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# News Bulletin

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

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September 29, 2023

# 'I Know For a Fact He Was a Happy Man'

#### By Michael Sinkewicz

Rob Schadtle described his younger brother as a hard worker, a family man and an inspiration to those who knew him.

He was joined by hundreds of local residents last weekend for a memorial service to celebrate the life of Kevin M. Schadtle, 40, a beloved Marlborough resident who died in an accident on his family's farm Sept. 15.

On Sunday, nearly 1,000 people paid their respects at the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds, a resounding confirmation of the impact Kevin had on the community.

"There a lot of people who were apart of Kevin's life," Rob told the *Rivereast* this week. "He was a good guy that left a mark on people."

Kevin graduated from Windham Technical High School in 2000 and studied auto mechanics, applying his time to a variety of endeavors, including his father's concrete business.

In January, he started his own company in Marlborough — Schadtle's Outdoor Services LLC — which Rob said was constantly expanding; if someone requested a non-listed service, Kevin would accept the job.

"He would just tackle it," Rob recalled.

Between his consistent job growth and work on the 120-acre family farm that sits on the Hebron-Marlborough line, Kevin was always doing something. Despite his young age, Rob said his brother had accumulated numerous accomplishments, assisting the lives of numerous local residents; many he worked for recognized his talents during the service.

"He worked for 25 years," Rob recalled, adding that Kevin honed many skills throughout his life. "He was definitely very good at what he did."

Kevin was recently married, Rob said, and was beaming with excitement. He shared their final conversation that took place at the Hebron Harvest Fair earlier this month. Kevin, he recalled, was lining up future jobs and was sharing his



The Hebron and Marlborough communities were rocked when Marlborough resident Kevin Schadtle died in a farming accident Sept. 15. Schadtle is shown here (third from right) at his grandparents' farm in Hebron, shortly after his grandfather's birthday in August.

goals. "You could tell he was proud," Rob said. "You could hear the pride in his voice."

He added of his brother, "I know for a fact he was a happy man."

Kevin was celebrating 12 years of sobriety, perhaps his proudest achievement, his brother expressed.

"He had his struggles and worked through it," Rob said, adding that Kevin would offer insight and advice to teenagers throughout the community, including his own family members. "It's a big reason why my kids are on the straight and narrow."

Hebron Town Manager Andrew Tierney told the *Rivereast* that emergency crews from both his town and Marlborough were dispatched to the farm. The Schadtle family, he said, goes back generations in the community.

"They're a very committed and known family, including being active in the Lions Club," he said. Deeply rooted in the area, his loss was felt by

many. "It was a tragedy," Tierney said. "It affected the whole town. He always had a smile on his face." He added, "Kevin was a great kid."

John Johnson Jr., the former president of the Hebron Lions Club and this year's Harvest Fair superintendent, told the *Rivereast* that Kevin's father is a dedicated Lion, and the whole family has been involved over the years.

The Schadtle family, Johnson said, was a "pillar of the community."

According to Lions officials, nearly 1,000 people attended the memorial service. On Oct. 7, the Lions will host a pasta benefit dinner at the fairgrounds to raise money for Kevin's children. Entrance is \$10 a person or \$30 per family,

Johnson said.

"Everyone wants to pay it forward," he added. Schadtle expressed that if the benefit dinner looks anything like the service, it would be an overwhelming event; he was grateful for the support the family has received.

"The community has been amazing," he said. Celebrating and honoring his brother is important, he explained, and talking about it even over a plate of spaghetti — makes a difference.

"It helps the family heal," he said. "I'm never going to get over this, but you have the community to lean on."

And Schadtle believes his brother's story can continue to reach and impact people moving forward.

"The more people that know about Kevin's life will draw strength from that," he expressed.

The family farm was established in 1903, Schadtle said, with the property originating in Marlborough and later expanding into Hebron. Kevin lived on a property on the Marlborough side, he said. His brother took pride in living on and caring for the family homestead.

Kevin's full obituary appeared in last week's *Rivereast.* 

# Hebron Welcomes New Library Director

#### By Michael Sinkewicz

The arrival of Hebron's new library director represents an opportunity for fresh insight and advancement for one of community's proudest institutions.

This month, Drusilla Carter took over as the director at the Douglas Library of Hebron, following the departure of former director Kevin Sullivan.

With Carter, residents are gaining an experienced and passionate leader who has forged a successful career in library services spanning nearly 20 years.

She earned master's degrees in library and information sciences as well as history from the University of South Carolina, leading to many successful directorships, including stints in rural South Carolina, Virginia and the Northeast, where she was the library director in the Connecticut towns of Cromwell and Willimantic. Most recently, she oversaw a library in Massachusetts.

At this point, it's fair to say that Carter has amassed the knowledge and background to thrive in Hebron.

"The library director is the one who makes sure that the infrastructure is there so the library can be a library," she told the *Rivereast*.

After crisscrossing the map, what attracted her to 22 Main St.?

Besides having family scattered throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts, Carter has friends in Hebron who attested to its character. While the reputation of the annual harvest festival is well known, there is consistent action layered throughout the calendar. "There's stuff going on here year-round. As a librarian, it's nice to work somewhere where there are families and where people do things with their families in the community."

And after surviving her first department head meeting and becoming acquainted with the staff — she likes what she sees.

"It's going well," Carter expressed.

On Oct. 17, a meet-and-greet will be hosted at the library where residents can warmly welcome her to Hebron.

However, don't expect to interrogate her on any drastic changes; there likely won't be any in the immediate future. Carter explained that typically, she doesn't make alterations until after four to six months on the job. It's important, she emphasized, to fully digest exactly what's going

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Portland Fair Returns Next Week

"It's a town that's doing things," she said.

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## RHAM • RHAM

### **Raptors Flattened in Guilford**

The RHAM High School football team was crushed by Guilford last Friday, as the home Grizzlies defeated the Raptors 50-19.

Early on, the Grizzlies led a balanced attack and scored on their opening drive. The Grizzlies would pin RHAM deep in their own territory and block a punt on 4th down for a safety to make the score 9-0. RHAM QB Brady Hulland settled in on the third drive and hit Caden Bellmore and Josh Weers on key receptions and capped off the drive with an eight-yard touchdown run to make it 9-7.

But that's as close as RHAM got, as Guilford would run an up-tempo offense for the rest of the half and close out the second quarter with a 37-7 advantage.

For Guilford, QB Tyler Hilgert was impressive, going 15-21 for 300 yards and 5 TD passes.

Scan Now to Step Inside

Marlborough

WR Trevor Ridley hauled in six catches for 145 yards and 3 TDs. RB Caden Hillier would rush for 132 yards and a TD.

RHAM fought back in the third quarter, with Hulland hitting Josh Weers, who made an acrobatic catch for a 20 yard TD reception. Hulland would leave the game a couple of series later and Chris Ford would take over at QB and lead the team down the field and connect with Luke Autieri on a 5-yard TD pass for the Raptors' final score of the night.

Other Raptors that played a solid game were Josh Weers, Caden Bellmore Caden Caplette and Jack Smith. Brody Magnanini forced a fumble that was recovered by Mason Little.

The Raptors will host E.O. Smith this Saturday, Sept. 30, at 1 p.m.

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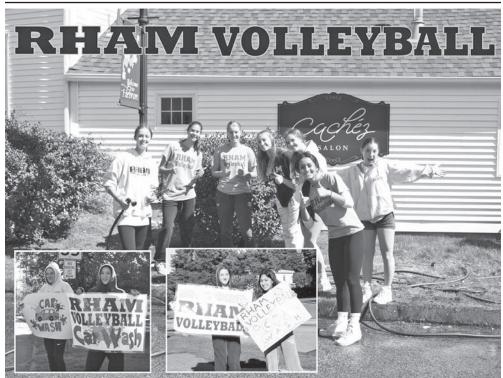
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#### RHAM • RHAM



Come to the Car Wash... All are invited to come support RHAM volleyball at its Car Wash on Saturday, Sept. 30, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at 10 Main St., Hebron. Donations will be accepted, with all proceeds going to RHAM volleyball. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 1.

### AHM News & Notes

AHM Youth and Family Services has announced the following. For more information, contact Jenn Boehler, prevention coordinator, at jenniferb@ahmyouth.org or 860-228-9488 ext. 22.

National Take-Back Day: AHM's Coalition for a Healthy & Empowered Community (CHEC), in partnership with the Connecticut State Police, is hosting National Take-Back Day on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at RHAM High School, 85 Wall St., Hebron. Medications should be in the original container with the name crossed off and please no sharps. The first 50 cars will receive a free SAFE Rx Locking Pill Bottle to keep medications safely stored. For more on CHEC, follow on Facebook at www. facebook.com/ahmchec, visit ahmyouth.org/ programs-services/prevention-programs or contact Boehler.

Screenagers Movies: Screenagers Under the Influence: Vaping, Drugs and Alcohol in the Digital Age will be shown Tuesday, Oct. 10; Screenagers The Next Chapter: Addressing Mental Health in the Digital Age will be shown Wednesday, Nov. 18, and Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age will be shown Dec. 7. Students in grades 6-12 and their parents are invited to attend, regardless of the town they live in. Admission is free. Doors open at 6 p.m., with movies starting at 6:30 p.m. in the AHM Community Room on 25 Pendleton Drive, Hebron. For more information, visit www.ahmyouth.org/ programs-services/prevention-programs or follow AHM CHEC on Facebook.

Mentors Needed for Local Youth: AHM's Lanterns Mentoring Program matches children in the community with adults who want to mentor them. Mentors and students meet once a week for one hour (during the school day) in the elementary schools in Andover, Hebron and Marlborough, and at RHAM middle and high schools. The mentoring pairs eat lunch together, play games, do crafts, and take walks outside. If interested, contact Laura Beeler, Lanterns Mentoring coordinator, at laurab@ahmyouth.org or 860-228-9488 ext.10.

Fall Programs are Open: Health Matters is a mind and body wellness program, all classes are held in AHM's Wellness Room. This fall, get creative with Vision Boards, Calligraphy, Cupcake Decorating, and more. AHM and Playhouse Theatre Academy partner to offer exploratory pre-professional theatre programs. AHM is offering Adult Intro classes this fall in addition to classes for grades K-12. To view the lineup and register, go to ahmyouth.recdesk.com/Community/Program.

TOWN OF COLCHESTER

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

**DECISION NOTICE** 

The Zoning Board of Appeals held a public hearing on September 19, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. at which the following action

Application No. ZBA 2023-002 of Jeffrey P. Naples (Owner/

Application for a variance from Section 3.4.4.A.2 of the Town of

. Colchester Land Development (Zoning) Regulations to reduce the front yard setback requirement from 100' to 35'. NOT APPROVED.

1TB 9/29

Facebook

#### **TOWN OF PORTLAND** PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION

At the September 21, 2023 meeting, the following actions were taken: Application #23-01: Proposed amendment to the town of Portland Zoning Regulations: Article 7.2.3.A.1 add food truck parks to approved uses. Application of Town of Portland. Application #23-02: 279 Main Street. Request for Site Plan Review for multi station dog grooming and retail sales of pet supplies and items. Application of Louise Walsh and property of J & M Main Street Property LLC. Map 29 Lot 258. Zone B-3. Dated at Portland, CT this 26th day of September 2023 Robert Ellsworth, Chairman Planning & Zoning Commission 1TB 9/29



Call us today!



was taken:

Dated September 25,

Laurie Robinson, Chairman

### From the Editor's Desk **Observations & Ruminations** By Mike Thompson

I like looking for new things to do with the paper, particularly in election season. Municipal election years are especially big ones, even moreso now that Andover is finally holding elections in November just like everyone else.

Something different that I thought would be worthwhile for the Rivereast to try was hosting a debate. We'd never done one before - at least not during the 16 years I've been editing - but that doesn't mean we couldn't begin a new tradition. And what better place to start than with what I'd argue is the highest-profile race in the Rivereast towns: the Colchester first selectman contest. Republican incumbent Andreas Bisbikos is facing Democratic challenger Bernie Dennler, in a race that already has been much-talked-about.

So, I reserved the Bacon Academy auditorium (thanks, Superintendent Sullivan), and began working out the details with my Colchester reporter, Michael Sinkewicz, who seemed to be the obvious choice to be moderator. Mike does a very thorough job with his stories, and is very fair; I've received praise for his work from Republicans as well as Democrats. Plus, he knows the issues in the town so well. Who better for the moderator job?

Everything seemed all set - but unfortunately not everyone wanted to play ball.

The Democrats were on board, but unfortunately Andreas was not. He at first told me he needed to consult with his campaign team, and then got back to me about a week later and told me that he felt the upcoming candidates' forums hosted by the Colchester Business Association, AARP and North Woods were "more than enough."

As I told Andreas, I respectfully disagree. While those forums certainly have value we've covered the CBA and AARP ones several times in the past - their format is not really one of a debate. The candidates mostly offer prepared statements, giving them time to express their platforms.

The forums also feature several different candidates, not just the first selectman hopefuls. This is a good thing, don't get me wrong, but, again, it's different from what the Rivereast was planning. What we were planning would've been a one-on-one debate, the incumbent first selectman versus the challenger, with questions posed by the moderator, responses strictly timed, periods for rebuttals, etc.

In short, we weren't looking to replace any of the above-mentioned forums; rather, what we had planned would've been, I thought, an excellent supplement to them.

So I disagree with Andreas when he said he felt those forums were "more than enough." What I was offering would've been a chance for the general public to see a true debate between the two people vying for the top spot in the town. As I told Andreas, I feel he's missing an opportunity.

But, as Doris Day would say, que sera sera. We'll continue to have top-notch political coverage in the Rivereast - and as you'll see this week, our commitment to publishing election-related letters remains untouched. (In other words: there's a lot of letters to the editor this week, folks!) So life will go on. It just feels like, as I said, a missed opportunity. See you next week.

A Horse is a Horse, Of Course, Of Course... Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue held its annual fundraising golf tournament on Sept. 16 - and it wound up being a beautiful day. Pictured are CDHR founder Stacey Golub, DVM, with Spencer, a 21-year-old Percheron, and tournament co-chairs/volunteers Sheri Spaulding and Maureen Morin.

Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum

pleted in time for the 2022-23 season.

All of PTBC's supporters should feel proud in

their contribution to an effort that not only im-

proved the basketball court venue for resident

and visiting basketball players, but also for the

students and faculty at Portland Middle School

and a host of residents and non-residents

Portland Travel Basketball can't say Thank

A Life is a Life

"We have one more election where white

people can make the right decision and then

Trump's got to get in there and never leave. That

to me at this point is a pathway. It's time to shut

up, elect Trump one more time and then stop

having elections. ... We have got to talk about

the fundamentals of our world view and what

it would look like to build a society based on

our distinct world view. It looks like a society

where women don't have the right to vote and

it looks like a society where boys and girls get

married as teenagers and start having kids and

they don't use birth control and they don't use

contraceptives and they have big families and a

high birth rate and it looks like women wearing

veils at church and it looks like women not be-

John Thompson, President

Portland Travel Basketball Club

You loudly enough for so much support!

To the Editor:

Need a Lift?

East Hampton Residents: Any person who may need a ride to the polls on Nov. 7 can contact us at ehctgop@gmail. com! We will gladly provide transportation to any citizen who wants to cast their vote! Remember curbside voting will also be available.

who utilize the court for recreation programs Respectfully, throughout the year. Deb Cunningham, Chair

East Hampton Republican Town Committee

#### Travel Basketball Thanks To the Editor:

The Portland Travel Basketball Club (PTBC) wishes to recognize and thank all of our supporters for their generosity over the last year. Throughout 2022-23, PTBC's fundraising campaign enjoyed widespread support, both from members within and benefactors outside of the Portland Community. As in years past, PTBC continued to partner with various Town of Portland governing and managing partners in our goal to provide an inclusive and inspiring youth basketball experience to everyone involved.

A very special outcome of the most recent campaign, which was only attainable with commendable cooperation from town facility and education department officials, was coordinating and financing a complete refurbishing of the basketball court at Portland Middle School. A much-needed, quality maintenance effort to the playing surface was quickly and efficiently com-

RIVEREAST -

### News Bulletin

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# **Bulletin Board**

You may have seen a while back where a 75-year-old Chicago man became the oldest American to climb Mount Everest. I hope he didn't do it for fame, because I've already forgotten his name. I do intend to look it up right now, however, so that I can nominate him for the "What in the hell were you ever thinking?" award.

Okay, his name is Arthur Muir, a former Chicago attorney. The previous "oldest American climber" record, incidentally, was held by what I would consider an equally foolish 67-year-old named Bill Burke. Apparently, neither of these adventurous geriatrics is particularly attached to his grandchildren nor, for that matter, to his potentially future widow.

I will say that Mr. Muir looks reasonably normal for a crazy man. This, by the way, was his second attempt at Everest. The first time he tried it he fell off a ladder up at umpteen thousand feet and injured his ankle. (And my wife gets nervous when I boldly climb up on the ladder to clean the gutters in the fall.)

As you have probably discerned by now, I don't get the whole Everest thing, though people obviously have their reasons. As a case in point, asked in 1924 why he wanted to ascend Everest, legendary climber George Mallory famously (if somewhat moronically, in my opinion) replied, "Because it's there."

It occurs to me that four-lane highways are also "there," but that doesn't mean it's a good idea to run back and forth across them. Then there's the Brooklyn Bridge to jump off, the drain cleaner under the sink to drink and a host of other potential challenges that are "there," just waiting, for those who subscribe to the Mallory creed.

Incidentally, George Mallory's own frozen corpse is still lying out "there" on Mount Everest, along with hundreds of other would-be conquerors of the mountain who died over the years of exposure or falls or altitude sickness or whatever. They're still there simply because there's just no feasible way to lug them down from those high altitudes.

As a result, I guess you might say that "what dies on Everest, stays on Everest" (to coin a phrase), though I doubt that cheery little jingle will ever find its way into the "Climb Mount Everest-the View is Fantastic" tourism brochures. It's estimated that at least 200 of the 300 or so people who have died on Everest are still up there, sort of like those neglected bags of frozen peas in the back corner of your freezer.

In addition to being what is undoubtedly the highest altitude open-air cemetery in the world, Everest is probably also the world's highest trash dump. Thousands of discarded oxygen bottles, shredded tents, food remnants, lost and abandoned gear and miscellaneous trash and garbage of all kinds are strewn all over the place. Adding to the charm is the presence of nearly 100 years of frozen feces scattered all about. I am advised that human feces do not degrade at that altitude; they just dry up and blow around or get stuck in the rocks or possibly your teeth or whatever. Enough said. If this sounds like your kind of vacation challenge, the average cost for a guided climb up Everest is between \$35,000 and \$45,000 and up (yes, you actually have to pay for the privilege of possibly freezing to death), which includes oxygen. Personally, I'd rather spend my money on chilidogs, maybe rent an expensive beach house for the summer and preserve my aging self for the day when I can throw a baseball around with some treasured grandchildren. But if your idea of a good time is risking death in an effort to ascend a mountain covered with frozen feces, have at it. We, the increasingly perplexed, who are content to kick back in a lounge chair with a chilled Corona, salute you.

### Jim Hallas

### **Rivereast Hours of Operation**

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#### Reader Forum • Reader • F

ing in the workforce, banning gay marriage, basically we're having something like Taliban rule in America in a good way, we're having something like a Catholic Taliban rule in America. I don't believe in women's rights, I don't support LGBT rights...we need to go back to burning women alive."

The preceding thoughts are brought to you by Nick Fuentes, recent dining guest of the previous occupant of the White House.

"Except I wonder if these men's daughters or granddaughters have value. A life is a life." Ashok Mandula, uncle of Jaahnavi Mandula. She's a 23-year old woman who's apparent value is \$11,000. I guess in the world of Nick Fuentes and those of his kind, the value of Ms. Mandula's life if she were lucky might have been as a brood mare but she wasn't white so probably not.

"A person's a person, no matter how small." Horton Hears a Who!

Eric Manning - Andover

### Man of Integrity

To the Editor:

I have known Art Shilosky for the better part of a decade, during which time, he has proven himself to be a selflessly devoted citizen and public servant to the town of Colchester.

Art is a distinguished Marine Corps Veteran who fully embodies the very values upon which the Marine Corps is built: Honor. Courage. Commitment.

Having served both on the Board of Finance and as first selectman, Art brings experience, extensive knowledge and a proven track-record of fiscal responsibility to the table.

Art is also a beloved and well-respected member of the Colchester community. He always has a friendly wave and kind word to offer to everyone he meets.

I'm proud to call Art my friend, and will proudly support him in his run for Board of Selectman this November.

> Thank you, Andrea DePaola - Colchester

#### **Riley for Board of Selectmen** Hello Hebron:

Claudia Riley is running for a seat on Hebron's Board of Selectmen, and she has my enthusiastic support. Whether it's supporting her local church, serving on the board of a youth sports association, or volunteering with The Town Center Project (which is where I first met her), Claudia is an asset to any group she's involved in. Smart, even-tempered and unflappable, Claudia will be a terrific selectman for our town. She thinks "big picture" and will bring her judgement and common sense to bear on decisions that are good for the entire Hebron community

I trust Claudia to do the right thing; you can too.

Judith Podell - Hebron

### Supports LeMay

To the Editor:

I am writing to voice my support for Eleisha LeMay as a Democratic candidate for the Hebron Board of Education. I have known Mrs. LeMay for over 12 years, and over that period of time, have gotten to know her in a variety of contexts. Thus, I feel I am uniquely suited to speak to what she would bring to this role.

Eleisha LeMay has worked in public education for nearly two decades. Over the course of her career, both as a classroom teacher and in her current role as assistant principal, Mrs. LeMay has shown herself to be a dedicated, compassionate educator who brings professionalism and a strong sense of equity to her work with students and teachers. As a former teacher myself, I have had countless conversations with Mrs. LeMay over the years about public education; I can say without question that she is both incredibly knowledgeable and immensely passionate about the field. As a fellow member of the Hebron community and parent of school-age children, I can speak to Eleisha LeMay's commitment to making both the Hebron school system, and the town at large,

a better place. Mrs. LeMay is someone who truly cares about Hebron-both its people and its schools-and is an active, involved member of the community.

Perhaps most importantly, Eleisha LeMay is a genuinely good person whose strength of character shines through in everything she does. She is hard-working and honest, and I have no doubt that she will bring that same work ethic and sense of personal integrity to her position on the Hebron Board of Education.

As a parent of children in Hebron schools and as a Hebron citizen, it is without reservation that I endorse Eleisha LeMay for the Board of Education.

> Sincerely, Emily Cyr - Hebron

#### Heartfelt Gratitude To the Editor:

Dear Volunteers Judy Thompson, June Martin, Carlotta Lord, and Alexis Chicarello,

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible dedication and hard work you put into giving back to our community during the Ralph Paley Spirit Awards. Your efforts in honoring Mr. Paley's spirit were nothing short of amazing, and the impact you continue to make on our community is immeasurable. Your commitment to this event made it a true success.

To Dave Bukowski and Ervin Rosario from the maintenance crew, we couldn't have done it without your invaluable support. Your behindthe-scenes efforts were instrumental in ensuring the event ran smoothly and flawlessly.

Thank you to Dave Kuzminski and Phillip for giving up your night and capturing this momentous event with your talented photography skills.

I also want to express our deep appreciation to Seng from Gardener's Bouquets for the stunning flower arrangements that added a touch of elegance to the occasion. And to Michelle from Baked by Michelle CT, your fall-themed cookies were an absolute delight, and they brought joy to everyone's taste buds. You both continue to give back to your community over and over and it is truly inspiring and greatly appreciated. My additional sincere thanks to the River Valley Garden Club and Portland Garden Club for the exquisite flower arrangements that graced our Ralph Paley Spirit Awards. Your floral artistry added a touch of natural beauty to honor our remarkable awardees.

A special thank you goes to the Paley Family,

"Mickey's" daughters, Sharon Fleishmann, and Lori McDermott, and Mrs. Sara Paley for carrying on the tradition of the Ralph Paley Spirit Awards. Your continued support and dedication to honoring Mr. Paley's spirit inspires us all.

Lastly, to everyone who attended and supported the honorees during this beautiful and moving event, thank you for being part of this meaningful celebration. Together, we make our community stronger, and we honor the legacy of Mr. Ralph Paley in the most heartfelt way.

Congratulations to Nancy Jones and Kevin Backman, the inspiring recipients of the Ralph Paley Spirit Awards.

With warmest regards and deepest appreciation, Sarah Caratasios, Director **Portland Senior Center** 

#### Honored and Grateful

To the Editor:

On Sept. 2, I was honored to be part of a sendoff crowd for veterans who participated in Honor Flight Connecticut. This is a tribute to our military who served during WWII, Korea, and Viet Nam. Amazingly, one veteran had served in all three. The event was incredibly well-orchestrated, every detail executed meticulously.

The veterans were escorted to Bradley Airport by Connecticut State Police and CT Patriot Guard Riders. There they received an enthusiastic welcome by family and friends, including the National Guard and Matt Sparks, President. The presentation included a team of youth presenting the colors, a respectful salute by two K9 police dogs, and tributes by local celebrities Channel 8 meteorologist Gil Simmons and The River's Renee Di Nino.

In Washington, they boarded busses for WWII, Iwo Jima, Korean, and Viet Nam war memorials, and visited Arlington National Cemetery. At the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the veterans' presence was acknowledged subtly by the guards while maintaining the full decorum of their march. Our military heroes were later treated to a catered dinner at a firehouse where they were served by a Jr. ROTC group.

When the veterans returned home to Bradley, the Connecticut Firefighters Pipes and Drums band played the bagpipes as they exited the plane, escorting them back into the airport. Inside the terminal, they gathered for a military mail call, presented with letters of gratitude from friends, family, and citizens from around the country. For those who remember the horrific experiences of our returning Vietnam servicepeople, this long overdue welcome was particularly poignant.

I am grateful to Mr. Sparks for organizing such a meaningful event to give thanks for a debt that we can never repay. I encourage all veterans to apply for this honor at HonorFlightCT. Cindie Friedman - Colchester

#### C'est C'est Bon

To the Editor:

As the song goes, it was a C'est C'est Bon night at a popular East Hampton cafe on Friday evening. The highly talented vocalist presented musical standards from the '40s and '50s along with the Bay Point Band. Many people were inspired to get up and dance to the old tunes. It was perfect weather for a great TGIF night. A great respite in troubled times.

Ronald McCutcheon - Middle Haddam

#### Vote for Augie Arndt

To the Editor:

I am writing to support Augie Arndt's re-election to the East Hampton Board of Education. Augie's unwavering commitment to our local school system, his transparency, and dedication to the community transcend party lines and make him the ideal candidate.

Augie's transparency sets him apart. In an era of accountability, he consistently keeps the community informed about school policies and decisions. He actively seeks input from parents, fostering trust and ensuring our voices are heard in shaping our educational system.

Augie is not just a board member; he's a devoted father with children in our local schools. This personal connection gives him a unique perspective, and his passion for education shines through in his efforts to create an environment where every child can thrive.

What distinguishes Augie is his unwavering commitment to students and teachers. He understands that a thriving educational system must prioritize both. Augie consistently advocates for policies that benefit students and maintains a high standard of conduct within our school community.

In local elections like this, it's not about party affiliation; it's about the person. The issues affecting our schools are non-partisan. Augie's dedication to our community's well-being transcends politics, making him the ideal choice.

Local school board elections directly impact See Letters, page 6



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

#### \* Letters cont. from page 5

our children's education and teachers' working conditions. We must evaluate candidates based on qualifications and dedication. Augie Arndt's commitment to transparency, his role as a caring parent, his advocacy for students and teachers, and his respectful approach make him the best candidate.

In local elections, let's put aside partisan politics and focus on selecting the candidate who genuinely cares about our community's well-being. Augie Arndt has consistently demonstrated these qualities, making him the right choice for our schools and community.

> Respectfully submitted, Donata Barber - East Hampton

### Three MAGAteers

To the Editor:

### You've heard of the Three Musketeers; well,

Colchester has its own Three MAGAteers: Andreas Bisbikos, Taras Rutko and Jason La Chapelle. Two of these currently hold office in Colchester and the other is head of the Colchester Republicans.

Running for office, Andreas sent a pamphlet attacking Mary Bylone's patriotism because she opted to skip a Memorial Day Parade during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Once in office Andreas proclaimed Colchester as a prejudice-free zone. There is no such zone in the world. Then he attacks our library for having a book one parent complained about. Book-banning anyone? (It's happening in Florida, Texas and other states.)

Taras was sure his election was "stolen." Two

recounts, same outcome. Sound familiar Andreas wants to take credit for efforts that others have invested time in for years. He wants to be praised for distributing money sent to us by the federal government.

The MAGAteers follow the national playbook attack, smear, ignore facts. Wasn't the town clerk at job-related meetings? Isn't the town supposed to pay for her to go to those meetings? Did she not fill out forms correctly? Is there anything substantial here?

I've been here for over 19 years. Never seen chaos like this! Please vote and send these selfpromoting clowns out of office.

> Sincerely, Dan Hatch - Colchester

### The Coffee's on Us!

Dear Portland Neighbors:

Please join me Saturday, Sept. 30, from 8:30-10 a.m., for Coffee with the Candidates at Melilli Caffe and Grill. Your thoughts and questions about public education in Portland matter. As an incumbent member of Portland's Board of Education running for election, I want to hear what's on your mind.

I'm joining my fellow Democratic Board of Ed candidates, Kim Nagy-Maruschock, Meg Scata and Laurel Steinhauser, to sit down and listen to what you care most about concerning education in our town. Come out to Melilli's at 264 Main St. in Portland, anytime between 8:30 and 10 a.m. tomorrow (Saturday). The coffee's on us!

> Sarah Spear - Portland Candidate for Board of Education



To the Editor:

After the issue of speeding cars along Norwich Avenue was brought to our First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos' attention, he took immediate action and ensured there was a police presence to stop speeding drivers while kids were being picked up from school. As a parent of two school-aged children in town, I greatly appreciate our first selectman for taking a citizen's concerns seriously and making sure our police were aware of the problem. This is the take-action leader we need to keep in Colchester.

Respectfully, Christina Martin - Colchester

### **Traditional Republicans**

To the Editor:

The immature and sophomoric world views of the MAGA Republicans stands in stark contrast to the traditional values of the Republican party. Take for instance Ed Kozlowski, a Trump apologist whose endless false equivalencies and hypocrisies are so stunningly superficial they're embarrassing. He claims that "Biden is a meatball who depends on the Easter Bunny to oversee his activities" in the next breath he claims the president is the mastermind of an international crime family. I think that should tell you everything you need to know about the critical thinking skills of MAGA Republicans.

In contrast, the members of the traditional Republican Party were conservatives who opposed Nazism, book burning, and religious zealots. They protected elections and thwarted anti-government rhetoric and didn't rely on



government shutdowns to manipulate policy. They were men of character who embraced moderation and pragmatic principals to influence legislation.

