in the East Hampton Town Hall Council Chambers, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. The Town Council will hear comments on the 2023 CT Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Applications received from Epoch Arts and the Town of East Hampton. Copies of the Neighborhood Assistance Act applications will be available in the Town Clerk's Office.

- EAST HAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL**
 Mark Philhower, Chairman
 Tim Feegel, Vice Chairman
 Pete Brown
 Brandon Goff
 Eric Peterson
 Kevin Reich
 Alison Walck

1TB 6/2

**LEGAL NOTICE
MARLBOROUGH WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY
MARLBOROUGH TOWN CENTER/LAKE
TERRAMUGGUS SEWER DISTRICT
2023 - 2024 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

The Marlborough Water Pollution Control Authority on Thursday, June 16, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall will hold a public hearing for the following:
 2023 - 2024 Operation, Maintenance, & Repair Budget
 2023 - 2024 Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) Allocation
 2023 - 2024 Fee Schedule
 2023 - 2024 EDU Charge \$588
 At this hearing interested parties may appear and be heard and written communication will be received, if you are unable to attend written communication can be submitted to the Building/Land Use Office, in Town Hall, 26 North Main Street. All of the above Public Hearing Documents are on file for public inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk and Land Use/Building Office.
 Benjamin Levin
 Chair, Marlborough WPCA

1TB 6/2

Obituary Policy

Obituaries must be submitted no later than noon Wednesday for inclusion in that week's paper. There is a \$75 charge for all obituaries.

ADVERTISERS

The *Glastonbury Citizen and Riverest News Bulletin* will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The *Glastonbury Citizen Inc.* reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. The *Citizen* will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. The *Citizen* cannot guarantee specific placement.

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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.



Lovely Laguna Beach... Steve and Erin Cannata of Marlborough are shown here in Laguna Beach, Calif. They were in California to watch their son Nick and his Endicott College baseball team on their spring trip to Los Angeles.



Meeting the Minions... Here are the Minions and the *Rivereast*, together with Luke Randazzo and Konrad Jandzinski of Andover, enjoying some well-deserved down time in sunny Kissimmee, Fla.



Down in the Poconos... East Hampton residents Michael and Kristen Lynch and their boys Gavin, Padraig and Kael brought the *Rivereast* with them to Kalahari Resort in the Poconos! They're holding a sign for a good friend they wish had been with them.



Springtime in Paris... Linda Vuoto-Gagliardi of Marlborough is shown with her kids Valentina Gagliardi and Luca Gagliardi at the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. "Upon seeing the Eiffel Tower, I was speechless by the marvelous structure and the surrounding beauty," Linda said. "Paris is truly a beautiful city."

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

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LEGALS

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm on June 12, 2023 at the East Hampton Town Hall - 1 Community Drive and via Zoom meeting (see Town website for details) to consider the following:
ZBA-23-004: James Bansemmer, 15 Tennyson Rd., Increase lot coverage from 20% to 39.3% for construction of a concrete driveway. Map 10A/ Block 81/ Lot 64

2TB 6/2, 6/9

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Hearing

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a regular meeting on June 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall and via ZOOM Virtual Meeting to consider the following:
PZC-23-011: Edgewater Hill, 10 Edgewater Circle, Text Amendment regarding water requirement in MUDD zone per Sec. 6.4.D.3.d.3, Map 10A/ Block 85/ Lot 5B
Kevin Kuhr, Chairman
Note* any question re: Applications and Maps are on file in the Land Use Office 860-267-7450.

2TB 5/26, 6/2

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

THE TOWN OF ANDOVER
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
COMMUNITY ROOM, 17 SCHOOL ROAD
7:00 P.M., JUNE 7, 2023
The meeting will be held as a "hybrid" meeting. In addition to being held in person, the meeting will accessible via a web-based platform (ZOOM). The login directions are as follows:
Join Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83018136887>
Meeting ID: 830 1813 6887
Passcode: 937362
Dial by your location
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
The Andover Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m., June 7, 2023 to solicit public input regarding an application from the Town of Andover for a Special Permit in accordance with Section 5 of the Andover Zoning Regulations so as to construct a Community Center and Parking at the property known as 25 School Road. The proposed project consists of 2,386.25 square foot structure, parking areas and associated site work. Comments, concerns and questions may be presented at the public hearing or be submitted in writing to the Andover Building and Land-Use Office in writing a minimum of 24 hours prior to the time/date of the meeting. Copies of the application are available for review on the Town of Andover's web-site (andoverct.org) or at the Building and Land-Use Office, Town Office Building, 17 School Road, Andover.
Jim Hallisey
Zoning Agent

2TB 5/26, 6/2

LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at a Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, on the following:
1. **Petition 2023-02** – Petition of the Hebron Lions Agricultural Society requesting Special Permit approval for a Temporary Liquor Permit on September 7th thru 10th, 2023, under Section 5.O.3 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, premise located at 347 Gilead Street, R-1 District.
2. **Petition 2023-03** – Receipt of Special Permit Application from Andrew Rainone for replacement of exterior security lighting with illumination in excess of six (6) foot-candles under Section 5.F.2.4 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, premise located at 109 Main Street, Main Street District.
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 31th day of May, 2023.
Natalie Wood, Chair
Planning and Zoning Commission
Jun 13, 2023, 7:00 – 10:00 PM (America/New_York)
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.goto.com/382808573>
You can also dial in using your phone.
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United States: +1 (312) 757-3121
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<https://meet.goto.com/install>

2TB 6/2, 6/9

NOTICE OF SALE OF PROPERTY

Please be advised that the Town of Portland, Connecticut, shall conduct a sale of surplus property online. The address of the auction site is govdeals.com. The surplus property is being sold in an "as-is" condition without express or implied warranties. The online auction will be held starting in early June until various end dates throughout August 2023, and the surplus property being sold is as follows: Board of Education (BOE) and Town audio/visual and computer equipment, Public Works equipment, Public Works and other town vehicles, Public Safety equipment, Town office supplies/furniture, equipment, BOE kitchen equipment, Library equipment and furniture and other BOE furniture, equipment and supplies. See the GovDeals link on Town's website www.portlandct.org for additional information. All bidders must pre-register with GovDeals at govdeals.com. The Town of Portland, Connecticut reserves the right to accept or reject any bids submitted.
Submitted by: Tom E. Robinson, Finance Director
Dated: June 2, 2023

1TB 6/2

Legal Notice Town Of Hebron Connecticut Water Pollution Control Authority Public Hearing June 13, 2023 6:00 PM

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of Section 7-250/7-255 of the Connecticut General Statutes, that the Water Pollution Control Authority for the Town of Hebron shall hold a Public Hearing on June 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM. This hearing will be to adopt the budget for year 2022-2023 and to set the annual sewer use charge at \$592 per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU).
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 10th day of May, 2023.

2TB 6/2, 6/9

TOWN OF COLCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE

The Historic District Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 12, 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:
Certificate of Appropriateness - COA2023-003 of Van Cleve House, LLC (Owner) and Ellen Sharon (Applicant) – 184 South Main Street (MBL# 12-00/029-000) – Application for Certificate of Appropriateness to replace asbestos shingle siding with beveled cedar clapboard, replace and repair damaged soffit, fascia and trim with like materials and design.
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 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
Stanley Stefanowicz, Secretary

2TB 6/2, 6/9

LEGAL NOTICE CONSERVATION COMMISSION COLCHESTER, CONNECTICUT

The Colchester Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing at a Regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 7 p.m. to be held at Colchester Town Hall at 127 Norwich Avenue in Room #2 on the following:
W2023-3078- 203 Amston Road, Stephen Fedus-Applicant/ Owner, Assessor's Map 21-00 Lot 003-000, proposal to build 20 apartments and 46 parking spaces on 8+ acres of land with upland review impacts.
Dated at Colchester, CT, this 31st day of May 2023
Falk von Plachecki, Chairman

2TB 6/2, 6/9

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HEBRON ANNUAL BUDGET REFERENDUM June 13, 2023

The electors and voters of the Town of Hebron, Connecticut, and any other persons entitled to vote upon any matters contained in the notice are hereby notified and warned to vote in the Annual Budget Referendum to be held at Hebron Elementary School, 92 Church Street in Hebron between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

1. SHALL THE TOWN OF HEBRON APPROVE A FY 2023-2024 BUDGET OF \$39,115,203 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE?
Voters approving the recommendation of the Board of Finance will vote "Yes" and those opposing the recommendation of the Board of Finance will vote "No".
Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's Office.
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut this 26th day of May, 2023.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Daniel Larson, Chairman
Gail B. Richmond, Vice Chairman
Peter D. Kasper
Marc P. Rubera
Tiffany V. Thiele