Traditional Republicans aspired to intelligence; they didn't belittle science, or public education. They were fathers, civil servants, small city mayors and commissioners with oversight of state agencies. They were traditional Republicans like Eisenhower, and Connecticut statemen like Thomas Meskill and Prescott Bush. They were driving forces in antitrust, corporate stewardship, and progressive policies that supported labor unions, affordable healthcare, and child welfare.

These traditional republicans never could have imagined their party would willingly support a dime store Mussolini, who panders to dictators, incited an insurrection, and charged with over ninety felony indictments. They also would not understand how their own birthright could squander an entire legacy to a man who lacks every character and principle they held as republicans and as fathers.

Joe Stevens - Hebron

#### Supports Shilosky, O'Donal To the Editor:

This November, I'm proud to say that I will be supporting both Art Shilosky and Cliff O'Donal for Board of Selectmen.

Cliff O'Donal brings over 40 years of experience in owning and operating several successful businesses in Colchester and the state of Connecticut. He is a financial conservative, but stands ready to listen to any and all ideas brought forth by citizens for the betterment of our town

Art Shilosky, a Marine Corps veteran, served four years as Colchester's First Selectman. Art will push to keep the spending of taxpayer dollars to a minimum. He has served on the Board of Finance for years, and has the knowledge of procedures and processes. His record of fiscal responsibility is strong and proven.

A vote for Cliff O'Donal and Art Shilosky is vote for successful growth for Colchester.

I urge you to vote for the entire Republican slate this November.

Thank you, Rich Tanner - Colchester

#### Dynamic Leader

To the Editor:

Heather Summer is the Democratic incumbent for the RHAM Board of Education and Hebron is incredibly lucky she is on the ballot again this year. For those of you who do not pay attention to the RHAM Board of Education, allow me to share that Heather is a dynamic member of the board. She is one of the few people who engage during meetings and her ideas always make sense.

For instance, when the Republican chair of the board suggested that the school give money back to the state intended to fund lunches for students, an idea supported by one of the other Republican board members from Hebron, Heather asked a simple question. "Why don't we just feed the kids until the money runs out?" Heather did her research before the meeting and wouldn't you know, those Republicans ended up agreeing with Heather and the school did not send back the funds.

That is the kind of influence she has on people. She can bring people together and form meaningful conversations where everyone is heard, and the best solution is found. That is the kind of leadership the RHAM Board of Education needs, and it is up to Hebron to elect Heather Summerer on Nov. 7. **Rich Bussiere – Hebron** 

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### **Our Portland Team**

To the Editor:

When I announced my candidacy for first selectman in 2021, I emphasized the importance of a first selectman's team. This remains just as true today as it was then, which is why as I seek a second term, I am thrilled to have Bobby Hetrick, Mike Hernandez, Mike Pelton, and Shaun Manning running alongside me for re-election to Board of Selectmen. I can personally attest to each member's leadership and dedication to our town. Working with our fellow Selectmen, we have achieved significant progress over the past two years.

And it's not only our Board of Selectmen members who are seeking re-election. Every candidate from our 2021 team whose term is expiring is running once again. This includes Peter Castelli and Bill Donahue on the Board of Assessment Appeals, and Bob Casati on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

In addition, we are proud to introduce a highly qualified slate of newcomers to our team. Mi-



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

chael Tierney, who has excelled as Town Clerk since his appointment in 2022, is a natural fit for the position. Angela Hammond and Karen Renner are two outstanding candidates running for the Board of Education. Both Angela and Karen have the skills and passion necessary to make a positive difference on day one. Finally, Kurt Peterson, running for a seat on the Zoning Board of Appeals brings over two decades of experience, having served as both an alternate and full ZBA member.

The future of Portland is looking brighter than ever, and I ask for your vote on November 7th to allow us to continue the work that we started two years ago. To discover and learn more about our exceptional candidates, please visit our website at www.gopportlandct.com. Sincerely,

#### Ryan Curley – Portland

Note: Curley is Portland first selectman, but said he is writing as an individual.

### **Disappointed by Decision**

To the Editor:

As chair of the Democratic Party, I'd like to thank the Rivereast for the invitation extended to our endorsed candidate for first selectman, Bernie Dennler, to participate in a formal debate with his opponent hosted by your newspaper.

Bernie was excited at the prospect of exchanging ideas with Mr. Bisbikos in a setting that would have allowed for all members of the community to attend. It is disappointing to hear that Bisbikos declined the invitation.

Bernie and the Democratic team are interested in hearing about what's important to Colchester voters and sharing the slate's vision for bringing Colchester together. Bernie's phone number is 860-997-8798 and his website is bernieforcolchester.com. The Democratic team can be reached on Facebook or through our website at colchesterdemocrats.org. We look forward to hearing from voters.

Thank you again for your invitation and interest in this important municipal race.

Sincerely,

Monica Swyden, Chair **Colchester Democratic Town Committee** 

#### **Community's Health**

To the Editor:

My name is Joan O'Connell and I'm running for Marlborough's Planning Commission as an endorsed Democratic candidate. I grew up in Marlborough, as did my five children and now two of my seven grandchildren are here too!

My long career as a Nurse fits well with the Planning Commission and its offshoot Sustainable CT. Good health, whether it be for yourself, family, or community is very important to me. I've found the best way to attain and maintain that is through preventative measures. Promoting good exercise habits - such as our new sidewalks, which will soon encircle our lake. Working toward bike lanes throughout town. Encouraging good water and land care, like composting and use of rain barrels (which can decrease our landfill costs down the road). They can also support community gardens, which in turn encourage healthier diets. There are a lot of good things happening in Marlborough!

If I am elected, I promise to keep working on the good health of our community through listening and open communication.

Thank you, Joan O'Connell - Marlborough

Accept the Report To the Editor:

We would like to thank the members of the

planning for safe and educationally sound facilities for Portland's students for the next several years? Educating our youth is one of the most important tasks for our town. Please reconsider. Accept the report and use it, as appropriate for planning and ensuring quality safe, affordable and educationally sound schools in Portland.

> Thank you. Tom and Susan Bransfield - Portland

### **Republicans Wanted**

To the Editor:

As the chair of the Hebron Democratic Town Committee, I would like to invite any and all registered Republicans in town who feel the Hebron Republican Town Committee is too extreme right for them to support, to follow the Hebron Dems on social media, check out our candidate bios on our website (Hebrondems. com) or come say hi at any of the many local events we will be participating in such as Trunk or Treat or Harvest Moon Festival.

What you will find is that we are people, just like you, who love our town. We are not guided by national issues. This is Hebron! We are a small town. We love our families, our schools, our farms, our neighbors. We are not trying to change the way we live in Hebron. We are trying to create sustainability for our little town because we want both young and old to be able to call Hebron home for however long they want

Our candidates were carefully vetted and selected. In fact, we had more people interested in positions than we had positions available. The Hebron Republicans cannot say the same. The reason is simple: you either identify with the Republicans in town who are extreme right Trump supporters, or you don't. And if you "don't," then all I have to say is "Welcome to Team Dem." We are happy you are here, and we welcome your support at the polls on Nov. 7. This is your chance to elect vetted, qualified candidates who want to make a difference.

There are Republicans that currently sit on

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boards that do not attend their board meetings regularly. Some don't finish out terms once elected. Hebron deserves better and the Democrats are ready. We have a place for you. Republicans wanted.

Erin Bussiere - Hebron

#### They All Knew To the Editor:

Why did they become an echo chamber for Trump's lies when they all knew who he was? "I want to talk to the Trump supporters for a minute. I don't know who you are and why you like this guy. He's a race hating, xenophobic, religious bigot. I think he's a kook. I think he's crazy. I think he's unfit for office." Lindsay Graham knew.

'Whatever he does, he accuses everyone else of doing. The man cannot tell the truth, but he combines it with being a narcissist. A narcissist at a level I don't think this country's ever seen. He doesn't know the difference between truth and lies. He lies ... practically every word that comes out of his mouth." Ted Cruz knew.

"And my concern it, he would grab up that power and treat the country as sort of his little bully fiefdom. Donald Trump is a delusional narcissist and an orange-faced windbag." Rand Paul knew.

"Donald Trump is everything I taught my children not to do in kindergarten." Nikki Haley knew.

"He's been exploiting working Americans for 40 years. Donald Trump is a con-artist." Marco Rubio knew.

"He says he's for the little guy, but he's actually built a lot of his businesses on the backs of the little guy." Kellyanne Conway knew.

You know, Donald Trump the other day said that 'if he tells a soldier to commit a war crime, a soldier will just go do it." Mike Pompeo knew.

"And I don't think Donald Trump has ever read the constitution, knows what's in the constitution." Glenn Beck knew.

"A toxic mix of demagoguery, mean-spiritedness and nonsense." Rick Perry knew.

"I just cannot support Donald Trump." Susan Collins knew. (act.tv) Annie Steinbrecher - Marlborough

#### Supports Chapman, Belding To the Editor:

The most recent budget season in Colchester was beyond frustrating. While the process was started early, the Board of Finance refused for months to listen to the citizens who were speaking during meetings. While it was unlikely for the Board of Education to receive a 9.8% increase, all parties involved should have come to a reasonable compromise together, especially since most citizens' comments begged the board to provide funding to maintain a quality education in the town of Colchester.

After years of not funding the schools with reasonable increases, a more significant increase was needed. It was made clear by the current Board of Finance chair in one meeting that nothing citizens said would change her mind. This is a highly concerning statement coming from an elected representative. While eventually money was added to both the town and Board See Letters, page 8





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Portland Schools Facilities Study Committee, and School Staff for all their work over the past two years. Their final report, written by Superintendent of Schools Charles Britton and Committee Chairman Lou Pear was issued and presented to the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education at a special joint meeting on May 24, 2023

The report includes the Historical Background 1999-Present, Facility Analysis, Priorities, Options, Demographic Study, Focus Group Feedback, Staffing Analysis, Financial Analysis, and finally the Committee's recommendations. A lot of time and money has been allocated to produce this report, including \$74,500 to the Friar Architecture firm, and in addition, countless hours spent by many town and school employees, and committee members.

However, on Sept. 5, 2023, the Portland Board of Selectmen voted 6-1 "no," to not accept the report. Only one selectman voted to accept the report. This doesn't make sense. Why haven't both the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen simply accepted the report, put it on the record, and started using it as a basis for proceeding on the very important task of

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

#### ★ Letters cont. from page 7

of Education budgets following a resounding No, Too Low vote, the town should not enter another budget season with representatives who are unwilling to listen to their constituents.

Come November, I will be supporting Scott Chapman and Karen Belding for the Board of Finance. Scott's business management experience and active participation in the Colchester Business Association will be great assets as a member of the board. Karen's active volunteerism in Colchester as well as her experience as a member (and president) on the board of the Colchester Baseball and Softball League show her dedication and commitment to our town. I look forward to having representation in place that is willing to listen to all sides of the argument and come to a compromise as opposed to a representative who has made up their mind that nothing the citizens say will change how they will spend our tax money.

Jennifer Sevigny Concerned Colchester Citizen

### **Backing Baker**

To the Editor:

After reading Maura Curran Baker's bio on the Hebron Democrats website, I am not sure how you don't vote for Maura. Maura states I am excited to bring my skillset and independent viewpoint to the RHAM Board of Education, I am running to work on behalf of RHAM's students, teachers and staff, as well as the taxpayers, to further our excellent school system at a reasonable cost. Her business and financial background as well as her years as a working mother interacting with the Hebron and RHAM school systems position her well to advocate for the best possible education and opportunities for all our students. Maura clearly understands that being on the board of education means more than just considering the students, it is also about considering the community.

Vote for Maura on Nov. 7.

Janet Fodaski – Hebron

### Smith for Zoning Board of Appeals

To the Editor:

Please support Bryan Smith for Hebron's Zoning Board of Appeals. Bryan is currently serving as an alternate and is seeking re-election to the board, where he wants to serve as a regular member. Bryan will be ready to serve in this position on day one. Bryan has served as senior project manager on major technology initiatives and projects at various Connecticut companies over his long career. He recently retired from corporate life and is currently training to be a Hebron school bus driver. If that doesn't say "I love Hebron," I don't know what does. Vote for Bryan on November 7th.

Nicole Lotko – Amston

#### Karen Pakulis Paul

To the Editor:

In a letter last week, Karen Pakulis Paul announced her candidacy for the Board of Finance. Currently serving as an alternate, Karen distinguished herself very quickly by the depth of her knowledge and her analysis of the town budget, taxes, and discrepancies needing resolution. She was one of very few with consistent, nearly perfect attendance.

Karen is a professional financial analyst. As a financial controller, she managed a \$65 million budget, all its statements, audits, capital plan, and compliance. In her role as analyst, she was responsible also for Expense Variance Analysis and all capital projects. Therefore it is no surprise that Karen - and only Karen - found that the columns on the 2022-23 budget as published under the old charter, did not add up. In two significant areas, a total of \$56,000 was unrecorded or misrecorded. She, the new Alternate was the only one who noticed. (The new budget under the current administration adds up!) Because Karen is kind, caring and wholly committed to being supportive, she combines her financial acumen with her background as a human resources manager and trainer/facilitator to raise concerns and put forth solutions without hostility and without arousing defensiveness. She is exactly what we need on the Board of Finance. Also serving on Sustainable CT, her skills are put to work toward community benefits such as food resources. Karen has two master's degrees and is all but dissertation for her doctorate in Educational Leadership. A mother, grandmother, friend and colleague, Karen genuinely cares and wants to serve her community. Vote wisely for Karen and her Democratic colleagues, a truly knowledgeable and trustworthy team.

### **Really Great Tax Collector**

To the Editor:

For the last eight years, Colchester has had the benefit of a really great tax collector. The collection rates have never been so high. The office has never been so efficient. People who have great and serious financial problems have had a person who goes out of her way to come up with plans that make it possible for them to meet their obligations to the town while maintaining their own solvency.

All this is due to Michele Wyatt.

She is a dedicated public servant who has business experience and knowledge of our town and its problems. She has used her office to benefit all of the people. Never one to bow to political pressure, she has maintained the fiscal integrity of the town's bank accounts. When some wished she would report anticipated income as actual income – she refused.

When problems occur, she has moved to solve them.

While others make promises, Michele Wyatt has delivered results.

While others engage in the politics of personal destruction, Michele Wyatt ignores the attacks and does her job of working for the best interests of the taxpayers of Colchester.

Please join me in re-electing Michele Wyatt as Colchester's tax collector.

John F. Malsbenden – Colchester

### Wine-Tasting Event

To the Editor:

I am Jack Solomon and was happy to provide Laurel Island for the Friends of Lake Pocotopaug wine tasting event last Saturday. Numerous people have commented on what a great event it was, even with the rainy weather. The leadership of Friends of Lake Pocotopaug deserve the credit for organizing the event and doing the work required to make it so enjoyable. The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug will continue to invest the donations in ways to make the Lake stay blue. For example if you are in the watershed and need to make an improvement to your property to reduce the run off into Lake Pocotopaug, Friends may provide financial help to you to make the improvement.

Another event on Laurel Island last Saturday was a gathering of Rotary foreign exchange students from New England. These 13 students came to the United States last month and were meeting and talking about how to enjoy their one year stay here in New England. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm of these young students from France, Mexico, Ukraine and many other countries.

Jack Solomon – East Hampton Candidate for Town Council

#### Thank You

To the Editor:

Reading the most recent first selectman's 'News Blast' was a timely reminder to thank the Board of Selectmen for approving the ARPA Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation for the expansion of social services assistance, utilizing ARPA funding, to more individuals and families in Colchester. I would especially like to recognize Val Geato, director of Youth and Social Services, for her effort in developing the original proposal to provide increased supports through existing town programs and structures, maximizing the funds available to benefit those in need.

I would also like to publicly recognize fellow members of the ARPA Ad Hoc Committee for their thoughtful and collegial discussion of the available options for expansion and the consensus-building approach to decision-making that led to the recommendation to the BOS. An Excellent Collaborator To the Editor:

Adam Ockman will be an excellent fit for Hebron's Board of Finance. Adam and his family love Hebron! His wife volunteers on the Green Committee. His son is thriving in school while participating in local activities that are available. Adam is vested in Hebron and pledges to preserve the investments we make in the safety of our residents, in the quality of life in our town, and in the education of the next generation so that they can compete in the global workplace. Adam is an excellent collaborator and is looking to work through open communication with all the boards in town. Adam was an integral part of motivating Hebron towards passing the budget this past May.

Let's vote for Adam on Nov. 7th!

Mary Rose – Hebron

#### Vote Howell for P&Z

To the Editor:

I'm excited to vote for Democrat Davis Howell for Hebron Planning and Zoning alternate. He has lived in Hebron for 38 years and values the small town feel and friendly community. He believes we need to maintain that look while we move forward with the progress that is needed and inevitable. Since he has recently retired, he has the time to dedicate to giving back through a board position. His career experience included being on teams that built several facilities in various locations that required interface with local P & Z groups, and this experience will serve him well.

> John Matra, Candidate Hebron Board of Selectmen

#### Summerer and Curran Baker To the Editor:

I'm ready to vote for the dynamic team of Heather Summerer and Maura Curran Baker for RHAM Board of Education in November.

I've known both of these women for several years, and I am continually impressed by their no-nonsense, inclusive, and responsible approach to decision making. Summerer has been an asset to the board since she was selected to fill an open position a year ago, and Curran Baker will make an excellent addition.

Both candidates have children currently at RHAM and children who graduated from RHAM, and they understand the need to maintain and continue to develop strong schools that provide a comprehensive, inclusive, and equitable education for all our students. As parents, they know that positive parent involvement and support make RHAM a place where people feel comfortable sending their children and a place where the best teachers want to be.

Let's make sure our students in grades 7-12 have the best experiences and opportunities by voting for Summerer and Curran Baker to RHAM BOE.

### Meg Clifton – Amston Extremely Grateful

To the Editor,

Honestly, I'm grateful to anyone who is willing to step up and run for a volunteer leadership position in town. I know how much time goes into serving on a town Board or Commission. And how much thought and consideration, research and homework, listening and weighing all sides of an issue, as well as good communication to explain your views.

That's why I am extremely grateful that Claudia Riley is running for Hebron's Board of Selectman. Claudia somehow finds the time to be a parent, community volunteer, parishioner, and professional. And she does it all with energy, positivity, and a sincere desire to be the best she can be. Claudia has served as a volunteer with several local organizations including the Hebron Center Nursery School, Hebron PTA, and The Town Center Project. Her career has also been focused on serving people. Currently she is vice president and community liaison officer with Webster Bank, helping low- and moderate-income people afford a home. As vice president of the Coalition on Diversity & Equity (or CoDE), I have seen Claudia's passion for ensuring that more people who need homes (like seniors, young professionals and working families) can afford one in our beautiful town. I have also seen her can-do attitude -her ability to move things forward from an idea to reality. Claudia has that rare combination of being a good listener, someone who takes the time to understand an issue, but then can move deliberately to address the situation - to make things better for people in her community. I encourage you to give Claudia a seat on our Board of Selectmen. She will be good - actually, she will be great - for the people of Hebron, and for our community overall. Donna Jolly - Hebron

#### Will Be Great Addition Dear Amston and Hebron Residents:

As we look towards the November elections, we will be inundated with information. I wanted to take a minute before the swarm begins to call your attention to Eleisha LeMay, a Hebron Board of Education candidate. First and foremost, Eleisha is a mom, who wants future generations to receive the quality education that Gilead, Hebron El., and RHAM are known for. In addition to that, she herself is an educator. As a fellow teacher, having someone join our BOE who knows both sides of the table is vitally important. Knowing first-hand what education today looks like, Eleisha is in favor of the things that make quality education possible. Open

communication, both between schools and parents, as well as vertical communication between Hebron Public Schools and RHAM is essential in a town/district like ours. Eleisha knows the value in retaining the amazing staff our schools have and the value in

amazing staff our schools have, and the value in hiring the best and brightest to continue these traditions once staff retire. I know she will be there for ALL of the kids, supporting budgets that keep vital special education services in place, as well as enrichment programs that kids today need to make it in our ever-changing world. Eleisha is caring, bright, and most importantly attuned to what our students need, and will be a great addition to the Hebron BOE. Sincerely,

Jen Merkent - Amston

#### Supports Dubriel for BOF To the Editor:

As the chairman of the Board of Finance, I endorse a candidate who has demonstrated a commitment to our town's financial responsibility and transparency; this candidate has shown dedication to understanding the separation of school finances, utilization of new software, and fostering transparent financial practices.

Moreover, this candidate has actively engaged within our community, attending BOF, BOS and the Senior Center Building Committee meetings and advocating for data-driven decision-making. I find he consistently considers the outcome based on Colchester's economy, his dedication to our town's well-being is evident, and they are the right choice in supporting a financially secure and transparent future.

Mike Dubriel has earned his place on the ballot this year. Alongside myself, we will aim to keep our bond rating high while addressing the financial needs of our town departments and our overall community. Please support the Republican candidacies on Nov. 7.

Andrea Migliaccio - Colchester

#### What is Your Reality?

To the Editor:

Reading letters in this paper (as well as letters and articles all across the news-scape) it is very apparent that we live in the multiverse: that there is more than one reality out there: that the world is like a holographic image; it looks one way until you shift perspective, then it changes! Of course, I'm talking about political perspective.

Fans of each political party in Colchester witnessed the Sept. 6 Board of Selectmen meeting as political theater, but each sees the other as the instigator and villain of the drama. Only one meeting occurred! Only one reality existed: which one depends on your perspective. If your perspective is from the right, then I assume you see many other aspects of American life in similar light. Jan. 6 was an exuberant tourist event. The Big Lie is the truth, despite all evidence and court decisions to the contrary. Barack Obama is not an American citizen. Donald Trump is the Second Coming. Slavery was a benefit to violently imported people. Women are secondclass citizens. The COVID-19 pandemic was a hoax despite over six million hospitalizations and more than one million deaths in the United States. Well, we're all allowed our opinions. But, there is only one reality. John Barnowski - Colchester

Ann Terezakis - Marlborough

Respectfully, Stan Soby – Colchester

#### **Vote for Matra** To the Editor:

On Nov. 7, I will be supporting John Matra for the Board of Selectmen in Hebron. Knowing he wanted to do more to get involved in town, John attended the "We are Hebron Citizen Leadership Academy," which gave him insight on how the town operates and all that our awesome little town has to offer. He does not just talk the talk, but he walks the walk, volunteering on the Green Committee, being elected as the president of the Amston Lake Association. He delivers Meals on Wheels to our seniors and he and his wife participated in the garden plots at the Senior Center in town, because our senior citizens matter to John.

If you are a senior like myself, who has lived in town for over 35 years, please vote for our interests and elect someone who has shown with his actions that he cares. Vote for John Matra in Hebron.

Kim Goldberg - Hebron

#### **Re-Elect Andover Selectmen** To the Editor:

I have proudly served as a selectman in Andover the past four and a half years. During my term I can honestly say I have served alongside some of the most engaged, knowledgeable, and dedicated people I have ever worked with.

Each member of the Board of Selectmen brings a cohesive area of expertise that works effectively with each other. During our term, we have kept town spending under control while focusing on needed bridge and road work, transfer station upgrades, investments in pub-

#### Reader Forum • Reader • F

lic works, improved senior services, rail trail improvements, and recently broke ground on a new community center that has been stalled for decades. While those are some of the larger projects, each one of us utilizes our unique and diverse skills working behind the scenes alone or with boards and commissions on sports events, resident recognition, construction projects, and community outreach.

The current Board of Selectmen has decided to run for another term. I am personally asking for your vote and would be honored to serve the Town of Andover for another four years on the board. I would also like to formally endorse Jeff Maguire, Scott Person, Paula King, and Adrian Mandeville. They are equally committed and if elected, will continue to lead the town of Andover in a positive direction with continued professionalism and integrity.

Sincerely, Jeffrey A. Murray Incumbent Candidate for the Andover Board of Selectmen

#### **Biden Bankrupting** the Country

To the Editor:

Washington's addiction to spending is going to bankrupt this country if it is not stopped! Between 2020 and 2022 spending was 7.5 trillion (\$7,500,000,000,000). According to the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, roughly \$700 billion (less than 10% of the total) was directed towards public health in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The other 90% was spent on welfare expansions, cash handouts and a variety of special interests which would include illegal immigrants.

I recently read that the Biden administration has hired another 350 border agents. You may think this was to curtail the amount of illegal immigrants but no, it is to process them quicker! Feed them, clothe them, get them to their hotels, etc. All at your and my expense.

American families are paying a hefty price because of our greedy politicians. There is no plan to stop this reckless spending. Unless we stop this we will go bankrupt. Prices and inflation are higher than ever and out of control.

I see three choices that we have. Continue as we are and become a communist country, remove Biden and all his cohorts from office by our election process, or wait for the next revolution.

Frank Blume - Colchester

#### **Improving Education**

To the Editor:

My name is Chris Rivers. I've had the privilege to serve on the Colchester Board of Education for nearly two years. Now, I'm seeking election to a full term. I bring a lifetime of service and experience having started my professional life as an EMT, enlisted in the Army, graduated from West Point, deployed for two combat tours, served as a civil servant, and supported many organizations as a consultant.

Based on that background, I know high performing organizations have great people that build teams based on a clear vision.

In our school district, we have great teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, and staff. Though, it is no secret that our school district has faced challenges resulting in leadership turnover. When this happened, the BoE has done to address those challenges head on. With input from teachers, administrators, staff, families, and the community at large, we now have a cohesive leadership team that will work with

sion should have easy to understand goals and be truly comprehensive for the district. Having a clear vision will allow us to move from reacting to issues that arise and start being proactive on building a future we want. It also will build time and space that allows or community to set goals and prioritize in a way that makes the most sense based on our needs, wants, and ability to pay over the long term.

This is how we build a future that balances all our needs

I'm excited by what we can do working together as a community, and that's why I'm running for the Board of Education.

> Sincerely, Christopher Rivers - Colchester Candidate for the Board of Education

#### Historically Successful

To the Editor: As changes to our weather patterns become more evident, we hear concerns about impervious surfaces, the problems they cause and solutions we can try right at home.

But what are impervious surfaces? Well the EPA says: " impervious surfaces are materials that do not allow the penetration of water, such as roads, parking lots, rooftops, and compacted soils".

The EPA rates these surfaces. For example, roadways receive a 95% impervious rating, while lawns get a 40% impervious rating, and natural cover a 0%.

Butterfly enthusiasts, from Monarch Joint Venture, explain lawns are impervious and have shallow, tight roots that limit water from draining down more than a few inches. While native plants, with deeper roots, are better at hydrating our soils and preventing erosion. Lawns help with erosion, but as many saw in 2021, large sections of over soaked lawns, with shallow roots, can easily float away topsoil, roots and all.

Prolonged periods of super dry conditions are often followed by torrential rains. Weathermen report healthy average rain fall numbers, but due to the increased amount of impervious surfaces, including sun-baked lawns, the amount of water actually being absorbed is historically less. The higher the amount of water running off hard surfaces, the lower the amount of water found in our aquifers.

Historically, East Coast watersheds have successfully grown hay. Hay has deeper roots and is cut taller than lawns. Taller grasses reduce flooding by slowing surface water runoff. Deeper roots hold soils intact. Both of which, allow for the water to be more effectively absorbed, filtered and stored.

Don't compromise GA water supplies. Adopt native plants with deeper root structures. Limit new roads, construction and NaCl. Make serious efforts to permanently safeguard water and watersheds. See Open Space Planning and Protection-CT NEMO Program, UConn. #save17

Jean Tulimieri - Amston

#### All Politics is Local? To the Editor:

You've heard the colloquial phrase "all politics is local." No, not at all. Policy flows downhill from federal politicians to state and local politicians; always has. So why would we expect most local political candidates to reflect policies antithetical to their state and federal 'leaders'?

Let's review the policies of the current Biden administration. Unabated illegal immigration; record food and gasoline prices; doubling of home mortgage interest rates; promotion of transgenderism, LGBTQ+ and pedophilia; removal of parents from education; etc. Do these policies help our citizens prosper both financially and spiritually or do they continue the erosion of families, the denial of our self-determination, and the destruction of the American

dream? If you support such policies, then you knowingly advance them to the detriment of our families and our nation.

The Republican Party isn't much better than Biden's Democratic Party. It's the UniParty folks! RINOs such as Mitch McConnell, Lindsay Graham and Kevin McCarthy market themselves as different from Democratic politicians. But it's all show and deception, fooling many 'We the People.' Tricked citizens are casting votes for the same destructive policies advanced by Democratic politicians.

But there is growing hope in the Republican Party as freedom-loving citizens have an option to vote for Republican candidates who reject UniParty communist policies. In Colchester, there are numerous Republican candidates who will not 'go along to get along'. They will question the UniParty political machine because the machine works for the politicians and not for We the People?

Do your research and vote for Republican candidates who will fight for us, the average citizens who are ignored by the political machine except during election season when the swampy machine trolls for our votes.

All politics is local? I think not.

Paul Bureau – Colchester Note: Bureau is vice chair of the Colchester Republican Town Committee.

#### Loudenback for BOE To the Editor,

Having known Brittany Loudenback longer than anyone, I can attest to her capabilities and talents. As her mother I have seen her take on challenges and causes without hesitation. She has the ability to weigh both sides of an issue and make informed decisions.

Brittany will always say her two young children have had stellar teachers and a very positive experience in Hebron schools. She will work to help provide continuing excellence in the Hebron education system for all children. Jo Souza - Hebron

#### **Support BOE Democrats** To the Editor:

After reviewing the candidate bios on the Hebron Democrats website, I want to urge all the parents in Hebron to rally behind the Hebron Democratic candidates for the Hebron Board of Education. Right now, the chair of the Hebron Board of Education is a democrat. This is very simple. If we want to keep our schools moving in the right direction, we need to support the current chair who is doing an excellent job. The only way this happens is if we elect Elizabeth Alexander, Brittany Loudenback and Eleisha LeMay for Hebron Board of Education. These three highly qualified women care about supporting parents, students, teachers, and administrators in collaboration with the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance, as they understand there are budgetary concerns to work with.

Vote Democrats onto the Board of Education. Democrats are the party of education after all. Amy Dunnells - Hebron

#### Supports Wyatt, Democrats To the Editor:

I have known Michele Wyatt for more than 12 years, both as a municipal official and as a leader in Boy Scouting. I think this is important because it shows a commitment to community service on two very separate levels.

As the tax vollector I have gone to her office with questions about my taxes and received an immediate and concise answer, every time. Whether it was my car registration or a property tax payment, I left with a clear understanding of what I needed to do.

Ms. Wyatt was also a scouting parent who was active in a local Boy Scout troop. She was a member of the troop's committee as the "Charter Organization Representative." This is an extremely important position as it exists to make sure the goals of scouting and the sponsor are always being reviewed and stay in harmony.