TOWN OF HEBRON BOARD OF FINANCE RECOMMENDED BUDGET June 13th, 2023

	AUDITED ACTUAL 2021-2022	ADOPTED 2022-2023	PROPOSED 2023-2024
EXPENDITURES			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,395,951	3,497,919	3,619,792
PUBLIC SAFETY	1,019,519	1,137,949	1,355,372
CIVIC & HUMAN SERVICES	807,872	991,324	1,037,066
PLANNING & LAND USE	158,978	211,618	194,258
PUBLIC WORKS	1,094,928	1,025,997	1,108,462
INSURANCE & BENEFITS	1,704,828	1,670,107	1,760,405
CONTR. OPEN SPACE LAND ACQ.	125,000	125,000	25,000
CONTR. TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	768,877	587,485	488,017
CONTR. TO DEBT MANAGEMENT FUND	1,000,000	0	0
CONTR. TO CAP-NON RECURRING	0	0	0
CONTR. TO CAPITAL PROJECTS	152,022	156,796	230,187
CONTR. TO REVALUATION	50,000	40,000	40,000
TOWN PROPERTY SEWER FEES	14,280	14,280	15,400
DEBT SERVICE	1,093,110	1,092,124	1,105,594
BOF TOWN GOV'T REDUCTION	0	0	(50,000)
RHAM ASSESSMENT	13,971,475	14,259,027	15,389,082
HEBRON BOARD OF EDUCATION	<u>12,030,194</u>	<u>12,207,294</u>	<u>12,796,568</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>37,387,034</u>	<u>37,016,920</u>	<u>39,115,203</u>
REVENUES			
TOTAL TAX REVENUE	29,716,676	29,190,545	31,227,264
STATE - GEN GOV'T SUPPORT	426,631	400,082	419,447
STATE - EDUCATION SUPPORT	5,989,237	5,997,693	5,713,831
DEPARTMENTAL	1,159,614	786,600	892,661
OTHER FUND TRANSFERS IN	45,000	0	0
DEBT MNGMT /UFB APPROPRIATED CONTR.	<u>99,143</u>	<u>642,000</u>	<u>862,000</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>37,436,301</u>	<u>37,016,920</u>	<u>39,115,203</u>
MILL RATE:			
Real Estate/Personal Property	36.33	31.70	33.54
Motor Vehicle	36.33	31.70	32.46

1TB 6/2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED

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

WANTED TO BUY: your loose and bulk change, pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and silver coins. Also wanted silverware or any item made of sterling silver. Cash paid on the spot. Will make house calls. Call/text Dom, 860-866-5013.



WANTED TO BUY: your loose and bulk change, pennies, nickles, dimes, quarters, and silver coins. Also wanted silverware or any items made of sterling silver. Cash paid on the spot. Call or text Dom 860-836-5013.

DEE'S ANTIQUES: Pays cash for old toys, musical instruments, military items, gold, sterling, coins and jewelry. Old advertising items, signs, hunting, fishing, and sporting goods. 55yrs experience. Call 203-235-8431.

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Public Service Associate

The East Hampton Public Library seeks a part-time Public Service Associate with great technology skills and a passion for working with the public. Approximately 15-19 hours per week at \$16.90 per hour. Must be able to work one evening per week and one Saturday every three weeks. Responsibilities include assisting patrons at the circulation desk, answering patron questions about technology, collection, and research, and providing superior customer service. Additional responsibilities may include planning and running library programs for children, teens, or adults. A great opportunity for library school students. Library experience and/or experience leading programs and/or providing customer service preferred. Strong communication, customer service and computer skills are essential. 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 Human Resources at lseymour@easthamptonct.gov by June 16, 2023, or until filled. A job description and employment application may be found at www.easthamptonct.gov. www.easthamptonpubliclibrary.org. EOE/AA/M-F. Posted: 5/24/2023 Closing: 6/16/2023, or until filled 1TB 6/2

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Public Works Maintainer II (Full-time)

Due to a retirement, the Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for the position of Maintainer II for the Public Works Department. This is a full-time, bargaining unit position with benefits that include health, dental, vision, 401, life insurance and PTO. \$22.27 per hour; 40 hours per week, plus OT as necessary. Snow plowing experience and CDL with class B (air brake endorsement) required. Applicant should be dependable, have a clean driving record and be in good physical condition. Interested candidates should submit an employment application to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or by email to lseymour@easthamptonct.gov, by June 16, 2023, or until filled. A job description and employment application may be found at www.easthamptonct.gov. EOE/M-F/AA. Posted: 5/24/23 Closing: 6/16/23, (or until filled) 1TB 6/2

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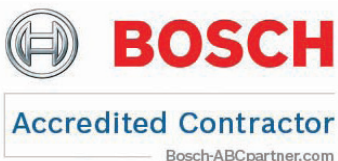
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