In both roles Michele was the example of and an advocate for community service. My experience with Michele tells me she will continue to be Colchester's leading municipal professional and an example for all our elected officials to follow.

Alphonse Letendre – Colchester

#### Working Together as One To the Editor:

If you've ever had back problems, this sounds familiar. You wake up one morning with excruciating back/sciatica pain. That was me a week ago and I'm still working through it.

I write this not to discuss me but to speak about the Democratic team I am running with. Since I couldn't attend our campaign meeting, they came to me and brought so much. They lifted my frustrated spirits with their intelligent conversations, they brought flowers and snacks, and they shared their incredible goals if elected.

Number one, they want to continue to work together as a team because Colchester should be working as a team. They want to be able to discuss issues in a bipartisan manner without reprisal because it's different from someone else's point of view. They want to see Colchester come back together and make progress forward in a planned, fiscally responsible way.

When I first met the Democratic team, I was inspired by their perspectives and new ideas, the leadership at the top with Bernie, and the balance from those of us who are veterans and bring historical knowledge and perspective. We are already working together to move Colchester forward. We are already a cohesive team.

What do we want for Colchester? We need to bring a positive voice back to our community. There have been too many negative comments against our town for months.

We want to bring back stability, civility, collaboration, teamwork, and bipartisanship. We need new ideas that can be discussed openly and financially planned to achieve them without burdening the taxpayers.

That's the Colchester I've served as a selectwoman during my tenure. Stand up for Col-See Letters, page 29



our community to improve education throughout the district.

The next step for building a high performing organization is to have a clear vision. This vi-

# Stuart L. Jablon, D.P.M.

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#### THE GROWING USE OF LASERS IN DENTISTRY

Dental lasers are classified as either hard or soft tissue lasers, depending on the intended use. New medical laser technology is being used many ways in dentistry and has a large range of applications. In some cases, it can even replace the need for the traditional dental drill. Lasers can be used to remove or reshape tissue, repair fillings, remove cavities, and accelerate whitening procedures. Some of the potential benefits of medical lasers include significant reduction of pain and quicker post procedure healing while reducing bleeding. The use of diode lasers, a type of photobiomodulation (the lowenergy application of light to tissues), has produced a 100 per cent reduction in long-term bacteria.

Modern dental technology is the result of years of research by professionals dedicated to making dental care as painless as possible, effective, efficient, and long-lasting. For compassionate dental care, including complete restorations, cosmetic dentistry, and regular cleanings, our primary goal is to treat our patients with the best, most up-to-date, gentle dentistry possible. Office hours are by appointment at our office, a very pleasant place to get a new smile.

P.S. Since the 1950s, engineer and inventor Jun-ichi Nishizawa, creator of electronic inventions such as dental and medical laser technology, has also contributed significantly to fiber-optic communication, internet technology, and the information age.

George M. Mantikas, DMD, PC The Ridge • 142 East High Street • East Hampton, CT 06424 860-267-6666 • www.DrMantikas.com

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# Standout Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Here is a double dose of *Rivereast* Standouts of the Week for the week of Sept. 18 – 24:

Will Nafis – East Hampton High School (Soccer): Following an all-conference selection as a sophomore, Nafis has continued to power a Bellringers team that has won all five games this fall. Nafis, now a junior, scored a goal during the team's latest victory, a 3-2 road win over Morgan on Sept. 22. Ethan Marshall and Nick Guarino also scored in the Shoreline Conference (SLC) triumph. Next, the undefeated Bellringers will welcome conference foe Cromwell to East Hampton High School for a game today (Friday, Sept. 29) at 4 p.m.

Maya Korczak – East Hampton High School (Soccer): Korczak picked up right where she left off after an all-state junior season last fall, scoring three goals as the Bellringers started the 2023 season with a pair of victories. Korczak, a senior, netted a pair of goals in a 6-1 win at North Branford and then added another goal in the team's home opener, a 3-1 victory over Valley Regional. The Bellringers are in the middle of a four-game road trip, heading to Lyman Memorial on Saturday, Sept. 30 for a game at 4 p.m. **Parker Thompson – Portland High School** (Soccer): Thompson scored a pair of goals, including the game-winner in the closing minute as the Highlanders defeated Cromwell 2-1 on Sept. 23. Thompson, a junior, sparked the offense while senior goalie Erik Medvecky solidified the back end. Two days earlier, Medvecky blanked Valley Regional 3-0 behind a pair of goals from Gio Discenza and another from Alex Dawson, with two assists coming from Thompson. Next is a road game at New Britain High School on Saturday, Sept. 30 at 11 a.m.

Cristina Austin – Portland High School (Soccer): Austin scored the contest's only goal as the Highlanders dealt Bristol Eastern a 1-0 defeat. Austin, a sophomore, provided the offense and sophomore goalie Gracie DeRing kept the net clean with the help of a stout defense led by senior Lily Carroll. The team next hosts Westbrook on Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 4 p.m.

**Brady Gould – Bacon Academy (Football):** Gould scored four touchdowns as the Bobcats visited the capital city and throttled Weaver 49-6 on Sept. 22. Gould, a senior captain, was one of four Bacon Academy players to find the end zone. Avatar Disher, Julian Rodegher, and Ed-

### Outdoor Antique Show Returns to Lebanon

The Lebanon Historical Society will hold its Outdoor Antique Show Saturday, Sept 30, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., on the Lebanon Green.

Admission is \$8. Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase all day. Parking is free and the event goes on rain or shine.

For more information, contact the Lebanon

Historical Society 860-642-6579 or museum@ historyoflebanon.org, or visit www.historyoflebanon.org.

Dealer spaces are still available; cost is \$90 for a 20' x 24' space. Call 860-423-8876 or 860-642-6579 to reserve a space.

### Volunteers Sought for AARP Tax Foundation

For many years, the senior centers in Colchester, Hebron, Marlborough, Columbia, East Hampton and East Haddam have hosted the AARP Tax-Aide Program, which provides free income tax preparation services for residents of these towns and surrounding communities.

Tax-Aide is offered in conjunction with the IRS. The program is looking for people to join its volunteer team. You don't need to be an ac-

countant or tax professional; the volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds. Training and support are provided.

To volunteer, go to aarpfoundation.org/ taxaidevolunteer, or call 1-888-AARP-NOW (888-227-7669).

For additional information before signing up, contact your local senior center and you will be connected with a local Tax-Aide volunteer.

# Salmon River Bridge to be Replaced

#### By London Brazal

The state Department of Transportation recently announced the future replacement of the Route 16 bridge over the Salmon River.

The public is invited to the virtual information meeting, which will be held via Zoom next Thursday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. The session is held to provide residents the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments regarding the proposed project. To find instructions on how to access the meeting, share comments, and pose questions, visit portal.ct.gov/DOTEastHampton41-121. On the website, there are also images and diagrams of the proposed project.

Construction is expected to commence in April 2026 pending the availability of funds, acquisition of rights of way, and various permit approvals. The estimated construction expenditure for this project is approximately \$10 million.

In a DOT press release, project manager Francisco Fadul said the Salmon River bridge was originally constructed in 1932 and exceeded its design life to drive through Moodus to get around a bridge closure which could potentially add thirty minutes to commutes. For commuters using Route 16 to get to work, alternate routes through Marlborough or East Haddam would add large delays and increase spending on gas. Those who live on Colchester Avenue would backtrack as far as Young Street or use Route 66 to drive towards Colchester.

The potential closures could significantly impact emergency services, making mutual aid cooperation imperative. Response times and drives to the nearest medical facilities would lengthen creating great concern. Additionally, semi-tractor trailers may encounter challenges due to the inadequacy of some backroads to accommodate their size.

Additional project concerns encompass safety and environmental factors. The presence of a steep downhill curve, with an obstructed view of the project, from Colchester could pose challenges in detecting stopped traffic. Furmore, the stretch of road leading toward Colchester may require a reduced speed limit from the current 50 miles per hour. Conservation efforts for the river commenced around the time of the bridge's initial construction and the Land and Water Conservation Fund acquired the property, according to the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection. Any new construction is expected to have substantial effects on both migrating fish populations and water quality. The Comstock Covered Bridge and Salmon River Picnic Area are popular destinations throughout the warmer months, attracting fishermen and hikers. Construction will make parking at the covered bridge limited and too complicated to get around the bridge to the other side.



The boys soccer team at East Hampton High School has started 5-0 this fall. The Bellringers are coming off a state championship appearance a season ago and welcome back a slew of talent, including returning all-conference junior Will Nafis, who was named a Standout Athlete of the Week.

die Gignac also scored touchdowns, while kicker Jace King connected on all seven extra point attempts. Dylan Ward, who was celebrating his birthday, intercepted a pass to lead a defense that also shutout Bethel, 21-0, in their home opener on Sept. 9. The Bobcats now welcome Griswold/ Wheeler to Bacon Academy for a game this Saturday, Sept. 30, kicking off at noon.

**Boden Paul – Bacon Academy (Cross-Country):** Paul ran a 19:06 to take first place as the Bobcats defeated Waterford 23-33 at Zagaway Farms in Colchester. Paul, a freshman, led the way as Bacon Academy took four of the top six spots with Michael Dickey (3rd / 19:30), Carson Brown (5th / 20:06) and Ian McLain (6th / 20:07) rounding out the top four Bobcats to finish.

Ava Machowski – RHAM High School (Soccer): Machowski scored her eighth goal of the season during the Raptors 3-1 win over Granby at RHAM High School on Sept. 29. Machowski, a senior, has been a main offensive threat for a Raptors team that has started the season by winning four of five games. Next up is a home game against South Windsor today (Friday, Sept. 29) at 3:45 p.m.

**T.J. Machowski - RHAM High School (Soccer):** Machowski made five saves as the Raptors shutout powerhouse Glastonbury 1-0 on Sept. 21. Machowski, a junior, has been manning the net for a Raptors defense that has blanked four of their first six opponents this season. Senior Troy Miller scored the only goal in the win over Glastonbury and now RHAM travels to South Windsor for a game today (Friday, Sept. 29) at 4 p.m.

To nominate an athlete as a *Rivereast* Standout or with sport-related comments, email joshhowardsports@gmail.com.

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton

# Becoming Aware Before Tragedy Strikes

#### By London Brazal

Growing concerns about bike safety have sparked conversations in town as people complain about certain bikers making "reckless" decisions on the road.

During the summer, some residents resorted to using Facebook to express concerns about children reportedly engaging in risky behavior while riding near traffic. Multiple posts described kids "swerving back and forth" into roads and "doing wheelies into traffic." The police department does not monitor Facebook and since May, only eight cases were reported.

According to multiple police reports, youth were riding in and out of cars, described as "reckless" and "erratically." In one report, a juvenile was spotted riding in the center of the road at the entrance to Stop & Shop, and the driver of a vehicle narrowly avoided hitting them.

In the majority of cases, when the police were contacted, they successfully identified the young individuals involved and engaged in discussions with their parents.

"Unfortunately, in some cases, citizens will not call the police to report this unsafe behavior but will instead post the unsafe behavior on Facebook," said Police Chief Dennis Woessner. The police department encourages individuals to contact the police when they witness incidents so they can ing approved helmets while cycling, as helmets play a crucial role in saving lives.

Under Connecticut General Statute 14-286c, youth aged 15 and under must wear an approved helmet while biking. If a youth fails to comply, the only course of action is to issue a verbal warning to both the parent and child. If the parent does not require their child to wear a helmet or do not take their bike away, the only repercussion remains a verbal warning.

Another regulation for riding a bicycle includes having the same rights and responsibilities as motor vehicles. Cyclists are not allowed to blow through red lights or stop signs. Under specific circumstances, individuals can ride bicycles on sidewalks, and while doing so, they are granted the same rights as pedestrians. Moreover, when cycling at a speed slower than the normal flow of traffic, cyclists are obligated to ride as close to the right side of the road as possible. It's important to note that riding within the flow of traffic is not permitted.

The police department urges young individuals to demonstrate respect and courtesy and obey the regulations of operating a bicycle.

"At some point, you will be a licensed driver and will be driving around town. Do you want to encounter a person on a bike who is weaving in and out of troffic and be scared to doth because

ed its design life.

"This project will replace the bridge with a new structure in accordance with CTDOT and Federal Highway Administration design standards," Fadul said. The department encourages community members to attend the meeting to provide feedback to the CTDOT project team. "Public input is essential during our design process," he said.

As constructed 91 years ago, the project will address the structural inadequacies of the bridge on Route 16, classified as State Bridge No. 00853. The new structure accommodates safe travel for all users and includes a steel plate girder structure with integral abutments. According to the CTDOT press release, the proposed bridge will be a "single-span structure and have a span length of 150 feet, eliminating the center pier. It also includes a widening of the roadway to provide a 32-foot curb-to-curb width."

Though the construction is not to begin for another three years, many concerns started to arise with the potential project. During the school year, a full road closure would prevent students living off Waterhole Road from getting to school in a timely manner. Buses would have The informational meeting next week will also be livestreamed on the DOT's YouTube channel.

Community members can submit comments and questions to Fadul directly, at Francisco. Fadul@ct.gov. They can also email DOTProject41-121@ct.gov or call 860-594-2020. All comments should be submitted by Oct. 19. promptly respond and conduct investigations.

If the police department takes enforcement action against the youth, they need a complainant to provide a signed, notarized statement that outlines their observations and expresses their desire for enforcement actions against these individuals. Unless a police officer witnesses the incident, they cannot take action without a sworn statement.

In the cases where police officers were able to communicate with the youth, they educated them on the risks associated with their actions. However, Woessner said that this behavior is not something the department can take on themselves. They rely on parents to collaborate with them in holding their children responsible for their actions. When an officer witnesses a violation and enforcement action is deemed appropriate, the youth is referred to Juvenile Court. Typically, for minor infractions, the court will redirect the case to the Juvenile Review Board in the youth's hometown.

Woessner encourages parents to engage in earnest discussions with their children upon encountering Facebook posts and explain the perils of riding bicycles recklessly. It is equally vital for parents to confirm that their children are wearvou almost hit them?" added Woessner.

He also asks drivers to remain vigilant for other vehicles, bicycles, or pedestrians and adhere to the posted speed limits. "It has been proven that slow-speed accidents produce fewer injuries and fatalities," he said.

Woessner requested that people call the police when witnessing the erratic behavior, and not just post about it on Facebook.

"By reporting the incident [to the police], you may prevent a future tragedy," Woessner said,

Woessner also pointed out that the people riding recklessly are very much the exception, and not the rule.

"I want to be very clear that the vast majority of people who are riding bicycles around town are doing so in a very safe manner," he said.

For those who have made previous complaints, Woesnner and the police department are aware of the small group of youths in town operating bikes in a reckless manner. But again, urge those who witness the behavior to contact the police as soon as possible.

East Hampton Police can be reached at 860-267-9922.

### East Hampton • East Hampton

# **Bellringers Volleyball Continues Winning Ways**

#### By Josh Howard

Coming off the program's first state championship in 2022, some of the names on East Hampton's volleyball roster have change, yet the mindset remains the same,

'We have a different lineup with the same goals," said senior captain Delaney Russell.

So far, the Bellringers have seized on the momentum from last fall, winning seven of eight games to start the 2023 season, including a three-set sweep (25-15, 25-12, 25-18) of Cromwell on Sept. 20.

It was the Bellringers third straight win and head coach Molly Grabowski said the team is forming into shape.

"I've liked seeing everyone get better," Grabowski said of her new-look squad. "We started out really raw and we were plugging in new people and filling some big shoes, so it's nice to see that those holes become smaller and smaller."

In the road victory at Cromwell High School, senior captain Amber Murphy led the charge upfront with six kills and three blocks.

Grabowski credited Murphy for her consistent work at the net, saying, "Amber is becoming more and more aggressive."

Joining Russell and Murphy in the captain's chair is returning setter Chelsea Woods, who dished out a season-high 24 assists in the win at Cromwell.

Grabowski said, despite several new faces on the court, Woods has again done a nice job at running the offense, distributing the ball to a new cast of characters.

The three captains – along with fellow seniors Mackenzie Players, Madison Reola and Emily Tinson - have become the veteran voices for a team that is fresh off both a Shoreline Conference title and the Class S state champions last fall.

"We've had to step up and lead the team a little more," Murphy said of the expanded role. "We lost some players from last year, but I think we have a strong team this year."

A year ago, Murphy's older twin sisters Jordan and Jenna captained the team with Reagan Burt. Jordan Murphy earned all-state and was named the Class S tournament's Most Valuable Player as the Bellringers captured the program's first state title, defeating Hale Ray in the title match last November.

With the three influential seniors departing, it was up to the returning players from a year ago to carry on the winning ways.

"The seniors are finding their leadership foot-ing," stated Grabowski. "Last year they were able to stand behind Jordan, Jenna and Reagan, but now they are finding their own way to lead the team."

It helps that the team returned plenty of experience a season ago, with four of six starters back in their roles.

For the second year in the row, Woods is the team's setter, again leading the team in assists and distributing in a different way.

"We were a power hitting team and we're still trying to do that, but we had to make changes in our lineup and how we are approaching the games," said Woods, who was named first-team all-conference as a junior last fall. "We are going to be a smaller team and are getting recognized for how we play rather than just putting the ball down every time."

Junior Olivia DeMartino is back in her libero position, leading the team defensively, averag-



East Hampton volleyball has won seven of eight games to start the season. From left; Delaney Russell, Olivia DeMartino, and Mackenzie Player are pictured at a game inside Cromwell High School last Wednesday. The Bellringers beat the host Panthers in straight sets.

#### ing 15 digs per match.

DeMartino closed the first set against Cromwell with an ace and then the Bellringers started the second set by scoring four of the first five points behind a pair of aces from Woods.

After falling behind early in the second set, Grabowski said she liked how her team responded against their Shoreline Conference (SLC) rivals.

'Cromwell has a way of putting the ball back at us at different times when we're not ready," added Grabowski. "I think we responded well and I think [they players] did a good job as the game went on."

The Bellringers used a seven-point scoring run midway through the third set to take control before Amber Murphy polished off the match with consecutive points, powering home a kill and a block.

Sophomore Stephanie Martin also shined in the victory, finishing with a career-high 10 kills off the bench.

Following the victory over Cromwell, East

A local man was arrested earlier this month

after driving erratically and striking a mail de-

livery truck and two road signs, according to

Sept. 13, officers were dispatched to a report

of a silver Chevrolet SUV driving "all over the

road" while headed east on West High Street

(Route 66). Moments later, police said, the

caller reported that the same vehicle turned

on to Barton Hill Road, heading north, struck

the rear end of a U.S. Postal Service delivery

truck, and then sped out of the caller's view

north onto Summit Street (Route 196).

Police said that at about 3 p.m. Wednesday,

East Hampton Police said.

Hampton made it four wins in a row with a four set (25-18, 25-21, 17-25, 25-9) win over Haddam-Killingworth on Sept. 22 as Woods matched her season-high with 24 assists.

On Tuesday, East Hampton defeated Cogincaugh Regional in three sets (25-11, 25-18, 25-13) behind nine aces from DeMartino.

Since a Sept 13 loss to Hale Ray, the Bellringers have won five straight games, taking 15 of 16 sets during that streak.

Russell said the three captains are leaning on the leadership skills from those before them.

"Luckily we've had awesome seniors during our time here that have been great role models for us," added Russell. "It's still early in the season and we are still navigating it, but we are staying positive and I feel like the team is looking to us for guidance."

The Bellringers are in the middle of a fourgame home stand and look to keep the momentum going when they welcome North Branford to East Hampton High School for a match today, Friday, Sept. 29, at 5:30 p.m.

KoC Spaghetti Supper

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

Takeout and dine-in meals will be offered. Meal prices are \$13 for adults and \$12 for

seniors. Children 5 and under eat for free. The meal will include a salad, bread, dessert, coffee

9/4: Tyler Hodge, 29, of 28 Old Middletown Ave., was arrested and charged with reckless driving, failure to drive right and driving under

the influence, East Hampton Police said. 9/4: Edward Powell, 21, of Manchester was arrested and charged with driving under the in-

fluence, police said. 9/9: Rebecca Proxee, 45, of 16 Arden Dr.,

was arrested and charged with second-degree threatening and disorderly conduct, police said.

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

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

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

### **Police News**

9/12: Beverly Therrien, 45, of Middlefield, was arrested and charged with operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, East Hampton Police said.

9/17: Nina Campbell, 36, of North Windham, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, police said.

From Sept. 4-24, officers responded to 46 medical calls, 18 motor vehicle crashes and 22 alarms, and made 47 traffic stops, police said.

### **Congregational Church News & Notes**

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, UCC, located at 59 Main St., is open for services with the Rev. Amie McCarthy every Sunday at 10 a.m. All services can also be accessed via Zoom by going to cc-eh.org.

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

Church school classes meet every Sunday. The Yarners meet every Thursday from 10:30

### **Fall History Festival**

a.m.-noon in the Fellowship Hall. All knitters and crocheters are welcome.

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

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

East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St, has announced the following. Registration required unless noted; to register, or for full pro-

> 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.

Upon arrival, officers found two street signs that had just been destroyed by the same vehicle, police said.

Police said that at about 4:45 p.m. the evading vehicle - which had sustained extensive damage on the front end and passenger side was discovered parked in the driveway of

9 Lakeview St. Patrick Burke, 53, also of 9 Lakeview St., was arrested and charged with failure to drive right and evading responsibility, police said.

Burke was due in court Wednesday, Sept. 27, to answer to the charges, police said.

### East Hampton Library News & Notes

Driver Hits Mail Truck, Street Signs

ties available while supplies last. No registration required. Family Storytime: Saturday, Oct. 14, 10:30-

gram descriptions, call 860-267-6621 or visit us 11:30 a.m. Best for ages 3-5. Sing songs and read books; families can stick around after for a craft, sensory play, and socializing. No registration required. Siblings welcome.

Teen Programs: Nintendo Switch Game Play: Grades 6-12: Saturday, Sept. 30, 2-3:30 p.m. All skill levels welcome. Cardboard Arcade! Design & Planning: Tuesday, Oct. 3, 4:30-5:30 p.m., for grades 6-12. Using cardboard and other recyclable items, teens will design and construct arcade games. Reading Merit Badge: Tuesday, Oct. 10, 5:30 p.m. Local scouts are welcome to come to the library and work on the requirements for the Reading Merit Badge. Bring your blue card. Workbooks and snacks will be provided. Adult Programs: Cookbook Club - World Tour: Germany: Tuesday, Oct. 3, 6:30 p.m. Try new recipes and chat about culinary adventures. The library will provide plates and utensils; all you need is your dish and 12 copies of the recipe to share.

The Chatham Historical Society (CHS) will hold its eighth annual "Fall History Festival" Saturday, Oct. 7, from noon-3 p.m., at the CHS Museum complex at 6 Bevin Blvd.

This year the festival will celebrate two anniversaries. The first is the 60th anniversary of the establishment of CHS in 1963. There have been many officers and members in its 60-year history. CHS is asking any past officers, members or their children to come to the festival at 1 p.m. and share their stories.

The second anniversary is the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC began on March 31, 1933 under President Roosevelt's "New Deal" to relieve the poverty and unemployment of the Depression. The U.S. Army supervised the camps which had approximately 200 men each. The camps were set up in state parks and forests. East Hampton had two camps: one in the Salmon River State Forest and the other in Cobalt on Gadpouch Road.

At the Fall History Festival, the CHS Museum Complex will be open to the public for free. The three museum buildings have a large display of artifacts illustrating East Hampton's history.

There is a large display of bells produced at the Bevin Bell Factory and a huge array of toys made at the Gong Bell Company and the N. N. Hill Brass Co. There is also a display of the witch hazel industry donated by the American Distilling Company. There will also be a new display of CCC history and memorabilia.

Outside under the large Lions Club tent will be a band providing music throughout the afternoon. There will be guided tours of the threebuilding museum complex and free cider & doughnuts.

All are invited to attend. For more information, contact Marty Podskoch at 860-267-2442 or podskoch@comcast.net.

### Seat of Our Pants to Perform

Due to a health problem, the performance of local band Seat of Our Pants at the Bay Point Club on Spellman Point Road in East Hampton had to be rescheduled.

The new date is Saturday, Oct. 7, at 7 p.m. All are invited.

All-Ages Programs: Cardboard Arcade Open Play: Saturday, Oct. 7, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. The community is invited to drop in and give these creative games a try.

Halloween Costume Swap - Costume Shop: Saturday, Sept. 30, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. This event is open to everyone, you do not have to donate to take items from the swap. Items will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Items left behind after the swap may be used for future library programs, donated, or recycled. Drop offs will be accepted through Sept. 29 during normal Library hours.

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

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

DIY Days: Grades K-8 - Glitter Bouncy Balls: Saturday, Sept. 30, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Activi-

LibrarYoga with Amie Meacham: Tuesday, Oct. 10, 6:30 p.m. This is an hour of gentle yoga for adults. All levels welcome.

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

# East Hampton • East H **GOP Council Candidates Committed to Moving Forward**

#### **By London Brazal**

Page 12

The Republican candidates for Town Council are prepared to look to the future while searching to provide services for residents of all ages.

The candidates said their collective goals include maintaining fiscal responsibility, sustaining small-town charm, understanding residents' needs, and creating an inclusive community. The candidates for Town Council are: Brandon Goff, Alison Walck, Bridget McLennan, Deb Cunningham, and Rosemarie Hecht.

Incumbent Brandon Goff is running for reelection to continue his efforts made in his first two years. Some accomplishments of his include distributing one-time capital expenses with American Rescue Plan Act funds and supporting the senior community by passing taxsaving incentives. As a newer member of town politics, Goff offers informative data-driven decisions, recognizes opinions from professionals, and values finding new ways to solve issues.

"I haven't been involved in town politics for decades, so I don't try to run every decision the same old way it's always been done," Goff said.

By continuing on the council, Goff would like to work with the Fire Department to find a suitable firehouse that fits their needs. In addition, he is excited to continue working with the Ambulance Association by guaranteeing supplemented funds instead of having to negotiate yearly. Goff looks forward to supporting the environmental work of the lake and finding ways to rehabilitate and repurpose the Brownfield buildings.

"None of this work could have been done without the grants that these committees have worked to receive," Goff noted. He suggests a grant writer to capitalize on more opportunities.

Current councilwoman Alison Walck is looking for reelection as she said she believes in "common-sense governance by the people for the people."

"I am not a voice of myself but a voice rep-

resenting the people of East Hampton," Walck said. She plans to continue making her decisions based on facts and merit while seeking the truth from available sources. While discussing important topics, Walck frequently asks "why?" to further questing. She believes "disagreement makes for better legislation."

In office, Walck will focus on making reasonable, responsible, and appropriate expenditures based on needs not wants. With that, she wants ordinances to be equitable, enforceable, and sensible for the town's residents. Furthermore, Walck wants to enforce rational taxation and a smaller, more efficient government that, in her opinion, enables residents to reside and remain in East Hampton.

Bridget McLennan is the current chair of the Board of Finance and provides a strong understanding of revenues and expenses for town budgets. Even in tough inflationary times, McLennan is ready to serve and do what is best for East Hampton. In office, she would promote the development of strategic plans with effective prioritizing. McLennan said she would like to focus on bringing clean water to the community and brainstorm ideas about the eroding infrastructure, including declining roads.

With her experience in the town's politics, McLennan sees the importance of listening to differing opinions. "I believe there is value in hearing and truly listening to others' points of view," McLennan said. She believes thoroughly that slandering or denigrating a party or individuals never benefits the community. And, she hopes to make more collaborative efforts that will result in better outcomes overall.

Deb Cunningham was appointed to and currently serves on the Board of Finance and served on the Board of Assessment and Appeals. These positions have allowed Cunningham to see how the town operates, the financial implications, and the public discussion of taxpayer's appeals.

the library at 12:30 p.m. to carpool, or at the

Oct. 16, 7 p.m. Get away from the distractions

at home, come down to the library and write.

Contact the library to pre-register and for fur-

**Reception - AC Proctor Recent Paintings:** 

Medicare & Health Insurance Explained:

Banish the Blank Page (Writers Workshop/

Monday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m., with Springli D. Sage.

Meet-up Group): Monday, Oct. 30, 7-8:30 p.m.

There will be writing exercises, constructive crit-

icism, and an opportunity to seek the opinions of

other writers. All genres. Contact the library to

pre-register and for further information.

Write Here - Writers' Group: Monday,

Hurd Park Pavilion at 1 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 21, 2-4 p.m.

### Middle Haddam Public Library News

Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles the town clerk's office.

ther information.

Rd., Middle Haddam, has announced the fol-CommuniTea: Saturday, Oct. 7, from 10 a.m.-noon. This is a monthly gathering to visit lowing. To register or more information on any program, email middlehaddamlibrary@gmail. with neighbors and other library patrons. Have com, visit middlehaddamlibrary.com or call a cup of tea (coffee drinkers welcome). 860-267-9093. The library's P.O. Box number is Local Mushroom Informational Walk: Saturday, Oct. 14, with Judy Buonocore. Meet at

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

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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.

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

Talk with Town Clerk Kelly Bilodeau: Monday, Oct. 4, 7 p.m. Find out what's available at



all ages are welcome to the 10th annual Benny Fund 5K run, 5K walk and kids' fun run, taking place at Sears Park, 68 N. Main St., on Saturday, Oct. 7, starting at 9 a.m. Registration is from 7:30-8:30 a.m. at Sears

Park. Participants can also preregister at www. bennyfund.org. Shuttles will leave for the start line at 8:30 a.m. The race will finish at Sears Park. The kids' run will start after the 5K ends, at approximately 10:15 a.m.

### **Red McKinney Rotary Golf Tournament**

The East Hampton/Marlborough Rotary Club invites all to participate in the 30th annual Golf Tournament. This is the third year honoring the late Red McKinney.

The tournament will take place at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron on Wednesday, Oct. 4. Registration is from 8-10 a.m. Breakfast sandwiches will be available for purchase provided by the East Hampton VFW Post 5095 Auxiliary. Shotgun start is at 10 a.m.

The format will be a scramble, with prizes for first, second and third place teams, closest to the



On the council, she would bring civility and collaboration to foster new ways of problemsolving while ensuring the town's best interests. Cunningham added the importance of improving the communication between residents during the budget process.

'Very few residents participated in the budget workshops and got involved too late in the process," she said. "I would like to work to improve how resident engagement channels can be improved."

In office, Cunningham would like to contract a grant writer consultant to handle applications as grants help lessen the burden on taxes. As the town's revenue stream is from property taxes, she plans to manage new developments and promote small business growth.

"I honestly believe we can create a sustainable, working model for the future of East Hampton," Cunningham added. With that, she envisions a public safety plan that clearly outlines shortterm and long-term needs for police, EMS, and Fire services.

Rosemarie Hecht has years of experience in bringing people together to solve business problems, valuing people's concerns while creating solutions, and working with grants. The East Hampton native is focused on fostering a fair and responsible community with services that people deserve. As the secretary of a Newington social club, Hecht has noticed the needs of the aging population and wants to keep the town affordable for them. In office, she would address the issue of volunteer shortages for the Ambulance and Fire Department as future spending will face several challenges.

"It all comes down to affordability!" Hecht emphasized. "I want to preserve what our ancestors have left us while working to ensure that our future is well-positioned for growth and prosperity."

As a councilwoman, Hecht said she would offer fast thinking, quick decision-making, and create robust solutions. Her 35+ years of experience working for UPS on the business side and in operations showed her different perspectives on economics on a larger scale. While moving forward, Hecht values improving the Council's communication and collaborating with the residents.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 7. Look for profiles of the candidates for the Board of Finance, Board of Education, and Planning and Zoning Commission in next week's Rivereast.

### Scholarship Applications Accepted

Applications for the annual East Hampton Ambulance Scholarship are currently being accepted - and are due Saturday.

This scholarship was started nine years ago in memory of Jim Morris who was involved in the ambulance association for many years, was an educator and a firm believer in volunteerism.

The scholarship is available to East Hampton and Haddam Neck undergraduate residents who have completed one year of studies in an allied health program or to a member of the East Hampton Ambulance who is furthering their education.

Applications are available at ehems.org under the "contact us" section. Applications are due by Sept. 30 and can be mailed to Liz Whitty, Scholarship Chairperson, East Hampton Ambulance Association, P.O. Box 144, East Hampton, CT 06424, or emailed to lwhitty@ehems.org.

#### Benny Fund 5K Returns Oct. 7 All runners, walkers, kids and volunteers of

The event is to help raise money for mental health and suicide prevention education in schools and to, organizers said, "end the silence and stigma that has so long accompanied mental health disorders." The run/walk is directed by First Mile Fitness and is officially timed.

The Benny Fund is an East Hampton-based nonprofit dedicated to improving mental health and preventing suicide through advocacy and education.

pin, longest drive and closest to the line. There will also be the popular hole-in-one contest.

Don't forget to wear your red shirt.

Lunch will be a grab-and-go (between hold nine on Anderson Glen and hole ten on Gilead Highlands). Dinner will follow the tournament and there will be a 50/50 raffle, live auction, and a tee-cup raffle. Non-golfers are welcome to come for dinner an participate in the raffles and auction.

Cost is \$125 per golfer or \$25 for dinner only. Dinner starts at approximately 3:30 p.m. One hundred percent of the proceeds go to supporting community service projects. Sponsorship

For more information and to register, visit

### East Hampton • East Hampton

# **Record-Breaking Golf Tournament Fundraiser**

#### **By London Brazal**

The CT Draft Horse Rescue successfully ran its ninth annual golf tournament to raise money for the farm and horses setting record numbers.

Kim Weglinski, the planner of the first eight tournaments, passed the torch to volunteers Sheri Spaulding and Maureen Morin. At the annual tournament, they had a total of 120 golfers both new and returning players with an increase of East Hampton participants. The organization also had more than 30 official donors. Diamond donors, contributing \$1,000 included CT Horse Creamation and realtor Jim Harrington.

With the success of the event, the CT Draft Horse Rescue netted \$16,100 to help care for the horses. The funds help towards purchasing feed, hay, and much-needed medical expenses for their rescued draft horses and running the farm so it remains at a high standard. According to the organization, it takes roughly \$160 per day to feed the horses and the acquired funds help immensely toward that cost.

Every year, the rescue brings an ambassador horse to the golf course. This year the ambassador was a 21-year-old Percheron named Spencer. Guests were welcome to take pictures with Spencer throughout the day. As an ambassador, Spencer's job is to demonstrate how gentle, intelligent, and essential draft horses are. When Spencer arrived at CDHR, he was underweight, starved, and neglected. Over time, he got better and now helps with carriage rides and posing for photos.

At the tournament, golfers enjoyed a round of golf, lunch, and dinner at the Portland Golf Course. Raffles were available to put tickets towards including sleigh bells from Bevin Brothers Bells, a CDHR gift bag, and a Rule of 3 Brewery gift basket. The rescue also had merchandise for sale such as bottle openers, plush Clydesdales, hats, and koozies.

The 10th annual tournament is set for next year on Sept. 14, Planning will start next spring, but Co-Chair planners Spauding and Morin are excited to see what happens, especially celebrating a decade of golf tournament fundraising.

#### About CT Draft Horse Rescue

Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue was founded in 2011 by veterinarian Dr. Stacev Golub. Located at 113 Chestnut Hill Rd. and hosts visiting hours on the weekends from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. or by appointment. For more than 10 years, they have given over 100 draft horses a second chance at life, saving them from auctions and kill pens while providing a new home.

CDHR is an all-volunteer organization, that relies entirely on donations made by compassionate and caring individuals. Volunteers can get involved to help with a variety of different tasks. Those can range from farm maintenance to helping create fundraising events, attending community and on-site events, delivering presentations to groups, and approaching businesses for sponsorship.

Without employees, all revenue from donations goes straight to the care of the horses to keep them well and safe. Donations are accepted online, through mail, and at events CDHR hosts. Different levels include a one-time gift,

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.

'Come to the Table' Ice Cream Social: Saturday, Sept. 30, from 4-6 p.m. Bring your own food, gather for some social time and ice cream dessert will be provided.

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

Children's Ministry: For children in grades K-5, held in Fellowship Hall during our worship

**Christ Episcopal Church News** 

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

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

Bible Study: All are invited to join the Rev.

service. The theme is "Friends with God" and is taught though Bible stories where the characters are friends with God and tell about God's love for us. A toddler nursery is also available. All are welcome.

Vocal Choir: Choir rehearsals are held Wednesdays at 7 p.m. New members are always welcome. Rehearsals will resume in the fall.

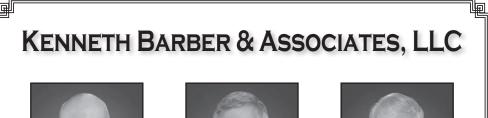
Adult Bible Study: Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Music Room. The study is on the Book of Revelation. Bible Study will resume in the fall.

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.

Bobette Reed Kahn and the group at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. Contact her at bobette@kahn.com to join the Zoom group.

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

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.



sponsoring a draft, or giving monthly. The organization earned GuideStar's Platinum Seal of Transparency and donors directly see what their contributions go to.

For the horses coming to the rescue, the organization has three main goals: rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome. When a horse enters the program, they are quarantined from the rest of the herd to assess their overall physical condition and health. When given a clean bill of health, the horse goes through decompression time where they build trust and confidence with the volunteers.

With a trainer, the horses go through rehabilitation to relearn ground manners and basic handling skills. Most of the horses have been through trauma and CDHR takes their time with the process to ensure future success for the horse. Once fully rehabilitated, the horses have good manners and know how to behave with other animals and people.

At the end of the process, CDHR works hard to find a new forever home for their draft horses. The adoption process requires an investment of time, money, and emotion. The thorough application helps enable the best match. Horses that are not suitable for riding can become companion horses, acting as a friend to another horse.

On Sunday, Oct. 8, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., CDHR invites families to the 12th annual Open Barn Oktoberfest Celebration. It is a free family event with hay rides, food, farm tours, raffle items, CDHR merch, vendors, and more. Vendor applications are due Oct. 4 and can be found on the website ctdraftrescue.org.

### Artists Invited to Sign-Up for Show

The East Hampton Art Association invites artists to register for its 43rd annual Fine Art Show, to be held Saturday, Oct. 14, on the Congregational Church lawn. All artists with original work are encouraged to participate in the show.

The show is for artists only; crafts are not accepted. There will be monetary awards and ribbons given to the best in the show. Artists can display in their own tents or they may request space on the fence.

There will be a Purchase Award by the East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission in the amount of \$300-\$500. Selected artwork, chosen by members of the commission, must depict an East Hampton theme/connection or created by an East Hampton artist, and will be presented as a gift to an East Hampton town facility.

To register for the Fine Art Show, contact Elizabeth Sennett at 860-267-9061 before Oct. 5.

Members of the public are invited to

### **CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF** TRANSPORTATION VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

#### State Project No. 0041-0121

**Replacement of Route 16 Bridge over the Salmon River, Town of East Hampton** 

October 5, 2023 7.00 p.m.

#### Register: https://portal.ct.gov/DOTEastHampton41-121

#### YouTube Livestream: https://portal.ct.gov/ctdotvpimarchive

The purpose of this meeting is to provide the community an opportunity to learn about the proposed project and allow an open discussion of any views and comments concerning the proposed improvements. A Question and Answer (Q&A) session will immediately follow the presentation.

The purpose of the project is to address the structural deficiencies of State Bridge No. 00853, which carries Route 16 over the Salmon River in the town of East Hampton, and to provide a structure that accommodates safe travel for all facility users. The replacement bridge will be a steel plate girder structure with integral abutments. The proposed bridge will be a single span structure and have a span length of 150 feet, eliminating the center pier. It also includes a widening of the roadway to provide a 32-foot curb-to-curb width.

There are right-of-way impacts anticipated with the proposed improvements. These impacts include temporary construction easements on each side of the bridge. Construction is anticipated to begin April of 2026 based on the availability of funding, acquisition of rights of way, and approval of permit(s). The estimated construction cost for this project is approximately \$10,000,000. This project is anticipated to be undertaken with 100 percent State funds during the construction phase.

Please register for the virtual public information meeting at https://portal.ct.gov/DOTEastHampton41-121. Registration is required to participate.





Kenneth Barber, Esq.

John H. Porter, Esq.

Joseph Cassidy, Esq.

### YOUR ATTORNEYS

*"I'd rather regret the* risks that didn't work out than the chances I didn't take at all."

- Simone Biles (July/August 2020)

Barber-Law-Firm.com P: 860-267-2263 29 West High Street, East Hampton, CT 06424 Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the meeting.

Members of the public can submit comments and questions during the two-week public comment period following the meeting. Please direct comments and questions by October 19, 2023 to: DOTProject41-121@ct.gov and (860)-594-2020 or Francisco Fadul, Transportation Supervising Engineer, Francisco.Fadul@ct.gov, (860) 594-2078.

#### ACCESSIBILITY

This meeting will also be livestreamed on YouTube, and closed captioning will be available. Non-English translation options will be available on Zoom and YouTube. The recording will also be available on CTDOT's YouTube Virtual Public Information Meeting playlist: https://portal.ct.gov/ctdotvpimarchive Persons with limited internet access, use the call-in number (877) 853-5257 and enter Meeting ID 868 7811 6111. Persons with limited internet access may also request that project information be mailed to them within one week by contacting Brianna Ritacco, Brianna.Ritacco@ct.gov, (860) 594-3205.

Persons with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS).

Language assistance may be requested by contacting CTDOT's Language Assistance Call Line (860) 594-2109. Requests should be made at least five business days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public and efforts will be made to respond to timely requests for assistance.

RE9-22-2

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton



Get Lake Smart... Cheryl Lobo, a member of the East Hampton Conservation-Lake Commission, recently awarded homeowners, Ginny & Bob Yenkner their LakeSmart Award for doing their part to keep Pocotopaug healthy. Bob and Ginny Yenkner have been actively working to stop algae blooms for years. Bob is the President and a founding father of the Save The Lake neighborhood group, devoted to advocating for and improving the water quality of the lake. Any homeowner residing in the Lake Pocotopaug watershed (not necessarily on the lake itself) is welcome to call for a Lake Smart assessment. Committee members can offer advice and recommendations to be lake friendly. If interested, please contact Marty Podskoch at 860-267-2442 to schedule an appointment. Photo by Marty Podskoch.

### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

There will be an American Red Cross blood drive Wednesday, Oct. 11, from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., at St. Patrick Church, 47 West High St. To make an appointment to donate, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

a \$15 Amazon.com gift card by email. Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Together.

### **CDHR Oktoberfest**

Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue (CDHR) will hold its 12th annual Oktoberfest Sunday, Oct. 8, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at Autumn Ridge, the farm for CDHR, located at 113 Chestnut Hill Rd.

Admission is free and there is plenty of parking. Come meet the horses of the CDHR. There will be food, vendors, raffles, havrides, kids' activities, and more. The event is rain or shine.

For more information, visit www.ctdraftrescue.org or www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue. This event is rain or shine.

Vendor applications are due Oct. 4; for forms, go to www.ctdraftrescue.org/vendorform.

As a thank you, all who donate will receive

### Fall Classes at Epoch Arts

Epoch Arts is offering a variety of classes and programs this fall for students in grades pre-k through 12. Classes include art, photography, theater, improv, anime, art club and more.

Students can also join Epoch's theater troupe, Speak Out Productions, and use their voice to help create an original one-act play called Hidden Injustice. Epoch will also offer its annual Haunted House for students in grades seven and up.

Classes begin Oct. 2, and will be held at 27 Skinner St. Full class and program description and registration can be at www.epocharts.org/ classes-registration.





Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marl



The Marlborough Arts Center opened its fourth annual East of the River Juried Show on Sunday, Sept. 24. Pictured from left are some of the show's winners: Scott Rhoades, Elaine Meisenzahl, Tom Swimm, Danny Veilleux, Emily Seitlin/Giffen, and her husband, Scotty Giffin.

### East of the River Awards Presented at Arts Center

The Marlborough Arts Center opened its fourth annual East of the River Juried Show on Sunday, Sept. 24.

Steven Wells won first place for his watercolor, "Have a Cigar." Scott Rhoades took second place for his acrylic painting, "Christina's Watering Can," and Elaine Meisenzahl went home with third place, for her oil painting, "Classic Beauty."

Several honorable mentions were also presented: Howard Abend, for his oil painting, "Sweet Dreams My Love"; Danny Veilleux, for his photograph, "Good Day, Sunshine"; Emily Zeitlin/Giffen, for her mixed media painting, "Into the Wild"; Rebecca Keller, for her oil painting, "Road Trip 5 The Walls We Make"; and Tom Swimm, for his oil painting, "Red Chevy."

Juror of selection and awards was Tom Hebert of Storrs, an artist and recently retired adjunct professor of visual arts at Eastern Connecticut State University.

The East of the River exhibition will be open to the public Friday, Sept. 29, through Sunday, Oct. 1, from 1-4 p.m.

The Marlborough Arts Center is a nonprofit regional center for the arts located at 231 N. Main St. For more information, visit www.marlborougharts.org.

### **Historical Society Upcoming Events**

The Marlborough Historical Society has announced two upcoming events, to which all are invited. For more information on either program, visit marlboroughhistory.org, email mhs@marlboroughhistory.org, or call or text 860-916-4031.

Cemetery Flashlight Tour: Sunday, Oct. 22, 5:45 p.m. A guided tour through Marlboro Cemetery and Century Cemetery will be given by Romano Ghirlanda. Learn about some of the forgotten people buried in these historic cemeteries. Walking shoes are required. Flashlights are recommended. The tour meets at the Richmond Memorial Library parking lot, and is free, but suggested donations of \$10 to help support the Marlborough Preservation Society will be appreciated.

Historic Teas of the Past: Sunday, Nov. 5, 1-4 p.m., at the Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main St. This drop-in event is open to the public where different types of medicinal teas are available to sample. Have teas from the past and complimentary snacks. People can also ask questions, learn about historic teas, and enjoy a fall afternoon sipping tea with friends. Packaged teas will be available for purchase. Door prizes will be available. Entrance fee is \$15; children under 12 are free. All proceeds goes to support the Marlborough Preservation Society.

### Pointillism Painting for Children at Arts Center

Marlborough Arts Center, 231 N. Main St., will hold a one-day Pointillism Painting workshop for children on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 10 a.m.-noon.

Led by Susan Hourihan, the class will make a painting using acrylics, Q-Tips, and the pointillism technique, and will learn a method of color mixing and painting at the same time.

The workshop is designed for school-age children age 8 years old and up. Materials are included in the fee of \$50, payable to the Marlborough Arts Center. Parents are welcome to participate in the class with their child. If the parent and child pair to make a single painting, there is no additional cost; if they choose to make two paintings, the additional fee is \$40.

Registration forms are available at www.marlborougharts.org. Register by Sept. 29.

For more information on the workshop, call the arts center at 860-467-6353 or email Hourihan at susanhourihan1994@gmail.com.

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

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HOURS: TWF 8:30-5:30, THU 8:30-7:30, SAT 8-3 860-295-9366

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

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

For more information and to download drop-off forms, visit www.marlborougharts. org, call the Arts Center at 860-647-6363 or email marlboroughartscenter@gmail.com.

### Volunteer. The Benefits Are Extraordinary!



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### Marlborough • Marlborough



The Marlborough Democrats have announced their slate of candidates for this November's municipal elections.

#### **Democrats Offer Varied Slate**

The Marlborough slate of Democratic candidates features a mix of experienced, longtime residents and recent newcomers, offering diversity in age and perspective, the Democratic Town Committee stressed.

Some candidates, such as Will Guzman and Jack Fidler (Board of Finance) and Anthony Bratz (Zoning Board of Appeals alternate) are millennials, born in the 1980s and '90s. Nick Hale, who is running for Zoning Commission alternate, represents Generation Z (1997-2012) - a point of view the DTC said is "sorely needed."

Other candidates include retired residents,

### Senior Center News and Notes

Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Dr., is open for activities. Call 860-295-6209 for the center's hours and more information. Transportation is Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; call 36 hours in advance of your appointment to guarantee a ride.

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

Monday, Oct. 2: Assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: orange juice, all-beef hot dog/bun, baked beans, coleslaw, yogurt cup; Bingo, 1-3 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 3: Meals on Wheels, noon.

Wednesday, Oct. 4: Assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon.; Not Just Quilters, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Meals on Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: oven-baked chicken, macaroni and cheese, chuckwagon vegetables, cornbread, fresh fruit; setback, 1-4 p.m.; Sophisticated Dancers, 5-7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 5: Transportation, 8 a.m.; Tai Chi, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Meals on Wheels, noon; PD Exercise w/ Anne, 3-4 p.m.



working residents, and school-age parents. The Democratic slate also includes unaffiliated candidates.

The list of candidates includes teachers, a pediatric nurse, a finance manager, lawyers, a realtor, a corporate finance manager, an actuary, a tax collector, a municipal building official, an engineering supervisor, a U.S. Army officer (ret.), musicians, a physical therapist and more.

More information about each candidate can be found on the Marlborough Democratic Town Committee website, www.marlboroughctdemocrats.com.

Friday, Oct. 6: Assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals on Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: baked stuffed fish with tartar sauce, potato wedges, Capri-blend vegetables, wheat bread, fresh fruit; Cards, 1-4 p.m.

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

Lifelong Learning: Offered in collaboration with UConn Extension. Registration forms are available at Marlborough Senior Center.

# Rock-Carving Workshop Marlborough Arts Center will hold a rock-

carving workshop Saturday, Sept. 30, from 10 a.m.-noon, at the center, 231 N. Main St. This class is offered to adults and teenagers.

All materials will be covered in the \$60 fee. Instructor is Susan Hourihan.

A class registration form can be downloaded from marlborougharts.org and mailed with a check for \$60 to the arts center. For more information, call 860-467-6353 or email marlboroughartscenter@gmail.com.

### Congregational Church News & Notes

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

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

### Parks and Rec Fall Programs

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

Mad Science - Crazy Chemworks: Thursdays, 3:15-4:15 p.m., Oct. 12-Nov. 30 (no class Nov. 16 or 23), at Marlborough Elementary School. For grades 1-6. Learn about the tools scientists use in their laboratories, as well as atoms, molecules and reactions, acids and bases, fluorescence and phosphorescence. Fee: \$115/ resident, \$120/non-residents.

Safe Sitter: Saturday, Oct. 14, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. This class is designed to prepare students in grades 6-8 to be safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting. Fee: \$110/resident, \$115/non-resident.

Safe at Home: Tuesday, Oct. 17, 5:30-7 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center, for grades 4-6. Participants will learn skills designed to prepare them to be safe when home alone. Fee: \$48/resident, \$53/non-resident.

Artventures - Where the Wild Things Art!: Tuesdays, 3:15-4:15 p.m., Oct. 17-Nov. 28 (no class Nov. 7), at MES, for grades K-4. Kids will explore many whimsical and original art forms and techniques, discovering clay and collage, painting and drawing, mask-making and decorating, and more. Fee: \$115/resident, \$120/nonresident.

Acrylic Landscape Painting: Wednesdays, 3:30-5 p.m., from Oct. 18-Nov. 8, at MES, for grades 3-6. Students will be guided through the techniques of landscape painting. All materials are provided. Fee: \$90/resident, \$95/ non-resi-

#### Art Classes

The Marlborough Arts Center is offering a class in creative journaling for teens, with parents welcome to participate. Classes will meet Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m., from Oct. 4-Nov. 8. Onesession drop-ins are accepted. Instructor Susan Hourihan will guide the class in using creative techniques to work through anxieties.

Cost for the six-week session is \$300. A single class is \$60. Students are asked to bring to the first class an old hard-covered book that will be used to make an altered book Registration forms are available at www.marlborougharts. org.

For more information, please call the Arts Center at 860-467-6353 or email Susan: susanhourihan1994@gmail.com.

Outreach: The church collects non-perishable food items year-round for Marlborough Food Bank with a basket located in the narthex for Sunday worshipers to bring their donations.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop: The shop is open Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., through Dec. 23. For more information, contact the church office. The shop sells year-round through eBay at bit.ly/MCCebay.

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

dent.

Horseback Riding Lessons: For ages 5 and up. Days and times are flexible. Fee for four lessons: \$200/residents, \$205/non-residents

Adult Programs: Dog Obedience - Polite Dog Manners: Mondays, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Oct. 2-23, at Marlborough Senior Center. These are beginner-level classes for dogs 5 months and older. Fee: \$115/resident, \$120/non-resident.

Pickleball: Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9-11 a.m., at Blish Park tennis courts. There is no fee.

Adult Volleyball: Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., at Marlborough Elementary School, starting Oct. 5. Fee: \$5 per week.

Zumba - Fall Session: Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., at MES. Fee: \$60/residents, \$65/non-residents. There is a \$10 drop-in fee. Start date to be determined

Trips: Salem, Mass. (On Your Own): Saturday, Oct. 14. Trip Includes charter bus, free time in Salem and snacks/games with prizes on the bus. Registration fee is \$80. Bus leaves from Putnam park and ride in Glastonbury at 7:15 a.m., and returns 7:30 p.m.

N.Y. Giants vs. N.Y. Jets: Sunday, Oct. 29, 1 p.m., at Met Life Stadium. Trip includes charter bus, upper-level end zone ticket to the game, cookout before the game, food after the game, cornhole tournament, pickem pool, music, games and prizes on the bus. Fee is \$335.00. Bus leaves from Putnam park and ride at 6:30 a.m. and returns at 8:30 p.m.

Driveway Reflective Number Signs: Cost of the sign is \$50. Help emergency services personnel find your home without delay. Vertical sign is double sided 8" x 24" with 4" numbers on blue highway reflective metal. Order forms are online and at Town Hall.

### Tag Sale **Deadline Tuesday**

The Marlborough Town-Wide Tag Sale will be held Saturday, Oct. 7, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Registration fee is \$25 with a deadline of Tuesday, Oct. 4 - no exceptions.

Registration forms are at Town Hall or at the Recreation Department. For more information, call 860-295-6203.

### 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 rm can be accessed at www.marlboroughct net; the link is at the bottom of the page on the left-hand side.



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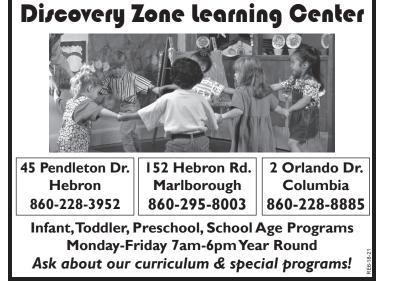
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### **Community Conversation with Dennler**

Colchester residents are invited to join first selectman candidate Bernie Dennler for a Community Conversation/Meet-and-Greet on Friday, Sept. 29, at 6:30 p.m., at Hop Culture, 144 Cato Corner Rd.

This is a chance to meet Dennler, ask questions, and share your ideas or concerns about

Senior Center Trips

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

Pacific Northwest & California: April 14-21, 2024. Explore the natural beauty from Seattle to San Francisco. Trip includes transportation to airport, airfare, hotels and 11 meals (six breakfast, one lunch and four dinners). Double occu-

Colchester Land Trust will hold its annual 5.5-mile Salmon River Road Race Saturday, Sept. 30, starting at 10 a.m., in front of the Comstock Covered Bridge on the East Hampton/ Colchester town line.

The race features forest and river scenery along with a variety of terrain: gravel road, improved trail and some pavement.

Entry fee is \$35 and includes two water stops and an awards ceremony with a post-race BBQ that includes many locally-sourced food and beverage items. There will also be an opportunity to recycle old running shoes as the Land Trust will be conducting a shoe drive for the Soles4Souls organization.

Interested participants may register on-line

the future of Colchester.

All are welcome. Residents can also contact Bernie at bernie@bernieforcolchester.com or at Facebook.com/BernieForColchester for information on future events and other community conversations at local businesses.

### pancy is \$3,529/person if booked before Oct. 14.

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

### Salmon River Road Race

through today, Sept. 29, by visiting the race website at www.salmonriverrun.org. Runners may also sign up on the morning of Sept. 30 from 8-9:45 a.m. at the Firemen's Field facility adjacent to the Salmon River State Park on Route 16.

For more information, or to volunteer to help with the event, contact Cathy Shea by phone at 860-917-6096 or racedirector@salmonriverrun. org. The Colchester Land Trust is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization working to preserve Colchester's rural character by permanently protecting its forests, wetlands, fields and farmlands.

To learn more about the Colchester Land Trust, please visit www.colchesterlandtrust.org.

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Center of Colcheste

Boy Scout Troop 72 Eagle Scout candidate Kevin Reas will have a car wash Saturday, Sept. 30, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St.

The purpose of the car wash is to raise funds to make improvements to the waterfront area of Camp Whitman in North Stonington. The improvements would include clearing a picnicking area and building several new picnic tables.

Eagle Scout Car Wash Cars should pull into the circular driveway in front of the church.

If you are unable to come to the car wash, donations to the project will be greatly appreciated. Donations can be sent to Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St., Colchester, CT 06415; make checks to "Troop 72 BSA" and add note: "For Camp Whitman Improvements."

### **Upcoming Programs at Cragin Library**

Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., has announced the following upcoming programs. For more information or full descriptions, call 860-537-5752 or visit www.colchesterct.gov/library.

Adult & Teen Take & Makes: Wednesdays, Oct. 11 and 25.

Children's Department Take & Make Crafts: Oct. 2, Pumpkin; Oct. 7: Ghost; Oct. 10, Fire Truck, Oct. 13, Spooky Tree; Oct. 14, Haunted House; Oct. 16, 3D Ghost; Oct. 21, 3D Pumpkin; Oct. 23: Cauldron; Oct. 28, Origami Bat.

A Court of Fantasy Readers: Thursday, Oct. 5, 5:30 p.m. Discuss The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches by Sangu Mandanna.

History of Colchester's Founding: Thursday, Oct. 5, 6 p.m. Gary Walter will discuss the history of the town, in celebration of its birthday.

Teen Open Games & Snacks: Friday, Oct. 6, 1-2 p.m., for grades 6-12.

STEAM Kit Take & Make: Saturday, Oct. 7, for grades K-5. Pick up your kit, watch the video on social media, and experiment.

Card-Making: Saturday, Oct. 7, 10:30 a.m. Stop by the lobby to celebrate World Card-Making Day.

Medicare Educational Events: Tuesday, Oct. 10, 3 p.m., and Thursday, Oct. 19, 6 p.m. Learn the ins and outs of Medicare with Mark Macrina, a town resident and local insurance agent. This is strictly an informational seminar; no individual health will be discussed. For accommodations of persons with special needs, call 860-338-1466 TTY 711.

Affirmation Button-Making: Tuesday, Oct.

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10, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Stop by the lobby to make positive buttons to reflect on World Mental Health Day.

Teen Writing Club: Wednesday, Oct. 11, 3-3:45 p.m., for ages 14-20. Teens will be given prompts or guidance to help accomplish their writing goals.

Witches in Connecticut: Thursday, Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m. Hear the stories of some of the women and men accused, tried, and executed as witches. This program is presented by Christina Rewinski, a museum educator at the Connecticut Historical Society.

Foodie Fun: Saturdays, Oct. 14 and 28. Stop in for an at-home kit.

Early Learning Station: Pumpkin Counting: Monday, Oct. 16, through Saturday, Oct. 21: Practice counting with these pumpkin puzzles.

Nerd Camp: Tuesday, Oct. 17, 4:15-4:45 p.m. This is a new program where kids in grades 3-5 can chat about their favorite nerdy topics over snacks. This month's topic: Pokémon. Registration required.

Collaborative Art Show: Thursday, Oct. 19, 6-7 p.m. Pick up a template from the library to take home. Use any medium and make art, and then bring it back to the library by Monday, Oct. 16. Refreshments will be served at the art show.

Super Saturday Storytime: Monsters: Saturday, Oct. 21, 10:30 a.m. Just drop in.

Cragin Library Paint Night: Spooky Edition: Tuesday, Oct. 24, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. You will receive an email when supplies are ready to be picked up from the library. Registration required: tinyurl.com/3jexkr95.

In Person: Witch's Face-Painting: Wednesday, Oct. 25, 6:30 p.m., in the children's department.

Teen Eat If You Dare: Friday, Oct. 27, 3-3:30 p.m., for grades 6-12. Try some of our treats without knowing what they will be. Inform library staff of any food allergies.

Halloween Storytimes: Monday, Oct. 30, 11:30 a.m. or 4:30 p.m. Celebrate Halloween by reading spooky stories and trick-or-treating around the library. Costumes encouraged.

### Medium Coming to Polish Club

The St. Joseph's Polish Club at 395 South Main St. will host medium Rebecca Anne Lo-Cicero on Saturday, Oct. 7. Tickets are \$30 per person and on sale at the club.

Doors open at 6 p.m., and people should be seated by 6:45 p.m. so the show can start on time. LoCicero will be at the club from 7-9 p.m. For more information, please call 860-537-2550

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# Selectmen Approve Assistance Program

#### By Michael Sinkewicz

Following weeks of debate and collaboration, the Colchester Board of Selectmen approved funding for Colchester Youth and Social Services (CYSS) to expand its programing.

During its meeting last week, the selectmen officially allocated \$100,000 of American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding to CYSS — the amount originally requested by the group and expanded the proposal further by allowing a wider range of residents to take advantage of the services.

The board increased the income requirement guidelines to 300% of the federal poverty level, which allows the town to serve more individuals than it's currently able to accommodate. With the new guideline, the threshold for a household of three is around \$75k, but generally increases by about \$15k for each additional household member.

Valerie Geato, the director of CYSS, has stated that social services' guidelines are closer to 250% of the federal poverty level and that the organization would be able to extend the income thresholds of its programs.

The funding was approved with a 4-0 vote; selectman Jason LaChapelle was absent.

Selectman Rosemary Coyle applauded the initiative during the meeting, citing its ability to serve residents without an associated tax in-

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

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

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

Friday Night Service: 6:30 p.m., via Zoom

Colchester Federated Church is an Open and Affirming church located at 60 Main St. Pastor is the Rev. Lauren Ostrout. Ostrout is on sabbatical until October, and the interim sabbatical pastor is the Rev. Jack Shackles. 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 is broadcast via Facebook Live each Sunday. Worship videos are at www.colchesterfederatedchurch.org under the Worship tab. Updated information is also on the church's Facebook

page. Sunday School: Held during worship from September through June. Children in grades pre-K through 8 are welcome. The nursery is

crease. Because CYSS has an established foundation, the town would will not have to pay an additional fee to UHY, a consultant agency hired by the town, to administer the program.

The town likely would've paid at least \$30,000 for UHY to oversee a new initiative, which would've come out of the pool of remaining ARPA funds.

Coyle, a Democrat, noted that by adhering to the submitted application amount by CYSS, the selectmen would still have the ability to fund additional projects with the town's remaining ARPA funding.

"This is not a partisan decision," she said. "This is a decision that makes sense for all of the citizens of Colchester.'

Republican First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos echoed her comments, stating that while the process was challenging, the outcome was successful.

"This is a win for all parties and for the entire community," he said.

In their approval, the selectmen met a selfimposed deadline; the board expected a final draft by the end of the month with rollout beginning in October.

While the final version of the program received bipartisan support, town officials spent months debating a variety of strategies. Ulti-

### Ahavath Achim News

and in-person; Saturday morning service, 10 a.m., live and on Zoom.

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

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

### **Colchester Federated Church News**

located just off the sanctuary. Visit the church website for more information and to register 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. from September through June.

Crafting & Fellowship: Sunday, Sept. 24, 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person (of which \$5 will be donated to CFC). Each person in attendance will be able to make two cards. Reservations required; to reserve a spot, contact the church office.



mately, the selectmen implemented a proposal endorsed by the town's ad-hoc ARPA Committee.

However, LaChapelle, who was a leading proponent for a program that supported local households impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, had proposed a significantly different type of initiative.

LaChapelle, who is running as a Libertarian in the upcoming municipal election, has advocated for direct cash assistance, which would involve sending checks to residents. He's expressed during prior meetings that since the town allocated \$1 million of ARPA funds for local businesses, individuals impacted by the pandemic also deserve their own block of funding.

A social services program is "not what I was trying to accomplish," he previously told the Rivereast. LaChapelle signaled that he planned on presenting a more refined direct assistance program at the selectmen meeting, which he was unable to attend.

The selectmen had charged the ARPA Committee with formulating a program outline in conjunction with UHY, along with CYSS, not to exceed \$300,000.

There were two main ideas being considered: earmarking upwards of \$300,000 of the town's remaining ARPA funds for a program that would involve allotting money towards social services, who would utilize the money to further expand their own efforts, or providing direct cash assistance for residents as part of a "giveback" program.

Both the ARPA Committee and selectmen

### 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 broadsubscribed to a version of a CYSS program, but opted not to extend the endowment past the original \$100,000 earmark.

At its meeting, the ARPA Committee concluded that over the past three years, social services has spent \$7,000 for non-food bank/ fuel assistance programs and that social services would also continue to receive \$36,000 a year through the Herden Fund.

There is no indication that demand for social services would require a significant leap in spending and there wasn't justification to expand to amount as high as \$300,000.

Following the selectmen meeting, Bisbikos posted on Facebook that expanding the income requirements would allow 40% of households in Colchester to be eligible for assistance.

Alleviating residents of a tax burden was a priority, as well. While the issue was debated, Claire Collins, a consulting senior manager with UHY, informed the town that cash assistance payments would be taxable.

The Biden administration announced earlier this year that the COVID-19 national emergency and public health emergency declared in 2020 would both end on May 11, 2023. Therefore, according to UHY, payments made after that date are no longer considered disaster relief payments, which are tax-exempt; a direct check of ARPA funds paid out by the town to a household would be considered taxable income, she stated.

Officials touted the program's avoidance of additional taxes and future UHY expenses.

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

tion, 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.





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#### **By Michael Sinkewicz**

The Colchester Board of Selectmen endorsed two referendum questions during its meeting last week, officially setting a date for a crucial town-wide vote that will determine the future of the community's new senior center.

The selectmen scheduled a town meeting for Tuesday, Nov. 14 with a referendum marked for Tuesday Nov. 28 — both dates are after the upcoming municipal election. The dates are largely pushed back due to a 30-day notice period and for a two-week freeze before and after the election date.

Overall, the questions ask residents to authorize additional funding for the town's senior center building project, which currently faces a significant budget shortfall.

Without the supplementary appropriation, significant portions of the facility would be incomplete and the building likely wouldn't receive a certificate of occupancy, according to the head of the Senior Center Building Committee, Tony Tarnowski,

In 2021, Colchester residents approved at referendum the spending of up to \$9.5 million for the project, but escalating costs quickly revealed that more money would be necessary to finish the building as designed.

The upcoming vote will occur almost exactly one year after Tarnowski initially warned the town that the project was facing a deficit in November of 2022. Then in February, his committee requested an additional \$1.5 million for constructing the new facility, taking the total budget up to \$11 million.

"It's time to hear what the people have to say," First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos said during the Sept. 21 meeting. "So, we're going to have that day very soon."

Both questions and the two dates were approved by a 4-0 vote; selectman Jason LaChapelle was absent.

"So glad it's happening," expressed selectman Deborah Bates. "It's taken a long, long time." While elected officials will be effectively

barred from advocating voters on how to vote, her comments underscored a general sentiment felt by many throughout the community.

In April, dozens of Colchester seniors gathered behind Town Hall as ground was broken for the new building. Even then, many residents and officials called for a referendum to take place to ensure that the momentum was sustained.

Months later, with construction well underway, some officials voiced criticism regarding the referendum timeline.

Bisbikos, however, has consistently stated that mixing a project referendum with the 2023-24 budget votes would've been a mistake. Once those spending plans were approved, the town's focus shifted back to the new senior center. Acting otherwise, Bisbikos said, would've been "reckless."

The two questions were provided by bond counsel and unanimously approved by the Board of Finance.

The finance board advanced a two-part referendum ballot, requiring residents to vote on two separate questions. Previously, Tarnowski told the Rivereast that he was charging the community with voting "yes."

"We need both questions to pass so the town can get the building that was presented and is being worked on," he said.

Question 1: "Shall the town of Colchester appropriate and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend an additional sum not to exceed \$32,691 of American Rescue Plan Act funds and \$575,000 of funds from a donation received from the estate of Stephen J. Bendas (increasing the appropriation by \$607,691 to an aggregate \$10,107,691) for costs related to the design, construction and furnishing of a new senior center?"

A "yes" vote on this question would allow the town to utilize funding that it essentially is already in possession of: a sizable donation left to the town and an ARPA grant that is specifically allocated for senior centers. Combined, these two amounts cover \$607,691 of additional funds.

But in order to reach the total budget appropriation request of \$1.5 million made by the building committee, the town would also need to secure \$892,309 on top of the \$607,691, which is covered by part two of the referendum ballot.

Question 2: "Shall the town of Colchester appropriate and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend an additional sum not to exceed \$892,309 (increasing the appropriation to an aggregate \$11,000,000) for costs related to the design, construction and furnishing of a new senior center and authorize an additional issuance of bonds and notes in the amount of \$892,309 (increasing the borrowing authorization to an aggregate \$10,392,309) to finance the portion of the appropriation not defrayed from grants and other funds?

The town is asking its taxpayers for this additional funding.

If both questions were passed - meaning that \$607,691 was acquired (through question 1) and \$892,309 was acquired (through question 2) - the total budget would reach the building committee's target of \$11,000,000.

However, the town also acquired a \$2.5 million state grant that will further bring down

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the total cost of the project for a total bonding amount of \$8.5 million, with \$7.89 million coming from taxpayers.

Former state Rep. Brian Smith was crucial in securing the grant funding during his tenure in Hartford. A Colchester resident of 40 years, Smith is familiar with the senior center project; in addition to state leadership, he also served on the Board of Selectmen during the early 2000s.

For two decades, he said, the idea of a new senior center has percolated throughout town.

"I feel as though a torch was passed to us that we need to carry over the finish line," he told the Rivereast.

Smith emphasized that with the grant endowment, the total bonding amount would be less than the \$9.5 million originally agreed to at the first referendum. Pulling back, and leaving a shell of a building, would ultimately cost the town more, he asserted, calling that outcome a "tragedy."

Shortfalls, Smith continued, happen with many projects, especially as costs escalate. He compared the situation to if a new school construction initiative faced similar constraints. In that case, moving forward without desks in the classrooms would be the equivalent to what the

### **Farmers Market Open Sundays**

The Colchester Farmers Market will run every Sunday through Oct. 15, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. each week, on the Town Green.

The market features 55 to 75 vendors each week. There will be fresh vegetables, local fruits, meats, cheeses, crafts, sweet treats, food trucks, musicians, and more.

Check out the market's Facebook and Instagram pages (@ColchesterFarmersMarketCT) for weekly updates as to who's coming, and for special events throughout the season.

### Walk for Cancer Research

All are invited to join resident Shawn Pelletier's team, the Colchester Pavement Pounders, to take part in an annual event hosted by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to raise money for cancer research.

The 2-mile walk will be held on Friday, Sept. 29, at Bushnell Park in Hartford, as part of the "Light the Night" event designed to "bring light to the darkness of cancer through research and cures."

For more information about joining the Colchester team, send an email to Pelletier at redminuy@icloud.com.

### **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.



senior center is now facing.

"I don't think voters would've stood for that," he said.

His message to residents: "I'd urge them to vote for the project."

Still, community members don't have to approve both questions. Voters have the option to vote for or against either one. Question two, for example, is not contingent on question one passing.

"It's really critically important for the town to complete the project," Smith said. "It's a need that's been unfilled. We have to do it."

If one, or both, questions failed, it's unclear what the next steps would be.

Tarnowski has said that "we'd go as far as the money goes."

"I don't know, we'd have to take a good hard look at it."

The project had a "point of no return," he explained, and if the town wanted to alter the design or cut back the cost before materials were ordered and other construction measures launched, preventative action could've been taken — which is no longer an option.

### **Oktoberfest** This Weekend

Hop Culture Farms & Brew Company will hold an Oktoberfest celebration this Saturday, Sept. 30, rain or shine. Prepare yourself for a day of food, live music, and games. Both Ozn-Bones and Pika food trucks will be on site and you can join the Steinholding contest to test your strength. Come prepared in your finest Oktoberfest attire for the Bavarian Costume contest.

For more information, visit hopculturefarms. com

### **October Project Graduation Fundraiser**

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

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

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

### Westchester Church News

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

Sunday School for children meets during the worship service.

Meetings: 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.

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

### History Museum **Open Weekly**

The Colchester History Museum, located at 24 Linwood Ave., is open Sundays from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., until Dec. 3.

The museum, adjacent to Cragin Memorial Library, is free and features exhibits all highlighting the people and events in Colchester's history. The museum offers guided and selfguided tours. For more information, contact the historical society at mail@colchesterhistory.org or 860-537-3240.

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### **Colchester Choir & Orchestra**

Seats are open in all sections in Colchester Choir & Orchestra. The choir especially welcomes additional lower voices. Rehearsals started this week.

CCO is a program offered by the Colchester Parks & Recreation Department. It plays a wide variety of music, from pops to classical. The group rehearses weekly at Bacon Academy High School. Rehearsals are Thursdays; choir is 6-7:30 p.m., and orchestra is 7:30-9 p.m., with

### Scarecrow Contest Returns

Colchester Parks and Recreation and the Colchester Business Association will hold the 24th annual Scarecrow Contest on the Green – and applications are due today, Sept. 29. Applications are available at colchestercba.com.

Set-up is Oct. 2-6, with a parade Oct. 6 at 6 p.m. Voting begins on Oct. 7.

### **Community Baby Shower**

The Collaborative for Colchester's Children (C3) will host a free Community Baby Shower for Colchester residents who are expecting, or have an infant up to three months old, on Wednesday, Oct. 11, from 6:30-8 p.m., at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave.

The event will include free gifts, community resources and games. Families should register at ColchesterC3.org.

ster informal warm-up at 7 p.m.

Colchester Choir & Orchestra will perform three concerts in the 2023-24 season: December, March and May.

To register, visit colchesterctrec.recdesk.com/ Community/Program/Detail?programId=467.

For more information, visit www.colchesterchoirorchestra.org or find the group on Facebook. Questions can be sent to colchesterchoirorchestra@gmail.com

### **Tour of Burial Ground**

The Colchester Historical Society will present a "Tour of the Colchester Burial Ground" located behind Old Bacon Academy on Sunday, Oct. 8, at 2 p.m. The walk will be led by Gary Walter.

Parking will be available at the Colchester Federated Church parking lot, located at 60 Main St.

### **Ukrainian Food Dinner**

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

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

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

### **AARP Upcoming Meetings**

AARP 4019 has announced two important meeting dates for October.

On Tuesday, Oct. 3, at 1:30 p.m., the regular October meeting will be held at the Colchester Senior Center. This meeting will be followed at 2 p.m. by a presentation by Tony Tarnowski to bring everyone up to date about the progress of the new Colchester Senior Center. Light refreshments will be available. All are invited to the presentation.

Then, on Tuesday, Oct. 17, from 2-4 p.m.,

### Pie, Cookie Dough Fundraiser

The St. Andrew Ladies Guild of Colchester is sponsoring a Lyman Orchard pie and cookie dough fundraiser to support the guild's annual high school and college scholarships.

Order forms are available at the church or you may order online via tinyurl.com/4vcpf8sj.

Completed order forms and payment can be mailed to St. Andrew Church in Colchester or dropped off at the rectory. Cash accepted; checks made to Guardian Angels Parish.

Pickup will be Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9-11 a.m., at St. Andrew Church parish hall, 128 Norwich Ave.

For more information, call Kathleen at 860-917-7616.

Lic.#392776

AARP will hold its annual Meet the Candidates event, at Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave. All political party chairmen have been notified that candidates for first selectman, Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Board of Education are invited to be on the panel. Other candidates are invited to be in the audience. Attendees are invited to bring their questions. Come early as space is limited. Light refreshments will be available.

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### **Golfers, Sponsors Sought**

The deadline is approaching fast for the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Company's fundraising golf tournament, which will be held Monday, Oct. 2, at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron.

CHVFC is a nonprofit organization that is raising funds to support our school scholarship fund, recruitment, retention and maintenance at the company's Schuster Park training facility and event venue.

Registration fee includes 18 holes of golf, lunch and prime rib dinner. If interested in sponsoring a tee or registering to golf, call Keith at 860-537-2512 or email CHFD28golftournament@gmail.com.

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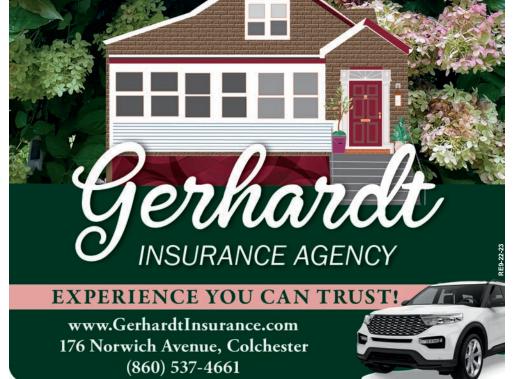
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Jayden Lirette (#51) pumps up his Micros teammates on Sunday. The Micros won the game, 25-13.

### Youth Football Recap

The Colchester Cougars youth football squads were in action against the East Lyme Vikings last weekend. Here's how they fared:

Seniors: Won, 22-8, moving the team to a record of 4-0. Dominic Helm got the scoring started with a 50-yard touchdown catch, breaking tackles along the way. Noah Garvie later scored on a three-yard QB run and Mason Howard added the final touchdown with a 10-yard run, and he also made two extra-point kicks. The defense was strong all day thanks to a big game from Xaden Medina, big tackles by Charlie Gorman, James Wissler, Gavin King, and Noah Garvie. The Cougars will take on the Tolland Eagles next Saturday at home.

Juniors: Lost. The Cougars hope to bounce back vs. Tolland on Saturday.

Micros: Won, 25-13 Sunday. It was a tough competition with the Cougars down 7-6 at halftime. East Lyme scored first in the second half, going up 13-6 but stopping the extra point conversion gave the Cougars the momentum they needed the rest of the game. The Cougars defense forced four turnovers (two fumbles, one interception, and a recovered kickoff). The score was 13-13 going into the fourth quarter. Thanks in large part to the strong second half blocking of the offensive line the Cougars amounted a balanced running attack with four different ball carriers having an impact moving the ball up the field leading to 19 second half points.

Pee-Wee: The game got canceled due to weather. Look forward to playing on our home field this Saturday.



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

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

Nathan Liverant and Son Antiques will hold two Fall Invitation to Learn forums next month, in celebration of Colchester's 325th anniversary.

In the 18th century, Colchester artisans created a bounty of exceptional furniture and decorative arts. We are excited to offer two special forums in October to celebrate Colchester's 325th anniversary by highlighting our cultural history. The Invitation to Learn Forums are free, and the public is welcome to experience the great craftsmanship that contributed to Colchester's distinctive cultural history.

The first forum will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7, and will explore examples of fine furniture that noted Colchester artisans created.

#### Senior Center News & Notes

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

Monday, Oct. 2: 8:30 a.m., Garden Club (rain date 10/16); 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., Setback.

Tuesday, Oct. 3: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo, AARP Chapter 4019 meeting.

Wednesday, Oct. 4: 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, Seasonal Crafting; 1 p.m., Backus Hospital Survivors of Stroke Group; 1 p.m., Life Review Journaling; 1:30 p.m., Line Dance.

Thursday, Oct. 5: 9 a.m., Exercise w/Ann; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; no yoga or chair massage today; noon-3 p.m., Senior Benefits Counseling by appointment only; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

Friday, Oct. 6: 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; no yoga today; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Flu and COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic: Monday, Oct. 16, 9-11 a.m. Chatham Health District will conduct the clinic. Be sure to bring any Medicare and/or insurance cards. Call the senior center to schedule an appointment.

"Keys, Bags, Names, Words" Documentary Screening: Monday, Oct. 16, 1:30-3:30 p.m. This new documentary on dementia is intended to shift the narrative of fear and hopelessness to one of hope and action.

AARP 'Meet the Candidates' Forum: Tuesday, Oct. 17, 1:30 p.m. Learn the platforms and



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

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

### Two Events to Celebrate 325

Calling All Artists!

The forum will be preceded by a special performance by the Colchester Continentals Fife and Drum Corps at 12:45 p.m.

The second 325th anniversary forum, held on Oct. 14, from 2-4 p.m., offers an illustrated discussion about the 18th and early 19th century needlework treasures that were created in Colchester. We hope you can join us.

Invitation to Learn forums are appropriate for the interested beginner, intermediate or expert collector. Forums are free and open to the public. Light refreshments, including Cato Corner cheese, are served.

Nathan Liverant and Son is located at 168 South Main St.

positions of the local politicians running for election this November. AARP will host and moderate this event, which is open to the public; no registration required.

County Fair Luncheon: Wednesday, Oct. 18, 11 a.m. Relive your fondest memories of an oldfashioned county fair. The Country Duo will perform on the fair "Grandstand." A pot roast lunch will be served with carrots, onions, gravy, mashed potatoes, tossed salad, rolls, and carrot cake for dessert. Tickets are \$9 per person and can be purchased in the office. Space is limited.

COA Presents: Tips to Avoid Scams: Monday, Oct. 23, 10 a.m. Chuck Maynard, vice president of Colchester Dime Bank, and Gary Dawson, learning and development manager of Dime Bank in Norwich, will discuss phishing, calls or emails from persons who pretend to know you, changing your passwords, money mule scams, grandparent scams, gift card scams, and more. Space is limited.

Lunch & Learn: Senior Bullying: Tuesday, Oct. 24, 11 a.m. Heather Hitchcock, community education manager with Bristol Behavioral Health, will discuss the realities of bullying among seniors. Marlborough Health & Rehabilitation Center will sponsor lunch with a choice of a turkey or tuna sandwich, chips, bottled water, and a cookie. This program is free, but space is limited.

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

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### Fire Department Open House

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

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

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

### Clam Bake Oct. 2

New Britain Hunting and Fishing Club, d/b/a Westchester Sportsmen's Club, will hold its annual clam bake at 147 Davidson Rd., Colchester, on Sunday, Oct. 2, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

The menu will include: clam chowder, cherrystones, shrimp, baked stuffed clams, cold cuts, cheeses, potato and macaroni salads, baked beans, steamers, corn on the cob and steaks.

Tickets are \$50 each and must be purchased by Sept. 23.

For more information, email WestchesterSportsmen@gmail.com.

### Parks & Rec News & Notes

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

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

Bus Trip - Spooky Salem: Oct. 21. Cost is \$114/person. Registration forms are available online. Bus will leave from Town Hall. For full itinerary, see the website.

### Westchester Church Celebrates Colchester's 325th

As part of Colchester's 325th Anniversary celebration, the Westchester Congregational Church will host a tour on Sunday, Oct. 8, from 2-4 p.m., at the church, 98 Cemetery Rd. All are invited.

The event will start at 2 p.m. and include a short performance of old-time hymns by the choir, a tour of the meetinghouse and grounds, history of the church and surrounding locations, and famous people who contributed to Colchester's history.

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

STORAGE BUI

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

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

### 325th Birthday Gala Tickets Still Available

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

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

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

#### Pumpkins & Pooches

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

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

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

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Old Bacon to Host 325th Celebration All are invited to celebrate Colchester's 325th birthday on Saturday, Oct. 7, by visiting Old Bacon Academy, 84 Main St. Between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. there will be several presentations and tours of the building.

The Bacon Academy Board of Trustees are using the day to kick off a multi-year, multimillion-dollar capital campaign to restore the building.

Honorary Campaign Chair Dolores Sawchuck will welcome people to the school, and

### **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.

Bible Study for Men: Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 8 a.m.

Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Community Bible Study and Prayer: Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Donuts with Don: Fridays at 10 a.m. This is an open discussion on how God fits into your life.

will be joined by the Fife and Drum Corps on the front lawn.

The day will include a presentation by historical architect Marilyn Ackerman at 1 p.m. Ackerman will discuss Pierpont Bacon and how Bacon Academy came to be.

Light snacks and refreshments will be served throughout the day. For more information, contact info@baconacademytrustees.org or visit baconacademytrustees.org.

### Bake Sale

The Friends of Cragin Memorial Library will hold its Fall Book and Bake Sale at the Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., from Sept. 29-Oct. 4.

Hours are: Friday, Sept. 29, Pre-Sale Night, 4-7 p.m., with a \$5 admission; Saturday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 1, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. From Monday, Oct. 2-Wednesday, Oct. 4, the sale will be during library hours, and there will be a \$5 per box or bag sale those days.

### Vendors Wanted

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

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

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



Portland • Portland

# **Portland Fair to Return Next Weekend**

#### By John Leavenworth

The 23rd annual Portland Agricultural Fair will be held next weekend, and there are many new exhibits and events to look forward to.

The fair will take place at the Exchange Club fairgrounds on Friday, Oct. 6, from 5 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 7, from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, Oct. 8, from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m..

Exhibits at the event will close at 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and at 6 p.m. on Sunday. In the past, the grounds have routinely flood-

ed with heavy rain. On the issue, Portland Fair Vice President

Kelly Chester said, "Mother Nature is not happy. We are working very hard to assure the grounds will be in tip-top shape for the fair this year."

"This is not unusual for us; we are good at this," she added.

In addition to serving as the fair's V.P., Chester also serves as a tent coordinator, public safety officer and website administrator for the operation.

Pointing to a need for more volunteers, Chester told the *Rivereast*, "As you can tell by [all my] hats, we need more volunteers, desperately."

"Anyone looking to volunteer any amount of time would be so greatly appreciated. We are a

### Faith Formation Registrations Due

Registrations for the 2023-24 Faith Formation year at St. Mary Church are being accepted through Sept. 30.

Returning families should have received their registration forms via email. New families wishing to register should contact the faith formation office at 860-342-2308.

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Classes begin the week of Oct. 16. really great group," she said.

"Helping to put on [an] event like this is very rewarding," she said.

Mark Chester, Kelly's husband, serves as a member of the board of directors for the show-case.

The extravaganza is non-profit and independent of any other service club, according to the vice president.

"The Exchange Club owns the grounds and they have a food booth at the fair. We seek out volunteers from the other local clubs during fair time," she said.

For vendors, she said, "We have a good amount of vendors this year, both food and merch. From the good ol' pastimes like hamburgers, hot dogs and sausage, peppers and onion [grinders] to tacos, barbecue, seafood and the ever-delicious Dude's Donuts, along with other sweet treats."

As far as new events go for this year, the vice president provided an outline.

On all three days, there will be a remotecontrolled race truck tournament, where fair goers are welcome to "show up and drive," with "trucks and controls provided."

### St. Mary Bereavement Support Ministry The Church of St. Mary will hold a Bereave-

The Church of St. Mary will hold a Bereavement Support Group every second Monday of the month starting Monday, Oct. 9, at 6:30 p.m., in the Rectory Room of the church, 45 Freestone Ave.

All who are grieving are welcome, whether the loss is recent or in the far past. For more information, call or text Susan Bongiorno Frizen at 860-685-1966. According to Chester, there will be "seven trucks [and] drivers per race."

She noted that she was receiving "a lot of interest and questions" regarding the R.C. event in particular.

Other new spectacles include "Nature Nick's Animal Adventure" show, which will show exotic animals; the first annual "Cutest Baby Contest" on Saturday only; the "Skillet Throwing Contest" on Saturday only; a "Makerspace Robot Build" on Sunday only; a "Storytime Ms. Cheryl" and her puppets on Saturday; the "Mud Bog" on Sunday; and a "Labs-4-Rescue" pet adoption exhibit for Saturday.

There will also be live music at the fair, hosted by Eli Cannons and Concentric Brewing.

Bands set to perform are Presley & Taylor, Great Hill Mountain Band, Backstage Pass, Small Town Roots, Paul Christopher Sienkiewicz, and Karen & Norm Duo and Robert J. to cap off the weekend.

Chester wanted to thank the advocates for the fair, including All Waste, Valli Construction Co., Colby Direct Delivery, Petzold's Marine Center, Hometown Garage, Portland Discount Liquors and Paley Brothers Hay and Shavings.

The address for the fairgrounds is 1348 Main St., Portland, CT 06480.

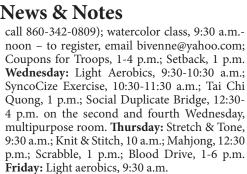
A full schedule of the events for the expo can be found on the fair's website at www.portlandfair.com.

### Senior Center News & Notes

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

**Food Bank Donation Info:** The senior center asks that residents not leave Food Bank donations at the senior center unless the Food Bank is open. The Food Bank is open Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon. Also, the senior center does not need any donations directed toward the senior center. People are asked to only leave donations for the Food Bank, and only during food bank hours.

Next Week's Programs: Monday: Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:30–11:30 a.m.; Blood Pressure Clinic, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday: Bears on a Journey, 9:30-11 a.m., making fleece teddy bears for cancer patients – donations are sought of light fleece, one yard or more, for making bears (to donate,



**Trip: Paul's and Sandy's Pumpkintown:** Friday, Oct. 6, in East Hampton. There is a \$5 transportation fee. Register by calling Sarah or Alexis at 860-342-6761.

**Special Events: Makeup for Mature Women:** Monday, Oct. 2, with Makeup Artist Joby Rogers. Fee is \$15. Register with Sarah or Alexis by calling 860-342-6761. Seating is limited.

**'Holiday by Atria':** Wednesday, Oct. 4, 11:45 a.m. Meet Jenny Cezara from "Holiday by Atria" – The Lodge at Cold Spring Senior Living Community. Registration required by calling Sarah or Alexis at 860-342-6761. Seating is limited.

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

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

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

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

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

#### Art Exhibit at Library

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

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



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### **OKTOBERFEST IS HERE**

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

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### Absentee Ballots for November Election

Absentee ballots for the Nov. 7 municipal election will be available starting Friday, Oct. 6, from the Town Clerk's Office. Absentee ballot applications are available from the town clerk's office or by visiting www. portlandct.org/voting-info.

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

### Coffee with the Candidates

Coffee with the Candidates is taking place Saturday, Sept. 30, from 8:30-10 a.m., at Melilli Caffe and Grill, located at 264 Main St.

This event is free to attend. Portland voters are welcome to join Democratic Board of Education candidates for a free cup of coffee and to discuss education issues that are important to them.

Candidates in attendance include Kim Nagy-Maruschock, Meg Scata, Sarah Spear and Laurel Steinhauser.

#### Portland • Portland •

### Travel Basketball Registration is Open

Children in grades 4-8 are invited to play in Portland Travel Basketball. All players who wish to play in the 2023-24 season must register prior to evaluations at portlandcttravelbasketball.com.

Questions regarding registration and evaluations can be directed to Club President John Thompson at Thompsonj963@yahoo.com.

To be eligible, children must be Portland residents or attend Portland public schools. Prior participation is not a guarantee for team placement. Evaluation dates are: Sunday, Oct. 1, for grades 6-8, and Wednesday, Oct. 4, for grades 4-5 and, if needed, grades 6-8 at the Portland high and middle schools. Details and specific evening time slots will be confirmed to all reg-

istered participants. There is no cost to register and be evaluated for a team. Season-related costs will be communicated to players accepted on a roster.

### Youth Soccer Recap

The Portland Red Pandas U10G soccer team came up short against a well-prepared Tolland squad last Saturday, losing 8-1 at home. Defenders Caroline Martinez and Olivia LeCara won countless battles against a well-organized Tolland attack that applied pressure for the full 60 minutes. Anya Pereira sliced through Tolland's defense to put her team on the board after an early four goal deficit. Gabriella Lardizzone and Paige Campbell provided the Red Pandas with several flashes of exciting action in the midfield, and Ellie Heller's effective sideline runs challenged Tolland's defenders.

The Portland Earthquake U11B soccer team lost to East Hampton 5-3 last Saturday. Beckett Warner connected with the back of the net twice for his first brace of the season and Ben Martinez sailed one by the keeper for his first goal this Fall. Sunday's game vs Windsor Locks was wet and messy and the Earthquake came up short 5-2. An early goal by Tucker Parmelee put Portland on the board and a goal by Beckett Warner got the team within one, but Windsor Locks responded with a few quick goals to pull ahead and take the win.

### Zion Lutheran Church News

Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., offers in-person worship Sundays at 9 a.m. Masks are optional. A recording of the service is posted to YouTube on Mondays by 9 a.m. Bulletins for the service are posted each week at zionlutheranportland.org.

On Oct. 1, Zion will celebrate World Communion Sunday. To celebrate and encourage the unity of all Christians, members of Zion will be joining the 10:00 am worship service at First Congregational Church in Portland. There will be no worship service at Zion that day.

Zion will hold its first Sunday School gathering of the season, known as Rally Day, on Oct.

15, from 10:15-11:30 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Families with school age children (3-12) are invited to see what Zion's religious instruction program is all about. There will be games, activities and snacks for the kids, and coffee and conversation for the adults. Call Sylvia LeShane at 860-342-0658 if you plan to attend or have any questions.

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

### 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 on Oct. 1, which is World Communion Sunday, is at 10 a.m. The worship is led by the Rev. Julie Olmsted and her sermon is titled, "Shake Awake!" This week the clergy and congregants of Trinity Episcopal Church, Zion Lutheran Church and True Vine Holiness Churches have been invited to join in worship.

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.

The church's Parish Pantry Providers are continuing to help stock the shelves of the Portland Food Pantry. The Providers are collecting school supplies for the month of September.

The church is also collecting new and gently used children's books for Covenant to Care for Children to distribute to families to encourage children's literacy. There is a collection container at the front entrance to the church.

The Friends of the Portland Library group has fiction, romance, teen and children's used books, as well as DVDs, in the Second-Hand Prose Bookshop at Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., during regular library hours.

Books are 50 cents for paperbacks and children's books, \$1 for trade paperbacks and \$2 for hardcover. DVDs are 50 cents each disc unless marked otherwise. There are large print mystery and general fiction books that have been removed from the ;ibrary collection for 50 cents as well as TV series on DVD for 50 cents each disc.

The Friends of the Portland Library's Read and Recycle program will accept donations on Saturday, Sept. 30, from 10 a.m.-noon, in the Mary Flood Room of the library. The Friends will accept donations of gently used books, puzzles,

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

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

### Trinity Episcopal Church News

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.

### **Book Sale, Read & Recycle**

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

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

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

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Fab Floor... Pictured is the glistening floor of the Portland Middle School gymnasium. The Portland Travel Basketball recently funded a refurbishing project for the floor.

### **Exchange Club Seeks Members**

The Exchange Club of Portland is looking for new members.

The Exchange holds various fundraising events year-round that contribute toward area organizations in supporting their effort to helping others in need. So far in 2023, the Portland Exchange has helped the Portland Food, Middlesex Hospice, New Horizon's Domestic Violence Shelter, and Gilead Community Services and the Military Support Program.

The Exchange also annually gives out the

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

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

Curious About Yoga, But Don't Know Where to Start?: Wednesdays, Oct. 4-25, 6-7 p.m., at Riverfront Park. Drop-ins welcome.

Tai Chi: Wednesdays or Saturdays through Oct. 21, at Riverfront Park. Times are 9:30-10:15 a.m. on Wednesdays and 10:30-11:15 a.m. John Goodrich Scholarship to an area high school senior as well as contributing to other local scholarship programs.

Members of the Portland Exchange will serve from their food booth at the upcoming Portland Fair. All are invited to stop by and meet current members and see the enjoyment and gratifica-

If interested in joining, visit www.portlandex-

### Parks and Rec. News & Notes

on Saturdays.

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

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

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

Kickboxing: Mondays, Oct. 2-Nov. 6, 7-8 p.m., at The Inner Circle.

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

Chess Club: Wednesdays, Oct. 4-25, at The Inner Circle. Open to all ages.

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South Glastonbury

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### St. Mary Church News

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church is located at 45 Freestone Ave. The church office can be reached at 860-342-2328. Office hours are 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, visit www.stmaryportlandct.org. Pastor is the Rev. John Antonelle. Masks are strongly recommended.

Weekend Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. The 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is livestreamed each week; visit the parish

website for more information.

Weekday Mass: Monday and Tuesday at 8 a.m., and Friday at 12:10 p.m.

Confession: Saturday at 4-4:45 p.m., or call Antonelle for an appointment.

Other Programs: For information on faith formation programs, baptisms, blessings of marriages, Knights of Columbus, the St. Mary Ladies Guild and more, call the church office.

tions about God, the Bible, and the United

Methodist Church. Reservations will be neces-

Portland United Methodist Church is a mem-

ber of the United Methodist New England Con-

ference. Its pastor is the Rev. Judith Johnson-

Siebold, who lives with her husband, Allen, in

their Portland home. She may be reached at

518-729-8215 and/or johnsieb60@gmail.com.

### Methodist Church Planning Holiday Bazaar coming part of our fellowship but having ques-

sarv.

Portland United Methodist Church is planning its Nov. 18th Holiday Bazaar. The event will feature hand-crafted gifts, a bake sale, and several kinds of soups.

Prices are being kept low so that all may enjoy the experience, and a portion of the proceeds will go to charity.

In the new year, the pastor is planning a series of Wednesday night Child-Friendly Quiche, Coffee, Cookies and Questions Suppers in her Portland home for residents considering be-

Portland Library News & Notes

Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., has announced the following events. Registration required for all programs unless noted. 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. Holiday Closing: Monday, Oct. 9.

Save the Date for Read & Recycle: Saturday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m.-noon. Friends' Read and Recycle Donate your gently-used books, DVDs, CDs and puzzles.

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.

Preschool Storytime: Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., through Oct. 31; Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose: Wednesdays at 10:15 or 11:15 a.m., through Nov. 1. Two sessions offered, to keep group sizes small and interactions personalized.

Fire Truck Storytime: Saturday, Oct. 14, at 11 a.m. on the Town Green. The storytime will be followed by a visit from Portland firefighters and a fire truck. No registration is required.

Pumpkin Painting for the Portland Fair: Wednesday, Oct. 4, 5-7 p.m. Kids of all ages are invited to participate, but only those age 5 and up are eligible for fair entries. Pumpkins and paint will be supplied. A parent or guardian must be present. This event will be held outdoors in the grassy area across the parking lot from the library; in case of rain, a take-home kit will be provided.



Spooky Science: Thursdays at 3:30 p.m., Oct. 5-26, for grades K-5. Make Frankenworms come to life, use static electricity to raise some ghosts, and experiment with some potions and

Halloween candies. Space is limited. Save the Date: T-Rex Tea Party: Tuesday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m., for kids in pre-k through grade 2. Have some light refreshments while enjoying dinosaur songs, stories and more. Wear your fanciest or fiercest attire.

Teen Programs: Gingerbread Haunted Houses: Monday, Oct. 30, 3:30 p.m.

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

Adult Programs: Movie: Wednesday, Oct. 11, 1 p.m. Book Club - The Next Chapter.

Paint Party: Tuesday, Oct. 12, 6 p.m. Paint a Fall scene with Brigette Roy.

A History of Huskies Hoops: Legacy of Greatness: Monday, Oct. 30, 6:30 p.m. Celebrate the history and greatness of the UConn basketball teams with this presentation hosted by award-winning sportswriter and author Marty Gitlin.

October Book Clubs: Talk About Books: Tuesday, Oct. 3, 1 p.m. Dominicana by Angie Cruz will be discussed; 1st Thursday Book Club: Oct. 5, 6:30 p.m. The Perfect Witness by Iris Johansen will be discussed; Mystery Lovers Book Club: Tuesday, Oct. 17, 1 p.m. The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle by Stuart Turton will be discussed.

### **Police News**

9/19: Hannah Bierd, 25, of 112 Marlborough St., was arrested and charged with third-degree assault, disorderly conduct and criminal mischief, Portland Police said.

### **Food Bank Benefit Concert**

Portland's Tony Rome and the Peacemakers will next play in Portland Sunday, Oct. 29, at 1 p.m., at Concentric Brewing, to benefit Portland Food Bank. Costumes are optional.





The safety of our patients and staff members is



tion members get out of being together.

change.org for more information.

### Fair Looking for Trophy Coordinator

Portland Fair is looking for a Trophy/Ribbon Coordinator. The volunteer position would need to be filled for the 2024 fair, but fair organizers said they would like to have someone commit to this position now, to shadow the current coordinator to learn the job.

The job will require verifying what trophies/ ribbons are need for that year's fair, ordering and sorting the shipment when it arrives and distributing the prizes to the proper department head.

If interested, email info@portlandfair.com.

### ADVERTISERS

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### Andover • Andover

#### Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following items have been updated for Andover seniors, veterans, and disabled. If you want to attend any events, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi 860-916-6122 to register. Also call Palazzi for all luncheon reservations and transportation needs, including rides to medical appointments. For all Young at Heart events including movies, call Sue Schmidt at 860-604-1057, and call Town Clerk Carol Lee at 860-742-0188 ext. 2 for all trip information. For all senior events and information, visit the senior page of the town website, and overct.org.

Senior Luncheons: 10/6, with pizza and speaker Ashley Bafumis; 10/20, with lunch from Chili's and speaker Mark Hand, a broker who will explain the various changes in senior benefits for 2024. Reservations required for all lunches - no walk-ins accepted.

Shopping: Tuesdays. Manchester - Oct. 3, 17 and 31. Willimantic - Oct. 10 and 24.

Trips: Lighthouse Tour, Saturday, Oct. 7; Christmas Show, Friday, Dec. 8. Contact Carol Lee for information.

Flu Clinic: Held at the town hall community room on Thursday, Oct. 12 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; no reservations necessary. COVID boosters and

pneumonia shots available if needed. Bring your insurance cards, Medicare or Medicaid cards. Questions, please call Palazzi.

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

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

Rides to Food Pantry: The bus is now available for the Food Pantry on Mondays at 5 p.m. and for the Wednesday Foodshare or food pantry - all of which take place at Andover Congregational Church.

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

Belltown Orchards: Senior Transportation will take seniors to Belltown Orchards on Wednesday, Oct 11, leaving town hall at 10:30 a.m. Call for information or a ride.

### 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

### **Revolutionary War Headstones**

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

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

#### Absentee Ballots

Absentee Ballots for the Nov. 7 Municipal Election will be available starting Oct. 6. Applications for an absentee ballot are available in the Town Clerk's Office or online at andoverct.org.

### Living with **Connecticut's Wildlife**

Master wildlife conservationist Paul Colburn returns to Andover Public Library on Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 6:30 p.m., with his presentation "Living With Connecticut's Wildlife." All are invited.

During this program, Colburn will focus on how to live with and enjoy such wild neighbors as black bears, Eastern coyote, bobcat, fisher, raccoon, skunk, Virginia opossum, red and gray fox, woodchuck, wild-tailed deer, birds, bats, venomous and non-venomous reptiles, and amphibians.

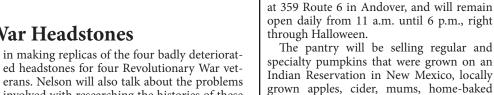
RSVP is not required but is requested for planning purposes. To do so, call the library at 860-742-7428.

your own bags. The Foodshare Van comes to the church every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; the senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.

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

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

Bingo and Baskets: Friday, Oct. 27. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m., and the game starts at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 and includes dinner and game.



erans. Nelson will also talk about the problems involved with researching the histories of these vets, as well as provide a bit of history of brownstone quarrying in Connecticut.

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

### CPR and First Aid Class

All are invited to learn CPR and first aid Saturday, Oct. 7, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at Andover Volunteer Fire Department.

Cost is \$20 for CPR or CPR and First Aid. Classes include use of training materials, CPR for adult, child and infant; AED training; choking; first aid; and a two-year certification from the American Heart Association.

Registration is required; to do so, call Mindy Hegener at 860-706-3074.

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

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

**Pumpkin Patch** 

Fundraiser

Food Pantry is holding a Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser to benefit the food pantry.

The Andover Congregational Church

The patch is located next to the church

The pantry will be selling regular and

A local craftsman will again have on dis-

play his refurbished antique wheelbarrows

Purchases will benefit the food pantry.

Vendors Wanted

goods and apple fritters.

and benches to sell.

### Tag Sale to Benefit Senior Lunch Program

The Andover Seniors are looking for donations of items to sell at their tag sale that will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4, in the Andover Elementary School gym.

Bring any items that you would like to donate to the Town Office building from Oct. 23 to Nov. 3. All proceeds benefit the Senior Lunch Program.

### **CROP** Walk to End Hunger

The Andover Congregational Church will hold its 32nd annual CROP Walk to End Hunger with the Columbia and Gilead Congregational churches on Oct. 1. The walk begins and ends at the Andover Church, 359 Route 6, and is a three-mile walk on the Rail Trail.

Registration begins at 1:45 p.m. at the Andover Congregational Church; the walk begins at 2 p.m. Snacks and water will be provided to the participants.

The church will be hosting a barbecue lunch before the walk from noon to 1:30pm. Lunch will be hamburger or hot dog, chips and drink for \$10. All proceeds will benefit the CROP Walk.

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for their outstanding service to seniors, disabled and veterans, at the lunch on Friday,

Sept. 22. Pictured are Rick Kauffman, senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi, and driver

Ellie Skoog. Not pictured: driver Susan Camoroda. Photo by Mary Duval.

### Therapy Dog to Visit Library

Andover Public Library will welcome Sheena the Therapy Dog (and owner Jenifer Nadeau) to the library, 355 Route 6, on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Kid readers are encouraged to sign up for 15-minute sessions for reading, starting at 10:30 a.m. To sign up, visit the library, or call 860-742-7428.

### **Book & Bake Sale**

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

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

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





#### Hebron • Heb

# Next Steps with Public Works Project?

#### By Michael Sinkewicz

The Hebron Board of Selectmen offered fresh insight last week into the potential next steps for the ongoing Department of Public Works (DPW) building project, signaling that the town is beginning to look at how to revamp its current facility site.

During the Sept. 21 meeting, the board expressed interest in dissolving its survey committee, which was comprised of local residents and elected officials.

In August, the results of a project survey which was completed by 725 residents - indicated that the public had little interest in relocating the town's Public Works facility to Kinney Road. Instead, the majority of respondents preferred a path of keeping or expanding the current site on Old Colchester Road.

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

With the survey complete and the committee's sole purpose fulfilled, it was time to move

### **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: Fridays at 1 p.m. Schedule: Sept. 29, Sympathy for the Devil (R); Oct. 6, Mob Land (R); Oct. 13, Jules (PG-13); Oct. 20, Golda (PG). Bottled water and individually wrapped snacks will be provided.

Holiday Closing: The library will be closed Monday, Oct. 9, for Columbus Day.

Learn the Basics of CT Paid Leave Act: Tuesday, Oct. 10, 6 p.m. This info session will also feature a hands-on application assistance event.

Confused About Medicare?: Tuesday, Oct. 10, at 1 p.m., or Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 6 p.m. Learn the ins-and-outs of Medicare and the differences between original Medicare and Medicare Advantage with Mark Macrina a local insurance agent.

Spooky Halloween Magic - Mind-Reading Show: Wednesday, Oct. 11, 6:30 p.m. Teens and adults are invited to this evening of spinetingling enchantment. The spirit guide will be Gregg Dwyer. Meet and Greet New Library Director: Tuesday, Oct. 17, 3-5 p.m. All are invited to stop by and meet new director Drusilla Carter. Refreshments will be served in the community room.

Book Discussion: Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m., at the American Legion, located next door.

forward, said Peter Kasper, the selectmen's liaison on the committee. Reconstituting the committee would be the best course of action, he argued. "I think it's time to talk about what do we

want a committee to look like going forward to continue to support the process and create accountability, communication, transparency," Kasper said during the meeting. "That all needs to continue to be evident in the process prior to bringing something to referendum."

The members agreed, and tasked Kasper with working with town staff to establish a charge for the reconstituted committee and an outline for potential membership; the information will likely be presented at the board's following meeting, scheduled for next week.

Mal Leichter, a member of the Public Building Committee, expressed that his board has also discussed the topic and would like to have representation on the forthcoming project committee.

Leichter, who was also one of the five members of the survey committee, indicated that building committee representation would help with "technical input" - a beneficial voice when handling a major town project. In addi-

Daisy Darker by Alice Feeney will be read and discussed. Copies of the book will be available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk, and also available on Libby. Must be over 21 to attend.

Bobcat: Connecticut's Secretive Wild Cat: Tuesday, Oct. 24, 6:30 p.m. This presentation by Paul Colburn, certified master wildlife conservationist, focuses on the natural history of bobcats in Connecticut, and offers an overview of habitat, behavior and current research efforts. Bobcat artifacts will be shared with the audience.

Art for Anxiety: Wednesday, Oct. 25, 6 p.m. Join Amy from Studio 13 will lead guided meditation and breathing exercises, then will take people through a relaxing art process using watercolors and ink. Registration is required as space is limited.

Help Plan Haunted Library!: Teens are invited on Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30 p.m. to help plan the Haunted Library. This event is scheduled for Oct. 21, and teens will plan to meet every Wednesday until the day of the event. Snacks will be provided and this will count towards community service hours.

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

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.

tion, he stated that the new group should perhaps encompass other members of the survey committee and individuals who have general interest in participating, including those in the community who were angered by the initial Kinney Road proposal.

"The important thing," he said, "is that we've heard from the people. We've heard form the people almost two months ago now and nothing has happened." He added, "The worst thing we can do is

let this thing go on and on and on with no response."

Once formed, Leichter explained, the new committee would predominately oversee the day-to-day operations of the project, answering to elected officials and boards. One of the first tasks, which will likely be led by the building committee and submitted to the selectmen, is outlining what the architect should design.

Once a clear concept is established, the idea can be relayed to the architect, who will quote a cost to finalize a design and plan.

Previously, the town received estimates from BL Companies and Nathan L. Jacobson & Associates to design the new facility at Kinney Road totaling \$244,800. The funding, which was ultimately removed from the 2023-24 budget, would've specifically been drawn-up for the

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

Meetings and Events: Balance Class, Mondays, 10-11 a.m.; Fellowship Café (Memory Workshop): every Tuesday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Buildings and Grounds Committee: first Tuesdays, 7 p.m.; Virtual Coffee Hours: Wednes88-acre parcel on Kinney Road. In general, the town would require permission to allocate the funding for the project, regardless of the site.

Thomas Fenton, the town engineer from Nathan Jacobson, stated that "less than 25%" of the design would potentially be transferable if the town pivoted to a different choice - emphasizing the importance of locking-in a site choice before committing to spending a sum of money; the town would have to spend additional resources for each new site.

In considering a potential layout for the Old Colchester Road site, a few factors remain unknown. Town Manager Andrew Tierney said at the meeting that the availability of an adjacent Eversource parcel is unclear, and official confirmation likely won't be communicated until the end of the year. Accordingly, site options that don't include that expansion will likely be explored, which may include the elimination or relocation of the transfer station at the site.

Selectwoman Tiffany Thiele expressed that in addition to a new committee, another committee will perhaps need to be formed in the future to address the town's options with the Kinney Road property.

"Because if we move in the direction that it seems like we are, we need to something with that acreage," she said.

#### St. Peter's News & Notes

days at 10 a.m.; Vestry: third Thursdays, 7 p.m.; Building Networks International, Fridays, 7:30 a.m.

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

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

### 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. Needs are: Men's: socks (white or light gray no-show, quarter or crew); and boxer briefs (M,L,XL,2XL). Women's: socks (no-show preferred); sports bras (M up to 4XL); T-shirts (M and up); baby powder; tampons, and briefs (sizes 8 and up). Cleaning Supplies: Size XL disposable latexfree gloves; Windex; toilet bowl cleaner; shower cleaner; and bleach. Gift Cards: \$15 Stop & Shop for gas to assist people living in their cars; and \$15-\$25 Walmart cards to purchase items needed immediately. Please call to arrange the pick-up of gift cards. Miscellaneous: inexpensive ear buds; rain ponchos; hand warmers; office supplies - black Sharpies, masking tape and yellow highlighters; sturdy adult backpacks; washcloths; pillow cases; toothpaste & toothbrushes; first aid supplies; paper towels; TP; and 13- and 55-gallon trash bags. Place donations of goods in the designated collection box next to the church's Cry Room. Place large quantities of donations in the Cry Room. For more information, call Monica or John McKerracher at 860-228-4211.

### 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 www.facebook.com/TheWorshipCenterat Connecticut and on YouTube at www.youtube. com/@theworshipcenter9733.

Life Groups: Meet Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at the Caseys' home in Hebron, and the second Wednesday of every month from 7-8:30pm at the Swensons' home in Columbia, for worship, prayer, Bible study and fellowship. Journey Group: For grades 6-12. The mission of the group is to support the youth of Hebron

and surrounding towns in their spiritual development. Meets every other Sunday directly after the service; lunch is provided. Upcoming meeting: Oct. 8.

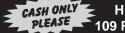
Youth Group: First Friday Fellowship!: Typically held the first Friday of each month from 6-9 p.m. at the church.

Virtual Prayer Night: Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., via Zoom. Contact the church office or website for a link and meeting ID.

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



#### Member's Craft & Produce Market



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

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

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

Second Annual TWC Family Reunion Camping Event & Church Picnic: Sept. 29-Oct. 1, at the Nickerson Park Family Campground. The Oct. 1 service, baptism and picnic will be held at the campground.



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#### Page 27

#### Hebron • Heb

#### Harvest Moon Festival

small. The parade is free.

terproject.org.

The Town Center Project hosts Hebron's Harvest Moon Festival on Saturday, Oct. 21, from 1:30-6:30 p.m., along Main Street. The festival will also feature two events, in which everyone can participate. Parade your Pooch!: Do you have a great Howloween costume that your pooch rocks?

Then walk them down Main Street in a parade at 2 p.m. Meet in front of the Church of Hope, 1 Main St. All dogs are welcome - big or

Parks and Recreation News Hebron Parks and Recreation is offering many summer programs. For full program descriptions and to register, visit hebronct.recdesk.com

or call 860-530-1281. 30+ Basketball: Drop-in games for all skill levels ages 30 and over. Tuesdays through Nov. 21, from 7-9 p.m., at the RHAM High School main gym. Cost is \$3 (cash only) each visit.

The Art of Mindfulness: Tuesday, Oct. 3, 6:30-8 p.m., at the Douglas Library community room. No art experience needed. Class includes an art kit to continue this mindful practice at home. Cost is \$25.

Youth Basketball: Registration runs through Oct. 22 for the Recreational and Travel basketball programs, open to grades K-12. Visit the Parks and Rec. website for more information.

### Gilead Congregational Church News

tion

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

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

Scheduled Events/Meetings: 10/2: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; 10/3: AA meeting, 7:30 p.m.; 10/4: Choir Practice, 7 p.m.; 10/5: Deacon meeting, 7 p.m.

Crop Walk: All are invited to join the church team for the 2023 Crop Walk on Saturday Oct. 1. Meet at the Andover Congregational Church

### Senior Center News & Notes

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.

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: Enhance Fitness, 9-10 a.m. via Zoom. Tuesdays: Knitting/Crocheting/Needle Group, 10:15-11:45 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; RHAM Bingo the third Wednesday of each month from 2:30-4 p.m., starting in October. 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.



St. Peter's annual Harvest Festival will return Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 7 and 8. The event will feature plenty of pumpkins – as well as gourds, corn stalks, mums, native-grown apples and cider.

### St. Peter's Harvest Festival

St. Peter's Episcopal Church will hold its annual Harvest Festival on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and on Sunday, Oct. 8, from noon to 4 p.m., at the church, located at 30 Church St. (Route 85) in Hebron. The festival will feature pumpkins, gourds, corn stalks, mums, native-grown apples and cider.

There will be free hayrides, a bake table featuring candy, preserves, pickles, pies and other seasonal goodies, a Fall- and Halloween-based

tag sale, parishioner-made crafts, and vendors on both days.

Lunch will be served both days, featuring hot dogs, hamburgers and pulled pork sandwiches.

As part of the St. Peter's outreach programs, a portion of the proceeds will go to the Hebron Historical Society. For more information, call the church at 860-228-3244 or visit www.StPetersHebron.com.

### **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.

Fundraiser for "Elaina's Lift": Dec. 2; this will be a craft fair and free quilt show. Interested vendors can request more information at CLCHebron.Fellowship@gmail.com.

Caring Shepherds: Caring Shepherds distributes household and hygiene items, as well as food pantry staples, Bibles, and prayers. For more information, call Caring Shepherds Ministry at 860-494-0431.

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. Application forms are at www.clecchebron.org.

### **Historical Society** Seeks Info

The Hebron Historical Society is seeking to update information in its Images of America Hebron published by Acadia Press 2004.

Anyone who has recognized incorrect information, is able to supply additional info, or can identify people in photos, is asked to share the updates with us at info@hebronhistoricalsociety.org or through hebronhistoricalsociety.org.



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.

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

Flu/COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic: Wednesday, Oct. 18, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., sponsored by Chatham Health. Ages 18 and above are also welcome. It is expected the new COVID-19 vaccine will be available. Pre-registration not required.

RHAM Bingo: Held the third Wednesday of each month beginning Oct. 18, from 2:30-4 p.m. The games will be run by the RHAM National Honor Society students. The games are free and prizes are awarded. To sign up, call the center.

Chatham Health Monthly Presentation: Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2 p.m., dealing with lung health. There will be raffle prize giveaways for the participants.

Watercolor or Acrylic Art Class: Fridays,

Trunk or Treat: Friday, Oct. 27, 5-7 p.m., at the Burnt Hill Pavilion. There will be trunk-ortreating, pumpkin-decorating, bounce houses, wagon rides and music. Decorated vehicles are needed; if anyone is interested in decorating their vehicle, contact Parks and Rec. to sign up. Home Alone Safety for Kids: Monday, Oct.

Pumpkin Carving Contest!: Register your

pumpkin on Oct. 21 near Douglas Library, 22

Main St., by 5:30 p.m. for judging. There will

be prizes for children, teens and adults. No ad-

Pumpkin Festival in general, visit thetowncen-

For more information on either event, or the

vance sign-up is necessary.

30, 5-6:30 p.m., for boys and girls ages 8-13 who are preparing to start staying home alone. This interactive course will cover safety concerns parents have when their children are by themselves. Cost is \$45.

days and Wednesdays in the Gilead Hill School activity room. Ages 5-11 are from 5-5:50 p.m., and ages 12+ are 6-7 p.m. Cost: \$85 per session.

# Karate: There are six-week sessions on Mon-

at 1:45 p.m. for registration, then the walk. Con-

tact the Gilead Church office for more informa-

Faith, Film and Food: Starts up again Friday,

Card-Making with Gayle: All are welcome to

Walk to End Alzheimer's: Saturday, Oct. 28.

Oct. 6. Bring a dish to share. Dinner starts at 6

register for the next event, which will be Thurs-

All are invited to join the GCC Team or donate

at act.alz.org (just follow the links for the Walk

to End Alzheimer's and search for Gilead Con-

gregational Church). To further support this

cause, there will be a chili bake-off on Oct. 15,

following worship, and a bake sale on Oct. 22,

p.m., followed by desert and a movie.

day, Oct. 26, at 6 p.m.

also following worship.

Oct. 20 and 27, 12:15-2:15 p.m. Cost of class is \$25.00. Pre-registration by Oct. 17 is required.

Lunch & Learn: Wednesday, Oct. 25, noon, at the senior center, sponsored by Marlborough Health and Rehab. Heather Hitchcock, CDP Bristol Health community educator, will present more information on dementia. Bagged lunch will be either turkey or tuna sandwich, chips, a big cookie, and water. Deadline to register is Monday, Oct. 23, by 10 a.m.

Weekly Shopping Trips: Fridays at noon. Upcoming schedule: Walmart, Fridays, Oct. 6 and 27; Stop and Shop, Oct. 13; Big Y, Oct. 20. Pickups begin at 8:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required by the prior Thursday at 10 a.m.

Massage Therapy: By appointment Mondays from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Massage therapist Beverly Williams will perform 25-minute (for \$25) or 50-minute (for \$50) chair or table massages or hot stone massages. 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

### Gilead Church Annual **Blood Drive**

All are invited to Gilead Congregational Church's annual Blood Drive, taking place Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 672 Gilead St. Appointments begin at 1 p.m. To schedule your appointment, visit RedCross.org and select Make an Appointment button.

There is a blood shortage and all types are needed. If you have never donated before, please schedule an appointment and share that you are first time donor upon check-in. You will be walked through the entire process.

Call the church office at 860-228-3077 with any questions.

card number. (We regret we cannot take ads over the phone)

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### Where in the World is the *Rivereast*? Hey! Are you taking a vacation or a day trip soon? Bring the

photo and your address to bulletin@glcitizen.com.

THE WOR *Rivereast* along with you, snap a picture with it, and email the AMHERE



Rivereast Hits Denmark... Sisters Rebecca and Molly LaPoint of Marlborough are shown here at Jelling, Denmark. The Jelling Mounds, Runic Stones and Church are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Photo by Mimi LaPoint, also of Marlborough.



Fun in the Sun... Nash, Dallas and Dakota Ferwerda of East Hampton are shown here - with the Rivereast, of course! - on vacation in Myrtle Beach, S.C.



Vermont, and took a trip to Stowe after the roads were reopened following summer floods.

Where in the

World?

In Atlantic City... Pictured is Gehrig Conley of Colchester on a trip to Atlantic City, N.J., for his big sister's AAU basketball tournament.

# 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



### Reader Forum • Reader • Forum • Reader

#### \* Letters cont. from page 9

chester and elect this incredible team - Bernie, Rosemary, Denise, Dave, Gayle, Michele W, Sean, Scott, Karen, Chris, Michelle M, Stefanie, Andrew, and Krista.

#### Sincerely, **Rosemary Coyle – Colchester**

Note: Coyle is a member of the Colchester Board of Selectmen, but said she is speaking as an individual.

### Where's Bernie?

Dear Colchester Residents:

It is almost a month until Election Day and I'm still waiting for Bernie Dennler, the Democratic socialist candidate for first selectman, to provide the community a list of accomplishments and a real vision. Mr. Dennler has been writing letters to the editor providing verbs and adjectives, not accomplishments like our current first selectman, Andreas Bisbikos.

I have had the opportunity to compare the palms cards of both candidates running for office. The first selectman has a list of accomplishments and a real vision for our community. Mr. Dennler has listed a very short resume and spends half a palm card talking about his husband and his hobbies. I don't care about who you are married to or what your hobbies are. All I care about is what you are going to do for me as a citizen of this community.

Our first selectman is a guy who can get the job done. From all the work done at the Parks & Recreation facilities to making real progress on the old Jack Chevrolet building to taking a stand against abuse of power by elected and appointed officials, he is always working for the people.

Mr. Dennler works in the town of Lebanon doing secretarial work, four days a week for a town half the size of Colchester. With a lack of experience, a lack of accomplishments, and no backbone to stand up against the repeated toxic behaviors of his fellow DTC members - there is no reason to vote for someone destined to become Rosemary Coyle's puppet.

#### Sincerely, Michael B. Begun – Colchester

### **Picking Person**

To the Editor:

We wish to express our support for Kim Person of Andover, candidate for seat on the Andover Board of Education.

We have known Kim for 17 years and believe she is the best candidate to fill the position. She is a native resident of Andover who is deeply rooted in the community and believes in protecting the special character and charm of small-town life.

Kim has raised two children (now adults) in Andover as both were schooled in the Andover school system. She is highly aware of maintaining and protecting a great education system for the resident children of Andover.

With the current challenges we need Kim as a candidate who can face these issues with tenacity, determination, and integrity. Kim is the candidate who possesses all of these traits. Kim believes in fiscal responsibility and accountability and wants to provide more transparency to the taxpayers of Andover.

To the citizens of Andover, please consider Kim Person as your choice for the Andover Board of Education seat on Election Day. Christa and David Pannorfi - Andover

#### Supports Alfano & Crawford To the Editor:

Presently, the Portland Board of Selectmen is comprised of 7 men, which doesn't appear to represent the mix of voters in our community. This is one of the reasons why I am casting my

### Vote Row A

To the Editor:

Under the previous Town Council in East Hampton in 2020 and 2021, the Democratic majority started the lake aeration project that has worked wonders, funded another full time position for our well loved and well used library, began the serious discussions regarding a water system in the town, restored previously eliminated teaching positions and technology budget for the schools, and much more, all while raising the mill rate zero the first year and a fraction of the rise we've seen the last 2 years the second year.

Under the current Town Council, one of their major accomplishments, at least according to one member running for reelection, is legally exposing sanitation workers to biohazards. Another is "proudly" sending inadequate funding proposals for the town and school budgets to referendum for the voters to reject.

To make real progress and make East Hampton a community to raise a family and retire in, in service to the residents, vote row A Nov. 7.

Paul Wisniewski - East Hampton Candidate for Board of Education

#### Broken Records To the Editor:

I agree with Ed K about broken records and echoing majority of the media. Ed Smith and Annie are truly broken records. Ed, I think you should go back to speaking about the neighbor's

dog. You're as much an independent voter as Romney is a Republican. RINO Romney? Your comment about never voting for a Republican unless they first publicly and regularly denounce Trumpism makes as much sense as me an independent not wanting to vote Democrat unless they admitted and continue to admit their party was responsible for the confederacy, didn't want to abolish slavery, continued to support segregation and founded the KKK.

Biden makes mistakes and the media barely questions his POTUS suitability? Best the Democratic Party can scrape up? Set a 10,000/day record for number of illegals. Remain in Mexico policy; remain in Texas policy, really, why? Hunter indicted on gun charges; what about all the other charges? The smokescreen indictment that doesn't tie in Biden Inc. or "Big Guy"? Bob Menendez, another smokescreen to deflect the attention off Biden Inc. FBI raids him a year ago, nothing, now a Democratic scapegoat, and patsy. Bob's fingerprints on those gold bars, same FBI who couldn't lift fingerprints off a bag of cocaine in the White House?

Your opinion of the 'Know Nothing' party, what about the 'Do Nothing Party'? You never talk about issues of "we the "majority" of the people". The environment, ask China and India what they're doing about the environment?

As for Annie, talking about the Boogaloo Boys, really? What ever happened to Ray Epps? Who killed Ashley Babbitt? How did Officer Brian Sicknick really die? What is forced-birth? NATO isn't spelled USA. Biden goes after what tax cheats, you mean himself and his son? Gutted train regulation, Pete Buttigieg tell you this? Trump felony charges, how convenient? You are the epitome of the MSNBC & CNN echo chamber.

#### Michael Chotkowski - Marlborough

### Needs and Wants

To the Editor: Needs and wants. Wants and needs. In a budgetary sense one must differentiate between the two in order to present to the townspeople a fair and equitable budget. They should not be interchangeable but often are, ensuring that the stays muddied, making decisi difficult and harder to rationalize and explain. Real needs are a priority in order to ensure a smooth operation with the intended desirable outcome. Wants often can be delayed since they all too often are not essential but "nice to haves." The budget scene is based on far more than needs and wants. Salaries, benefits, pensions, building maintenance and essential equipment are top priorities. Then there are debts that have scheduled repayment. There are funds set aside for urgent or emergency expenditures. There are sinking funds for large expensive items essential to the town's operations. It is a complicated process. By keeping priorities in order and planning for expenses to be allocated optimally, operating efficiently and prudently, the bottom line or what is passed on to the taxpayer can be kept reasonable and affordable. That's common sense fiscal management in a nutshell. Planning, prioritizing and patience. That is all too often what differentiates the needs from the wants. Alison Walck - East Hampton Note: Walck is a member of the East Hampton Town Council, but is speaking as an individual.

### **Access for Senior Citizens**

### To the Editor:

In the last several months, my elderly aunt, has had some health issues that have required many doctors visits, and due to the nature of the issues she is unable to drive herself. Thankfully, my grandmother has been able to get her to these appointments, but in discussing it with her, she stated they were quoted \$140 for transport to a one hour appointment.

From our discussion, it became clear that this is a serious concern that needs to be addressed in East Hampton. While we have made some progress and purchased a new van, the senior driver position is still only part time, making the services unavailable to some residents who need them. This concern was also brought up in a recent meeting I had with other democratic candidates.

I know there are also volunteers who have tried to coordinate efforts and be good samaritans, however the concern in most cases, is if those individuals can safely transfer those who may have mobility issues, and where liability would lie if there were an injury or accident.

As a candidate for Town Council, I want to ensure I am fully aware of the issues facing our senior citizens, so that I can help advocate for all residents in town.

Please feel free to reach out to me and let me know if you have experienced issues with access to transportation for medical or personal needs. I'd like a better understanding of how many residents need expanded access to these services. You can email me or message me on Facebook.

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

### An Excellent Candidate

To the Editor:

Hebron has an excellent candidate in Brian Thibeault. Brian is running for the Board of Finance to be more involved in town. Brian believes he has the skills needed to be successful. He is detail and data oriented, fiscally responsible, and always up for a challenge. Brian enjoys bringing people together and finding unique solutions to difficult problems. Brian has worked in financial services his entire career. His children proudly attend our wonderful public schools. Brian has a calm demeanor and can get along with anyone; two characteristic traits essential to serving on a board.

With the contentious budget cycle this year, it is important to Brian that all residents are heard. Vote for Brian Thibeault for Hebron's Board of Finance on Nov. 7.

> Sincerely, Amy D'Amaddio - Hebron

### **Being Your Town Clerk**

To the Editor:

I'm Gayle Furman, your town clerk for the past nine years. It's been my privilege to work with and assist Colchester citizens each day. This November I am running for re-election.

What makes my job unique is that I get to assist, support, and interact daily with the residents of Colchester in many ways from birth, marriage, and death certificates to land records and election processes and procedures. Our days are never the same.

In a typical day the town clerk may work with the secretary of the state's office on election processes and small business registration, the Department of Public Health for the proper storing and issuing of your vital records, the Connecticut State Library for the retention, security and preservation of all records, Homeland Security to help prevent fraudulent transactions, and the State Election and Enforcement Committee to ensure candidate's paperwork is correct and received timely. The questions and the needs of Colchester citizens are never the same. In order to meet all the various aspects of the town clerk's office, it is required that we stay current with Connecticut's ever-changing legislation. Continuing education is a necessary requirement for this office. I do this by attending zoom meetings with the different agencies, taking classes, and attending the Connecticut Town Clerk's Association conferences where current legislative changes are presented that impact the town clerk's office. During my tenure as your town clerk, I have become a Certified Connecticut Town Clerk. I have also earned the International Institute of Municipal Clerks certification and am one class away from earning my Master Connecticut Town Clerks certification. On Nov. 7, I am once again asking for your vote so I may continue to serve all the residents that I have gotten to know.

### Support the Portland Fair

To the Editor:

Don't let rain or some mud stop you from attending the Portland Fair Oct. 6-8. Many volunteers have put in countless hours throughout the year putting the fair together. With bad weather in the past and cancellations because of COVID-19, they really need our support by all of us attending the fair this year. It's an agricultural fair, so we are supposed to wear boots and flannels to enjoy the fall season outside with friends and family.

Don't let this town tradition fade away. Stop down for a couple hours one day or stop in everyday for some good fair food. It's the last one of the season. I hope to see you all there.

Bobby Hetrick - Portland

# Seeking Election to BOF Dear Hebron Citizens:

My name is Jim DeDonato and I am running for the Hebron Board of Finance. My wife, Tracey, our two children, James and Maeve, and I have lived in Hebron for over 21 years. We love this town; from the friendly people, to the wide open spaces, to the excellent schools. This town has so much to offer and I wish to help Hebron continue to grow and thrive.

As a member of the BOF, I will promote fiscal responsibility and transparency in the budgeting process; ensuring that our hard-earned tax dollars and town expenses are managed appropriately, and that our citizens' views are respected. As a strong proponent of education, I will look for creative solutions to ensure that our excellent schools continue to receive financial support in the wake of growing enrollment, inflation, and rising labor costs. I will carefully review all capital improvement project proposals to ensure they are fit for purpose, financially responsible, and in line with the needs and expectations of the community.

I have spent my entire career as an attorney working collaboratively with others to solve problems. I understand that there is a diversity of viewpoints and often more than one way of doing things. I look for creative and amicable ways to find common ground and to reach a solution that benefits all. As a construction lawyer, I understand the importance of well-managed budgets and how poor coordination and communication can derail projects.

Hebron has been very good to me and my family over the years, and I am excited to give back. I humbly ask that you consider choosing me on Nov. 7 to serve as the newest member of the BOF.

#### Sincerely, Jim DeDonato - Hebron

### Why I'm Voting for Democrats

To the Editor:

I'm voting for Colchester Democrats in the next election because they have the town's best interests at heart and aren't interested in two more years of nonstop chaos and drama.

Electing people who will do what's best for the community instead of what's best for themselves will be a refreshing change from the last two years of First Selectman Bisbikos.

John Farrell – Colchester

### **Running for Selectmen**

To the Editor, My Irish and Italian grandparents immigrated to this country seeking a better life for their wives and children, they had been told of the great promise of jobs and opportunities in America. They were young, foolish and intent on giving their families a new life in the land of opportunity. These men traveled ahead to find work and housing and when they had the funds they sent for their families. Undeterred they set sail for America. When Nunzio (that would be my Italian grandfather) arrived at Ellis Island he had spent twenty three days in the hull of the ship. . I can't imagine what it felt like for this young farmer when he first viewed Lady Liberty, an innocent young man whose hopes and dreams reverberated for generations to come. Inscribed at the base of the statue are the words " Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore." I can hear the readers of this letter asking,"what the hell does this have to do with running for the Board of Of Selectman in Marlborough?" We're getting to that. My world was shaped on the backs of these men and the sacrifices that they endured. These young immigrants faced difficult challenges when they reached the shores of America, but they never gave up. Signs on shop windows See Letters page 31

vote for Andrea Alfano and Jillian Crawford.

Andrea Alfano will bring experience from her 30-year career in public service, prior service on the Portland Board of Education, PTO, and committees throughout town to the Board of Selectmen. Andrea's work on the BOE has given her the skills to work as a team member to find a compromise to move issues forward for the betterment of the board and community.

Jillian Crawford will be a newcomer to the BOS but not a newcomer to Portland. Jillian is a graduate of Portland public schools and a 2021 graduate of UCONN with a degree in political science where she studied public policy in local and state government. Jillian will bring new ideas, fresh perspectives, deep roots in Portland, and her degree in political science to the BOS.

The Portland BOS will need to work together with new ideas to move forward over the coming years on issues facing the town that will have lasting value.

The addition of Andrea and Jillian will bring balance to the board and give the mix of voters a voice on the board as board selectwomen.

Voters can find Andrea and Jillian on the Democratic ballot line on November 7.

Rose Aletta - Portland

Sincerely, Gayle Furman, CCTC, CMC **Colchester Town Clerk** 

#### Page 30

### Obituaries -

### Marlborough

Albert W. Daigle of Marlborough passed away at home under hospice care Tuesday, Sept. 19. Born in 1933 in Soldier Pond, Maine, he was the son of the late Willie H. and Flavie (Pelletier) Daigle.

He was the owner and operator of Daigle Auto Body in Hartford, until the early 1970s, after which he founded Daigle Construction of Marlborough. Al

was a proud three-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps, which always held a special place in his heart. He was a member of the Glastonbury Marine Corps League and of the Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed breeding and raising Fallow deer and stayed busy working on various projects in his barn.

He is survived by his children Michael Daigle and Donna Daigle and her husband Norman Booth. He was the proud grandfather of Alyssa, Krista, and Kaitlyn Tracey. He was predeceased by his daughter, Gayle Daigle. He was the brother of Yvette Levesque, Bernette Daigle, Philip Daigle, Paul Daigle, Dr. Berthol Daigle, and the late Gil, Ed, Norman, Leonard (Joseph), Louis Daigle, and Rinette Lamare. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be Saturday, Oct. 7, at 10 a.m., at St. John Fisher Church, 30 Jones Hollow Rd., Marlborough. Interment with military honors will follow at the Marlboro Cemetery on Route 66 in Marlborough.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Detachment 40, Marine Corps League, 980 Chestnut Hill Rd., South Glastonbury, CT 06073.

For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com.

#### Colchester

#### Robert Fiala

Robert Fiala departed this life Saturday, Sept. 16, with his family by his side. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Kathleen Boyle Fiala and his favorite son Brendan T. Fiala. In addition, he is survived by his sister, Lorraine Kreeger, as well as sister-in-law, Eileen Rogers, brothers-in-law Thomas Boyle, John O'Boyle, Brendan Boyle and his wife Kathleen.

His friends worked to make his last months easier - Shelley Gartenburg, Donnie Snell, Jack Vitaz D.C., Ed Vozek, and Mark Wheidt.

Bob attended local schools in East Hartford and was a graduate of Ward Tech. During his career he worked at both Pratt and Whitney and Kaman Aerospace, retiring early due to illness.

Bob was a proud owner of a 1930 Model A Ford, and was very proud that he had gotten it restored back to original condition. When the weather was good, you could usually find him driving around in it, and always at the car show on the green.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Andrew Church in Colchester Saturday, Sept. 30, at 10 a.m.

Donations in his memory made be made out to Colchester Fire/EMS, 52 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, CT 06415.

### Glastonbury

Donald Louis LaBombard, 82, passed away Sunday, Sept. 24, at The Hearth in Glastonbury. He was the son of the late Edgar and Mary LaBombard. He grew up in Groton and played football at Fitch High School, graduating with All-Star honors his senior year.

As an engineering stu-

dent at Boston University, he met Polly Kugel, who became the love of his life for 59 years. They married in 1964 and settled in Connecticut as Don started his professional career at Pratt & Whitney. After completing his MBA at the University of Hartford, he was employed by Aetna Life & Casualty. Tired of corporate life, he convinced Mary Harris to sell her store. Don then formed Glastonbury Stationers, which became a popular destination for office supplies and stationery for 21 years.

Don was a former regional representative for the National Office Products Association. He was a member of the Glastonbury Rotary Club, serving as president during his long tenure, He was an avid golfer, photographer, hiker and a healthconscious walker. During his retirement he enjoyed playing poker and book group discussions with his friends.

In addition to his professional achievements, Don was dedicated to his family. He was a loving husband to Polly and his three children, Kristin, Jeffrey and Ryan. They will remember his gentle and kind nature, his adventurous spirit and his thoughtful parenting skills.

He cherished his five grandchildren, Aaron, Sarah and Anna Decker Sullivan and Posy and Owen LaBombard. Don was always available to offer his time and energy to hear of the events going on in their lives.

Throughout his life, Don was known for his generosity and kindness. May his soul rest in peace and his memories live in the hearts of his family and friends.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Oct. 7, at 2 p.m., at the Congregational Church in South Glastonbury, 949 Main St., South Glastonbury, CT 06073.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Don's name may be made to South Church or to the Alzheimer's Association at www.alz.org

The Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home Family and Staff are honored to provide full services to all denominations with attention to every detail.



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

\* New Library Director, cont. from page 1 on before making a determination.

"I want to know what's here already," she said. 'Sometimes you come in go, 'this is great and we're not touching this."

Other times, a thorough examination does reveal a few deficiencies.

"Fortunately, this library seems like it's got a really good foundation, so you just continue to grow from here," Carter said.

She would like to establish an initiative from her previous library, a program of memory kits, which are designed for the caregivers of those with dementia. The kits have components that appeal to different senses but are built around different themes to try and trigger memories and spark discussion with loved ones.

While Carter didn't know the previous director, she said she is friends with his predecessor and is familiar with the ongoing efforts of the library administration. A burden is lifted when the proper structure has been established, and ideas such as the memory kits only amplify the existing positive environment.

"It's nice when you're coming into a place that's already thriving and you build on successes," Carter said.

One of the sustained goals of every librarian is to foster a healthy institution - but what does that look like?

'The library should be a community hub," she said. "It should be a place that no matter your age, no matter you socioeconomic background, no matter your religion or your skin color, you should know that the library is a place for you. The entire community is welcome."

She pointed to youth involvement and how after an early dismissal day at the neighboring RHAM schools, teenagers packed the library.

"That's to me a sign that this is a library that is really apart of the community and is someplace people feel welcomed, which is what a library should do," Carter expressed.

Creating and being that local hub is essential for a community, she added. Willimantic was not particularly affluent, she recalled, and the library served as a resource for those with limited means. Homeless individuals would stop by and use the computers to write resumes and staff would help polish and proofread applications.

Sometimes, they would return to the library to express their gratitude and reveal that they received a job offer.

"You can't get much better than that." Pools of homeschooling parents often utilize

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the library and connect with a network of other parents. Even incarcerated adults, who don't have anywhere else to reach out, write to the library and staff will answer those questions too.

But lately libraries across the country have faced additional tests in the form of book challenges and bans. While incidents often spark national debate, local communities haven't escaped the spotlight. Carter pointed to Colchester, which was at the center of a controversy last summer.

Colchester First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos asked his town's library director to remove a children's book from circulation, following his receipt of a complaint about "graphic depictions of women" on one of the book's pages.

The book was a biography of well-known drag queen and TV host RuPaul Andre Charles, was part of a Pride Month display in the children's section at Colchester's Cragin Memorial Library.

In addition, Bisbikos instructed the director, Kate Byroade, to conduct an inventory of all the children's department books in the library - at approximately 26,000 books - and review all the images in them; that order was rescinded by the Board of Selectmen.

The incident caused an outcry of criticism, although some members of the community applauded the first selectman's reaction, which he continues to stand by.

"I think every director I know in the past couple of years has gotten challenges to materials," Carter said, adding that she received a request while in Massachusetts. "We're all dealing with it now. I think every director out there is facing the reality that people are challenging things and politically there are things in every library that someone is going to object to."

She referenced a saying that "a good library has something in it to offend everyone."

"Instead of saying 'that's not my cup of tea,' and 'I'm not going to let my child read that,' there's much more 'make it go away."

For library directors, it is now the expectation that something will arise in their communities that will require a response.

"I think that's just part of the job now," Carter said. "We're all just kind of ready for it and know it's coming.'

The state requires its libraries to have a policy in place for what to do if materials are challenged, she said, which ensures that staff is not caught unprepared and the proper procedure is followed.

"It gets added to the list of things they didn't tell us in library school," she expressed.

If faced with a potential situation, Carter stated what guides her decision making.

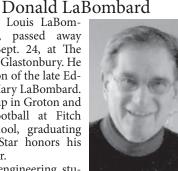
"We all have a professional code of ethics and that says that everyone has the right to access any information," she said. "Our professional ethics say we provide any information to whoever needs it or wants it and that's in direct opposition to some of these book challenges and book bans."

Still, whether it's handling the behind-thescenes details, interacting with kids who pop by or mapping out the upcoming budget, there's

always something new happening. "It's interesting," she said. "The thing with be-ing a director is that you do something different every day. You never know what's going to come up or what you might be doing."

Sometimes she observes features like the library's 3-D printer being utilized, which is fun. Each day offers a new situation, a new resident stopping by for the first time or new ideas being explored.

"You never do the same thing twice," she said.



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The faces through the door change.

Personally, Carter revealed that she doesn't have a favorite book, but expressed that she reads a lot of "weird nonfiction," like the history of salt.

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

#### ★ Letters cont. from page 29

read "Irish not apply" and denials for work if you couldn't read or write in English.

As your selectman, I intend to focus on building consensus and never ignoring the hard work and sacrifice that our immigrant grandparents made to instill that all citizens have the right "to life liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Sincerely, John Rizza - Marlborough **Candidate for Board of Selectmen** 

### A Vote for Integrity

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter to ask the citizens of Colchester for your vote on Nov. 7 as I seek to be elected to the Board of Assessment Appeals. I have been a registered nurse for the past 30 years.

I have worked in various health care settings, but working in insurance has best prepared me to be on the BOAA. During my eight years working in insurance I completed clinical review of medical records provided and applied criteria to reach a determination. I will conduct my reviews of the assessment appeals brought before the BOAA with the same integrity as I give to my job duties as a registered nurse.

I am not only asking for your vote for myself but for Bernie Dennler for First Selectman and the entire Democratic slate! We have a plan to restore respect, competence, stability, and civility to Colchester town government with a commitment to bipartisanship. Make a plan to get out and vote Nov. 7! It's time to bring Colchester together!

#### Krista Kardys – Colchester **Candidate for Board of Assessment Appeals**

#### Historical Society Thanks To the Editor:

The Hebron Historical Society would like to thank those who attended our Open House on Aug. 27. This event was part of our Museum Makeover project, a nine-month process. Many positive comments were received from old and new friends who entered through the open door.

A big 'thank you' to members and nonmembers who donated their time, knowledge and materials to make this undertaking a success.

This project has come to an end but our work to improve the building and collection continues.

We invite you to view the makeover changes and attend our Oct. 18, program: The Brown Family - Generations of Drum Manufacturing.

Visit us at hebronhistoricalsociety.org. Sincerely,

#### The Hebron Historical Society

### Why Respond?

To the Editor:

People ask why I bother responding to Sam Prentice. "After all, he's just another loony, right? He's just a conspiracy theorist whose theories aren't even coherent, never mind credible, isn't he?" Well, perhaps.

But unlike some of his peers (and we won't mention Colin McNamara, Frank Blume, or Ed Kozlowski by name, ok?) whose nonsense at the very worst might convince us to vote for the wrong politician or party, Mr. Prentice's rants are downright dangerous. If his nonsense holds sway among our policy leaders, we further delay or reverse progress fighting the climate crisis. There's a realistic chance of that, since the entire Republican party in D.C. has bought into it.

So why respond? Well, truth should never be silent when falsehood is shouting

### Meeting With Civility

To the Editor:

Some people have been very critical of the three selectwomen continuing to attend Board of Selectmen meetings via Zoom, and feel elected officials should attend in person. I for one (as well as the other Selectwomen), would attend in person if not for the toxicity of the meetings and the bullying by Andreas and Jason.

In order to make good decisions for our town, it is sometimes necessary to ask questions on items the first selectman (FS) has presented. Often, the first time we see or hear about these items is at the meeting where the FS expects us to sign off on them. We are consistently attacked for asking questions, and accused of not supporting whatever project has been brought forward. This is a way to try and railroad a vote of 'yes,' or place blame on us if it fails. This is what's currently going on with the Clear Gov, transparency software that hasn't yet been approved by the BOS but is moving forward.

In 2022, the legislature passed a permanent law that allows public agencies to make meetings accessible to the public through electronic equipment, or electronic equipment combined with an in-person meeting; known as a hybrid meeting. This same law also allows for public officials, the option to attend meetings by means of electronic equipment if they so choose.

Because of Zoom, I have been able to be present at 100% of BOS meetings, unlike some others who tend to be absent from these meetings. When the toxicity and bullying end, I will gladly return to attending meetings in Town Hall.

Denise Turner – Colchester Note: Turner is a member of the Colchester Board of Selectmen but said she is speaking as an individual.

### Strong Local Leader

To the Editor:

I met Alley Nadeau-Schmeizl about three years ago as she welcomed me into the Hebron Republican Town Committee. Her kind and charismatic demeanor was encouraging and her plethora of knowledge on the educational system and mental health services was assuring. Alley is also committed to school safety and is a firm believer in the importance of full time school resource officers at both elementary schools.

Over the course of her first term as a Hebron Board of Education member she was an advocate for our children and a liaison between parents and the school. Alley was transparent about budgeting procedures, honest about challenges, collaborative and solution minded. She welcomed my questions, my input and I always felt comfortable reaching out to her.

Please join me in supporting Alley for a second term on the Hebron Board of Education. She is a strong local leader and will empower parental involvement in education.

Kim Hills - Hebron

#### Attendance is Critical To the Editor:

I told you in my last letter I understand how busy people are and that you don't have time to attend all the town meetings to listen and ask questions about our \$27M in taxes. I also told you that I do have the time. I do go to those meetings on your behalf as an alternate on the Board of Finance (BOF) and I want to represent you as a full member. Since I was appointed an alternate, I have missed only one of the 26 scheduled meetings. I invite you to check the meeting minutes and see for yourself.

### **Supporting Our Farms**

Dear Colchester Residents:

As Colchester celebrates our 325th anniversary, I have been thinking a lot about how to ensure farmers and farmland remain part of our town's identity for future generations. Colchester identifies as a Right-to-Farm Community but we could be doing more to ensure a future for our agricultural community. That is why I plan to adopt a local tax abatement for farm buildings when I am first selectman.

Under state law, municipalities may exempt up to \$100,000 in assessed value for buildings used exclusively for farming. Based on information provided to Colchester's Agriculture Commission by the town assessor, the overall impact to tax rolls would be negligible.

Between 2012 and 2017, nearly 500 Connecticut farms ceased operations - roughly 8 percent of CT farms - according to the most recent USDA Agriculture Census. The loss of those farms also meant the loss of 55,000 acres of farmland in Connecticut in just five years. Providing this limited tax relief is a practical measure we can take to improve the chances of Colchester's farms surviving into the future and save beautiful land that has, in many cases, been passed down from generation to generation.

Much of the legwork to bring a municipal ordinance forward is already complete thanks to the Agriculture Commission. As first selectman I will ask the Board of Selectmen to join me in bringing forward a farm buildings tax exemption for approval at town meeting during my first year in office. Let's bring Colchester together to support our farms and preserve a way of life that is integral to Colchester's rich history. Sincerely,

> Bernie Dennler -- Colchester **Candidate for First Selectman**

### Proud of Accomplishments

To the Editor:

Eight years ago, I became your tax collector. My goals have been to bring the tax collector's office up to date, streamline payments and billing and ensure the office follows all legislative changes.

By attending classes, conferences and keeping up with changes and technology, I have raised the office's collections rate substantially, so everyone is paying their fair share. When I started in 2015 the office had a hard time reaching a collection rate of 98.4%. Today with all of the efficiency and tools that we now utilize, the office now projects and collects at rates of 98.8% and has reached as high as 99.6%. This helps keep the mill rate lower and brings in much-needed revenue the town uses to provide services.

My first step to make it easier to pay taxes was to introduce a method to use a credit card to pay taxes. Today we have expanded to not only EFT checks, debit, and all major credit cards but taxpayers can also pay by PayPal, Venmo and Google Pay. This saves the taxpayer from coming into the office and mailing in payments. This is a convenience which many taxpayers utilize and since implemented, we have seen an increase in electronic payments.

I've worked with escrow companies, leasing companies and numerous other organizations to streamline the way tax bills and payments are processed. This work has saved the town and taxpayers thousands of dollars over the course of the years.

I am proud of all of the work and accomplishments over the last eight years but there is still so much more that we can do. I ask for your support and vote on Nov. 7 so that I can continue to serve the Town of Colchester as your tax collector.

great personal accomplishment, and should be respected. But expertise in one field does not automatically grant expertise in another.

One thing that separates a good leader from the pack is the ability to know your limits and to identify others that can fill in the knowledge gaps. Surrounding yourself with experts in areas that you are only generally familiar with can make a positive difference for everyone within your sphere of influence.

When East Hampton hires a police chief, a town manager, a superintendent of schools, a director of public works, a teacher, or any other professional, that person should be recognized for the professional - the expert - that they are, and their opinions should be held of greater value than anyone not of equal expertise.

If elected to represent East Hampton on its Town Council, I will not use my general knowledge to undercut the expertise of vetted and credentialed professionals, but will work with all departments to ensure the best possible outcomes for all of us.

> Jordan Werme – East Hampton **Candidate for Town Council** jordanforeasthampton@gmail.com

#### Supports Dennler

To the Editor:

Nov. 7 is a critical election for towns across our state including Colchester. In fact, the stakes could not higher for our town's seniors, families, and young people this year.

That is why I will be supporting Bernie Dennler for First Selectman on Election Day. Bernie meets the definition of steady leadership, experience, and partnership that we need more than ever at Town Hall.

As a past member of the Board of Finance, Bernie didn't hesitate to ask tough questions of department heads or his fellow elected officials when it came to budgets. But he understood the art of compromise and negotiation, taking his role as a steward of taxpayer dollars seriously while ensuring community services were funded to meet the needs of all residents.

When he served on the Economic Development Commission, Bernie balanced the need for business growth while maintaining and expanding valuable open space for parks, trails, and other recreation.

No doubt, his commitment to our small business and farm community, our rural heritage, and all that we collectively love about Colchester is clear in everything Bernie sets out to do.

Perhaps what strikes me most about Bernie is his keen ability to listen to others. That is why I encourage you to not just trust me and read my words, but to reach out to Bernie yourself.

Message him on his Facebook page. Stop by Hop Culture tonight (Friday), Celebrate Colchester (Saturday) or one of his many other free, upcoming community conversations this month. Check out his webpage for his ideas and thoughts on how to bring Colchester together. Or look for him as he knocks doors in your neighborhood.

Thanks for considering a vote for Bernie on Nov. 7!

Sincerely, Michelle Gilman - Colchester

### Experienced, **Qualified Leaders**

### Dear Portland Neighbors:

I wholeheartedly endorse Kim Nagy-Maruschock, Meg Scata, and Sarah Spear for the Portland Board of Education. These dedicated individuals have consistently demonstrated their unwavering commitment to public education, their invaluable experience on the board, and their exceptional leadership qualities. Kim Nagy-Maruschock's extensive background in education - over two decades as a special education teacher – uniquely equips her to make well-informed choices that benefit both our students and staff. Kim's passion for equitable access to quality education, as well as her level-headed and thoughtful nature, is evident in the careful questions she asks to move board conversations forward. Meg Scata has shown an unparalleled dedication to improving our schools over her six years on the BOE, and prior to that in her 25 years working for the district. Meg is constantly seeking to expand her knowledge and understanding of the issues impacting public education in Connecticut and is a fierce advocate for Portland students. Her leadership qualities shine on the Board, as well as on the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Board of Directors. Sarah Spear's diverse leadership roles, including with nonprofit organizations, healthtech companies, and as founder of a small business, underscore her ability to make informed deci-See Letters page 32

But sometimes it's hard to bother. His most recent diatribe - that CO2 is so beneficial we should embrace its increase - is farcical. He points back fifty million years, back when the Arctic Circle was a swamp, and sea levels were 250 feet higher. That's his Eden?

So why respond? Well, the arrogance is hard to stand. He brazenly calls everyone who disagrees with him - including the military, insurance companies, coastal states such as Florida and Texas, and the overwhelming majority of the scientific establishment - uneducated buffoons.

Notice also his sleight of hand here. A decade ago, he argued that the Earth was not warming. Five years later, he admitted it was, but claimed human-released C02 was not responsible for it. Now he just wants to say that it will be beneficial to us. This is a decision looking for justification after justification, flailing as each one is undermined.

So why respond? Well, I have a brand-new grandson. I want his generation to inherit from us a garden. Not a wasteland.

Sincerely, Scott Sauyet – Andover

The BOF meets more times than most boards and attendance is critical. Meetings begin in October preparing the upcoming budget for your final approval. That's what sets your next year's taxes, which can equal one to three months' paychecks for some of us each year. Other meetings involve monitoring financial operations of the town, discussing debt management, audits, or policies/planning. We make decisions moving money at the request of the Board of Selectmen. Priorities and even projects change. Like anyone else, we all have our favorite projects. But if that's all a member of any board shows up for, votes on, or rallies others around, then the big picture is lost. That's why attendance at all meetings is critical.

It takes an incredibly qualified dedicated team working together to bring all the pieces of a diversified, fair and cost-effective budget together. I'm excited to be part of such a team who WILL bring that result to you.

On Nov. 7, vote for Fidler - Pakulis Paul -Guzman – Wilkinson. We won't disappoint.

Karen Pakulis Paul - Marlborough

Note: Pakulis-Paul is an alternate member of the Board of Finance, but said she is speaking as an individual.

#### Sincerely, Michele Wyatt **Colchester Tax Collector**

#### **Respect for Professionals** To the Editor:

Maybe I'm old-fashioned, but expertise still matters to me. The "do your own research" crowd generally assumes watching YouTube or Ben Shapiro and Alex Jones constitutes "conducting research." Being educated on a topic to the level of expertise takes more.

Expertise and specialization are essential to post-neolithic human civilization. We are all generalists, but none of us is likely to be truly, deeply, knowledgeable about more than one or two topics. Does that mean we should blindly follow anyone claiming to be an expert? Of course not. Expertise should be vetted and credentialed. Doctors receive extensive training and certification. Plumbers receive extensive training and certification. Law enforcement personnel receive extensive training and certification. Teachers receive extensive training and certification. This is how we identify professionals. Being a professional - an expert - is a

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#### \* Letters cont. from page 31

sions that prioritize Portland students' well-being. Sarah's commitment to fiscal responsibility, her collaborative nature, and her dedication to the disabilities community and inclusive education all make her a vital asset to the Board.

As we move forward in addressing our school facility challenges, this moment calls for experienced leaders who can continue to make tough decisions, allocate resources wisely, and champion the values we hold dear in our community. Kim Nagy-Maruschock, Meg Scata, and Sarah Spear embody these qualities and I hope you will join me in supporting them on Nov. 7.

To learn more, visit: www.portlandctdtc.com/ municipal-candidates.

#### Sincerely, Laurel Steinhauser – Portland

**Note:** Steinhauser is chair of the Portland Board of Education but said she is writing as an individual.

#### Seeking Support

To the Editor,

I am writing to ask for your support for my election to the Andover Board of Selectmen and reelection to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

I am a retired teacher and have lived in Andover for the past 18 years. One feature of Andover which I especially like is that we are small enough that every person's vote can make a difference. That being said, we also need to be involved in our town to make it the best it can be.

I will be someone new on the Board of Selectmen who will listen to the average Andover resident. I was elected to the Planning and Zoning Commission four years ago because I wanted to help Andover move ahead. I believe I can be more effective by running for the Board of Selectmen and maintaining my role as vice chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Please vote for me, Anne Cremé, on Nov. 7 for BOS and PZC.

Anne Cremé – Andover

### **Climate Cultists**

To the Editor:

Thurston Clark fully displays the profound ignorance of climate cultists in that nothing he said contains any truth. But gullible warming climate fools have no regard for truth. They believe that if they just keep repeating falsehoods that makes them true.

The Great Barrier Reef just experienced record growth for new coral. Antarctica has the same ice extent as it did in 1966. Glaciers have been retreating since the end of the last ice age, but in both Glacier Bay, Alaska and Glacier National Park, Montana, many of their respective glaciers are growing and advancing.

Since 1895, maximum daily temperatures in the continental U.S. have declined. The increase in reported average temperatures during that timeframe is clearly an artifact of urban heat island effect. The temperature sensors are primarily located in urban areas so while their maximum temperatures haven't risen, the minimum temperatures reported have increased due to remaining artificially warmer at night. This skews the averages reported indicating a false increase.

Stop spewing the nonsense that this summer was the hottest ever! I already reported that was completely due to the inadequacies of Climate Reanalyzer whose computer models were skewed by the brief upturn of Antarctic temperatures from -70 degrees F. to a sizzling -30 degrees. What a freaking heat wave! Clark is old enough to remember much warmer summers in our childhood than what we just experienced. traction, along exploring additional town government revenue options. By working closely with applicable town committees and departments, we can streamline processes and attract new opportunities for Colchester. This will help to provide jobs, offset taxes, and bring valuable services to our town.

A Focus on Long-Term Maintenance: Infrastructure is the backbone of our town, and its maintenance is vital for our safety, minimizing large, deferred expenditures, and ensuring a better overall quality of life. To ensure that we have a sustainable plan for maintaining our town's assets (equipment, buildings, public amenities, etc.), I will support initiatives that focus on long-term maintenance. This includes proper oversight of maintenance needs (assisting with maintenance budgets, setting priorities, and implementing preventive measures to extend the lifespan of our critical assets).

I look forward to working alongside Bernie Dennler, as the First Selectman, to engage with our community, listen to your concerns, and work collaboratively to make our vision a reality. Let's bring Colchester together!

Sincerely, Dave Koji - Colchester Candidate, Board of Selectmen

#### Give It Back

To the Editor:

At the 9/21 Board of Selectmen meeting, the board finally approved giving \$100,000 of ARPA funds to back to the citizens through various Social Services programs. This is a great first step and that's exactly how we must view it – a first step. This cannot not be where it ends.

The expansion of the pool of potential applicants to those at or below 300% of the Federal Poverty Guideline is a wider net but, again, it's not enough. The average citizen is still struggling and dealing with the effects of the draconian pandemic mandates put in place by largely Democrat "leaders" – including "leaders" right here in Colchester. A recent study by the United Way of Connecticut shows that the average Connecticut family of four now needs a household income of \$126,018 just to survive, nevermind flourish!! This is a whopping 18.2% increase from just two years ago! When was the last time your family's income increased 18.2% over two years?

Selectmen Coyle, Turner and Bates are choosing to forget that these funds are the citizens' tax dollars, redistributed to Colchester specifically to help us recover from the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. They tell you they want to help you, "but..." they feel something else is more important, like fixing a leaky Town Hall roof Rosemary (and others) have had no problem leaving alone for years. There's always a "but" for those looking to dismiss rather than act.

I am going to continue to advocate that we give a large chunk of the remaining ARPA funds back to the people, without barriers. Unlike Rosemary I don't need a "but." It's about time we step aside and let our citizens decide how to fix the mess the government created in their lives.

Jason LaChapelle – Colchester Libertarian Candidate for Board of Selectmen

### Celebrating Volunteers To the Editor:

Volunteers are the lifeblood of small towns. From the elected members of government to parents helping in classrooms to residents delivering meals to seniors, East Hampton is fortunate to have so many people giving their time boards and commissions; and keep us safe as volunteer firefighters and paramedics.

There are countless more examples. While it is imperative that we adequately fund the town and schools and hire expert managers and staff, let's not lose sight of the incredible contributions of East Hampton's dedicated volunteers. You make our community better every day. Sincerely,

Matt Engelhardt – East Hampton Candidate for Board of Education

#### Coyle's Chaos

To the Editor: Selectwoman Coyle has been an awful advocate for Colchester's seniors. Under her "leadership," the citizens must approve more funding or the seniors would get a shell of a building, actually incapable of receiving a certificate of occupancy. I know many of us support a new building for our seniors, but this is not how it should have happened.

Selectwoman Coyle holds a special leadership role as BOS liaison to the building project. She knew as early as January of 2022 the construction contract would come in over budget. As the BOS liaison, did she publicly report to the BOS the issue and advocate for a referendum? No, she did not. Instead she orchestrated political games in the shadows.

A judge was reliably informed that design changes could be made and value engineering could reduce costs. Did selectwoman Coyle work with the building committee on that? No she did not, and she wouldn't report candidly in her liaison reports. She allowed the building committee to operate as a continual FOI violation by never posting all the meeting material. If they had, proper citizen oversight would reveal the committee wasn't making any design changes and value engineering was saving no money.

Beginning in 2022, selectwoman Coyle should have been leading the charge for a referendum or redesign. Instead, she rarely provided appropriate information to the public for the citizens to actually understand what was happening. I refuse to believe it was accidentally overlooked; she is much smarter than that. This was her plan.

Through the careful control of public information, she created a political opportunity for Democrats to campaign on "fixing" the project, which she herself caused to fail. She is the architect of chaos in Colchester.

#### Sincerely,

Michael Dubreuil – Colchester Note: Dubreuil is a candidate for the Colchester Board of Finance, but said he is speaking as a citizen.

#### Save Hebron

To the Editor:

For 13 years, the Republican-controlled Hebron town government knew that there were safety issues at the town dump and did nothing. Instead, they used this misfortune to promote the building of a palatial DPW/municipal complex on the Horton property. The town government misled its citizens saying there were no other options ("no Plan B," according to selectman Kasper). Not surprisingly, Hebron citizens overwhelmingly rejected this proposal in the May budget referendum.

Now, in yet another instance of weaponized incompetence and collective amnesia, town insiders want to sell the property to developers. Perhaps they forget the failed 20-year effort in which the town poured millions of dollars to develop the Horton property. No one invested because there's no demand - Hebron can barely keep its one local coffee shop afloat. Fortunately, the town was able to buy the property cheap and save it for posterity. In hindsight, the public works boondoggle was a veiled effort to make Hebron citizens pay for the sewers and development infrastructure on the Horton property that would benefit only a few. Its development will significantly increase everyone's taxes and ruin Hebron. The question for voters is do you want to keep Hebron rural or promote urban sprawl converting Hebron into a new Glastonbury? To save Hebron, we need a new government. The Democrats are the only party opposed to the DPW on the Horton property. They tell me they support creating a citizens committee to determine its future. That makes sense. Let's get Hebron's talent together - our farmers, entrepreneurs, teachers, lawyers, neighbors, financial analysts, etc. - and determine the best alternatives for the Horton property. Then, let's vote and let the best ideas win.

### Numerous Achievements

To the Editor:

We are fortunate to have a first selectman who not only makes promises but also follows through on them for the betterment of our town.

Consider the numerous achievements made by Andreas Bisbikos during his first term, such as:

A) Presented fiscally conservative and responsible budgets that moved the town forward while aiming for a zero-tax increase.

B) Secured a state-of-the-art Hybrid Meeting Room that allows the community to have unparalleled access to town meetings while simultaneously meeting all FOI standards.

C) The only first selectman in 15 years to make progress on Jacks Chevrolet. The Granite Group will officially be expanding into that location.

I am incredibly grateful for his leadership and those who support him on the Board of Selectmen.

If elected as a Board of Selectmen member, I aspire to actively engage with our community, listening to the input of our residents to enhance Colchester as a more desirable place to live and raise families.

It is crucial that we continue to endorse and bolster the many businesses that thrive in Colchester.

Let us maintain affordability and preserve the harmony that makes Colchester an outstanding place to reside.

> Sincerely, Cliff O'Donal – Colchester Republican Candidate for Board of Selectmen

#### Where Do I Stand?

To the Editor:

As I run for Colchester's Board of Finance, the "where do I stand" question frequently arises as folks in town want static answers to dynamic questions. My answer is I stand where needed. Our budgets are fluid and must respond to the community's needs. Decreasing or increasing the budget for the town's departments or the education budget's bottom line can't exist in a vacuum. You must do what's right for the community per annum. You look at affordability, listen to the taxpayers, and respond accordingly.

I offer this as your neighbor, business owner, and fellow taxpayer. I'll heed and adjust according to the needs of the town. I'll fight to stop letting our budgets become these ridiculous political cudgels. I'll ensure the "too high - too low" survey questions are always on the ballot on our referendum days, not just when convenient. I won't let it be labeled "mob rule," as stated on social media by other candidates when taxpayers demand more for the schools or the town. That "pay attention, folks" gentleman always talks about your money but doesn't seem to listen, and last I checked, referendums aren't cheap. I'll apply my professional background, business acumen, and military leadership skills on day one to coalition build in a bi-partisan manner that gets our budgets passed the first time.

Colchester is ready for a positive change. Let's bring it on Nov. 7.

Scott Chapman – Colchester Candidate, Board of Finance

### Thank You, Hebron PBC

To the Editor: Thank you to Hebron's Public Building Committee for their continued work addressing the Public Works project. I understand the difficulreating a lan to renovate t Public Works site at Old Colchester Road. It will not be easy, but it is possible. However, I would like to address comments made at the Sept. 18 PBC meeting. These started with committee member David Foster's statement, "I think what we do is we add Kevin Tulimieri to the Building Committee and make him chairman of the project." Although it appears to be flattering, I suspect it was laced with sarcasm. Mr. Foster's comment was followed by committee member Mal Leichter, who referred to my efforts at preservation when he stated, "Actually, you know what... he wants to take all the land from Route 85, all the way over to Millstream, from Kinney Road all the way up to 66, and make sure the town owns anything and everything that doesn't have a house on it." This statement is simply not true. It is unfortunate that members of Hebron's government continue to belittle and misrepresent their constituents. I have urged residents of Hebron to support the preservation of the environmentally and historically significant parcel at 17 Kinney Rd., a.k.a. the Horton Property. This does not include 56 acres of commercial land on Route 66 and John Horton Blvd. that has been avail-

But back then, we didn't have air conditioning like now so we acclimated to the hotter times.

CO2 has no effect whatsoever on hurricanes, wildfires, sea level rise, and the deserts in Africa are becoming greener! And the claim that 97% of scientists embrace this idiocy is a contrived lie. Please stop expelling your own CO2 and sequester your carbon.

Sam Prentice – Andover

### Two Crucial Priorities

Dear Editor:

Hello, Colchester! I am writing to express my commitment to the future well-being of our community as I campaign for a position on the Board of Selectmen. As a candidate, I have identified two crucial priorities that I believe will shape the path to a brighter and more prosperous future for Colchester: economic development and a greater focus on long-term maintenance.

Economic Development: Our community's economic vitality is essential for the prosperity of our residents and the overall health of our town. I look forward to working with the Board of Selectmen to support business growth and atand energy to strengthen our community.

The Board of Education – another group of dedicated volunteers – celebrated many of those community advocates this week. The honorees spanned a wide gamut of service to the schools and should all be recognized.

Thank you to Christine Coyne for her PTO leadership and classroom advocacy, Alexis Vargas-Martinez for leading Girls Who Code at Center School, and Sarah Moore-Riddell for working diligently behind the scenes to make Guys and Dolls a success at EHMS. Thank you to Trent Donohue for his service to EHHS athletics and academics and to Mark Marzi for facilitating the EHMS roof project.

And thank you to Kevin Reich, an East Hampton institution who has served so many different capacities with warmth, dignity, and wisdom. In addition to his tremendous work with the community, Kevin has been a wonderful mentor to those new to local politics.

Beyond the honorees, there are hundreds in East Hampton who give without seeking praise. Thank you to all families who help teachers supply their classrooms; organize community events such as last week's Pantherfest; serve on

This time, give the Democrats a chance. Vote Line A in November.

#### John Collins – Amston

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

able for many years. The 17 Kinney Rd. area is a vital part of the Raymond Brook Watershed and the fractured bedrock there provides clean drinking water to surrounding households and the Raymond Brook Aquifer. This area has been recognized by Prof. Thorson of UConn, Prof. Demos of Yale and Preservation Connecticut for its unique historical features and its educational potential. Please visit Save Hebron Center on Facebook and #Save17.

Sincerely, Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

### An Epoch Thanks

To the Editor:

From the entire team of Epoch Arts, thank you! What a wonderful, giving community we are part of. Without your donations and purchases, our annual Tag Sale would not be a success. This huge fundraiser supports our youth programs, things like our theater productions, after school classes, weekend teen paint nights and dances, our Haunted House and so much more! All of your support will allow these programs to take place this coming season! We would also like to thank Brian from AirLine Cycles for not only donating amazing bikes that all sold at the tag sale, but for also dedicating a percentage of sales for two days at his bike shop!

We are speechless at all the support from this community. A huge, grateful, thank you to all of you. We are looking forward to an amazing year connecting with our community and we invite you to stop by anytime at 27 Skinner St., East Hampton, www.epocharts.org

Your friends and family at Epoch Arts

#### Wine-Tasting Thanks

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Friends of Lake Pocotopaug, we would like to thank everyone who attended our Wine-Tasting Fundraiser on Laurel Island despite the rainy weather. Your support helps fund our lake improvement projects. Our event would not have been so successful without the help of many volunteers.

Thank you Mary Coll, Vanessa Rourke, John Tuttle, Pam Muttart, Lisa Solomon, Sue Adams, Ben Adams, Chris Nash and Bill Nelson. A special thank you to Kickin Back Duo and Rule of 3 Brewing. Our gratitude to our raffle prize donors Lakeside Bar & Grill, Airline Cycles, Bengal Tiger Yoga, Bevin Bells, Essex Steam Train & Riverboat, Hartford Yard Goats, Huntley Digital Imaging, Loco Perro, Marty Podskoch, Old Bank Flowers, Paul's and Sandy's Too, Square Peg Pizzeria, Tavern on 66, The Mane Salon and Twisted Dog Yoga.

See you in 2024.

Cap Egan Nelson and The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug

Best Regards,

#### Who's Counting?

To the Editor:

Another local election cycle is ramping up, and although not the "most important election of our lifes," I'm sure it's a close second. While we're still reading peoples' letters mocking allegations of voter fraud from the 2020 presidential election, The Hartford Courant ran an article about mayoral challenger, John Gomes, filing a lawsuit alleging voter fraud in the Bridgeport primary, stuffing of curbside ballot boxes with fraudulent absentee votes. Gomes lost his primary to incumbent felon ...err...I mean mayor, Joe Ganim, who's vying for his eighth term as Bridgeport mayor and won by 251 votes. It's shocking to believe this sort of activity occurs in a Democratic primary, considering the Democrats are so upstanding and transparent....just ask Bernie Sanders. Ganim was convicted of dozens of felony charges ranging from racketeering, extortion, mail fraud, bribery, and filing false tax returns, but after eight years in federal prison he's surely reformed! In a moment of gobsmacking irony, Gomes' lawyer, William Bloos, claims that his client's case is "like no other in the history of the state of Connecticut, because there's an unprecedented amount of video evidence and documentary evidence." Wasn't there an entire film, 2000 Mules, documenting this exact issue - the stuffing of absentee ballot boxes - in the 2020 election? That film also displayed video evidence of many hundreds of individuals stuffing Covid-justified absentee ballot boxes coast to coast, but despite clear surveillance camera footage the issue was laughed off and mocked as "unfounded," "disproven," and "false" by the mainstream media. But please don't confuse these examples as an endorsement of the Republican Party. I remember something happening in Florida between Bush, Gore, and Jeb but am fuzzy on the details. As usual, it's not the number of votes that count but the people who are counting the votes.

### Please Vote 'Yes'

To the Editor:

I believe and hope all Colchester residents know we need a new senior center. The current center has roof leaks, toilets that don't work, poor ventilation and cramped space with minimal parking. The Board of Selectmen has set a date of Nov. 28 for a referendum to use the Bendas Bequest (\$575,000) and ARPA approved for senior center (\$32,691) funds. That is the first question on the referendum. A 'yes' vote would allow us to use those available funds. The second question is a little more confusing but still needs a 'yes' vote. With the above-mentioned funds, bequest and the DECD grant of \$2.5 million, residents are asked to approve an additional \$892,309 of bonding to complete the project. This amount is still below the originally-approved \$9.5 million previously-approved by residents in November, 2021.

Please vote 'yes' on both of these referendum questions. We need to complete the building project of the new senior center that seniors and all residents need and deserve. Thank you.

#### Marge Mlodzinski – Colchester

**Note:** Mlodzinski is a member of the Senior Center Building Committee but said he is speaking as an individual.

#### Supports Cunningham To the Editor:

I enthusiastically support the candidacy of Deb Cunningham for the East Hampton Town Council.

Deb has been active in civic activities over the years serving as past president of the Belltown Garden Club, the BOD of the EHVAA. Deb is proudly serving on the Board of Assessment Appeals as well the Board of Finance and is chairman of the EH Republican Town Committee.

Deb has years of experience evaluating operational problems and working with people to improve business processes. She knows how to develop teams, collaborate with contentious teams while working to solve problems and solutions to problems.

She is dedicated to making our town a better place. As a result of her retired parents having lived here in town, she is keenly sensitive to the concerns of our aging population who live here and who desire to remain here, keeping our Town affordable while improving services we can provide for them.

Deb is a caring person with the background and experience that will be an asset to our town and move it forward, not backwards. Please join me in supporting my wife Deb Cunningham on Nov. 7th!

Regards, Mark W. Cunningham – East Hampton

#### Better Data, Better Plan To the Editor:

Greetings again, Colchester. As Nov. 7 approaches, I want to re-introduce myself to the community. I am Sean Gillespie, the Democratic candidate for town treasurer.

For most of my career, I have worked as an IT systems administrator and architect in the health care industry. I presently work with integrating financial and medical record systems into our organization's many business segments. From my experience, accurate financial planning starts with accurate and timely data. At the town level, we have a tremendous opportunity to embrace the technology tools we currently have to produce timely and relevant reports for our boards and financial staff.

The critical question is how this idea trans lates to better planning. Fundamentally, the treasurer is primarily responsible for safeguarding and presenting an accurate picture of the town's funds. By generating close to real-time reports and utilizing automation to gather and populate our existing financial tools with nextto-real-time data, I can provide the elected boards with the information they need as a starting point for the town budgets. Additionally, I would like to restore the treasurer's report as a routine agenda item at the Board of Finance meetings. Should there be a question concerning fund balance, account type, or transactions, I want to provide our boards with multiple avenues to find answers. Please get in touch with me if you want to learn more about who I am and how I'd like to serve the town. I am ready to get to work for you. I can make Colchester a more modern and efficient place with your support. Nov. 7th is nearly here, so please plan to vote in person or via absentee ballot. Thank you, Sean Gillespie - Colchester Candidate for Treasurer SeanGforColchester@gmail.com

#### **Outstanding Women**

election to the Portland Board of Education. I

have served on the Board of Education for six

years, and as Board Secretary for the last four.

My record speaks for itself. I have been a proac-

tive advocate for an excellent public education

in the school library at Valley View and know

that I care deeply about our children and pub-

lic education. As you consider my re-election,

please consider voting for the Democratic in-

cumbents for the Board of Education. I truly

enjoy working with Laurel Steinhauser, Kim

Nagy-Maruschock, and Sarah Spear. Each one

of these women brings experience, passion,

Portland children and families deserve prov-

en leadership on their Board of Education. We

will navigate the future of our schools, face the

challenges, and seek the best solutions for our

community. Together, we can make sure our

schools remain places of excellence, equity, and

Democratic slate for the Board of Education.

Please vote for the outstanding women on the

Note: Scata is a member of the Portland Board of

Education but said she is speaking as an individual.

**Exceptional Candidate** 

Jean Wilson is a lifelong learner and educator

I have known Jean since we were parents of

young children fighting to get world languages

and enrichment programs back in MES. Jean

has dedicated the commitment of time and ex-

pertise to both MES and RHAM Middle and

High School, for the last fifteen years or more, to

ensure students receive a world class education.

years as a teacher and trainer. She is focused on

school safety, AI Usage policies, curriculum and

facilities. She works in higher education, stays

abreast of research and understands the skills

and dispositions students need to be globally

Jean and I served on the RHAM Board to-

gether for four years. Jean was known to politely

and effectively focus the board on continuous

improvement that ensured offerings in the arts,

advanced science and mathematics and global

empathy. She listened to all parents and com-

munity members and gave their input and ques-

they were beneficiaries of the phenomenal edu-

cators and Board members' work that ensured

excellence in education for all students. I am

proud of our community and school system and

I want the tradition of excellence to continue.

There are few candidates who I would endorse

so wholeheartedly as Jean Wilson. She is com-

passionate, collaborative, respects history and

tradition and is future focused. Please vote for

Jean for the Marlborough Board of Education to

guarantee our schools excel as we face the chal-

Matra for Hebron BOS

I write today with a full enthusiastic endorse-

ment of John Matra for election to the town's

Board of Selectmen on Nov. 7. I will tell you

Judy Benson Clarke - Marlborough

My children attended MES and RHAM and

tions serious consideration.

lenges of 2023 and beyond.

Dear Hebron Residents:

Professionally, Jean has worked for over 30

who will effectively advocate for our children,

Thank you,

Meg Scata - Portland

Many in the community know me for my role

To the Editor: My name is Meg Scata, and I am seeking re-

for all students for most of my life.

knowledge, and grace to the board.

opportunity for all our students.

To the Editor:

school and town.

competitive.

#### Water for Quality of Life To the Editor:

Addressing two, decade-old water issues, are essential to East Hampton's quality of life. The first is eliminating the perennial mid-summer blue-green algae blooms in Lake Pocotopaug. The second is developing a public water system. The Democratic candidates for Town Council, Dr. Jack Solomon, Karen Wanat, Jordan Werme, Richard Knotek and I view these among the most important facing our town's long-term viability. The Conservation and Lake Commission has enacted a plan to remedy the Lake Pocotopaug algae blooms. We endorse continuing that approach and would set among our priorities continued funding to restore our Lake to its crystal clarity of a century earlier.

As for the second, the public's call for water and sewers first arose in the late 1920s. It took another 30 years before the construction of public sewers was approved. An early 1960s referendum defeated the simultaneous development of a public water system, reservations on the combined cost with sewers and the belief that channeling septic from the lake bowl area would fix poor water quality. Coliform pollution, an early concern, has substantially subsided, but incidents have occurred as recently as this year when the main issue of algae blooms did not. Several plans since the early 2000s for public water were defeated or abandoned, cost cited as the major deterrent. An ample water supply was another, but with the Oakum Dock wells, that is no longer an issue.

I do want to set the record straight. These issues are not the exclusive domain of one political party or group of candidates. They are universal East Hampton issues. I believe the distinction from our opponents comes in our leadership approach, which will be balanced with bipartisan committee membership, acting in a nonpartisan manner for the benefit of all.

> Dean Markham – East Hampton Candidate for Town Council

#### **End Reign of Intimidation** To the Editor:

This November, citizens have "real" choice for Board of Selectmen (BOS). Why? Because, local Democrats are running three candidates. Why does this matter? For the last decade, Democrats only ran two candidates – meaning under CT minority representation law, Rosemary Coyle was "guaranteed" a seat on the BOS even if she received less votes.

Coyle has continually abused this power and has governed with a reign of intimidation against anyone who dares question her!

How do we "the people" know this?

Coyle kept important information about the senior center (SC) from the citizens. When all construction bids were over budget, Coyle kept the information from being public. Instead, she engaged in backroom deals in attempts to use taxpayer dollars without asking the taxpayers! When her scheme didn't work, she colluded with the SC Chairman to get around the \$9.5 million spending cap, imposed by the judge, by removing the owner's contingency and bond funding to falsely show the project was under budget.

Do you recall what Coyle did to former FS Linda Hodge? When Linda voted for what she thought was best for the town (not Rosemary's way) Coyle orchestrated the coup to oust Linda from office!

How do I know? I was on the DTC. Coyle held an illegal DTC meeting at her house in an attempt to keep us (DTC members) quiet.

Do you recall the recent discovery of a DTC email where it was uncovered that Coyle kept a "dissent list" of citizens who spoke out against her agenda at public meetings! The email included specific directions to the home of a U.S. Marine! Why???

Colin McNamara - Marlborough

this: he is undoubtedly qualified for the position and will bring great experience, insight and energy to his role.

John brings an over three-decade experience as an executive in human resources; along with that, he brings efficiency, attention to detail and the ability to ask all the right questions when making important and impactful decisions. Through his volunteer positions in town, most notable with the Green Committee, he has also demonstrated to ability to work well with others, practice equitable problem solving and simply getting the job done. He is also involved in the town in other volunteer roles: the Hebron Democratic Town Committee, Meals on Wheels and as president of the Amston Lake Association. John has energy for days!

John looks forward to serving as selectman and indeed will bring a fresh perspective to the board. I know he will be an active participant in making decisions that will benefit the town and its citizens. No doubt, he will be dedicated to ensuring that Hebron is a safe and enjoyable place to live, work, and play.

Please support John and the entire Democratic slate of candidates with your vote on Nov. 7! Claudia Riley – Amston It's not about the town; it's about Coyle's agenda, period. Always has been, always will be.

It's time to tell Rosemary Coyle her reign of intimidation has come to an end!

#### Sincerely, Deanna Bouchard, Chairman Colchester Independent Party

#### Successful Pantherfest To the Editor:

On behalf of East Hampton Middle School and the EHMS PTO, we thank our volunteers and sponsors for making this year's Pantherfest another huge success! For 24 years, this muchloved cross-country and soccer invitational event has been our primary Fall fundraiser and we depend on volunteers, donations and services from local families and businesses to ensure that it runs smoothly and successfully.

Special thanks to our "Gold Paw" Sponsors: Adams Hometown Market (Portland); See Letters page 34

#### Reader Forum • Reader • F

#### \* Letters cont. from page 33

Carl Guild & Associates (East Hampton); East Hampton Auto Parts; Four Mile River Farm (Old Lyme); Lakeside Bar & Grill (East Hampton); Lions Club of East Hampton; Loco Perro (East Hampton); Now IT Works (East Hampton); Paul's & Sandy's Too (East Hampton); Rotary Club of East Hampton; SurfacePrep (Windsor);

'Silver Paw" Sponsors: ACE Hardware (East Hampton); ADL İmaging (Middletown); Amanda Kolb REALTOR® Berkshire Hathaway Home-Services New England Properties (Glastonbury); Benefits Caring for You (East Hampton); Can San CT (East Hampton); Coyne Family (East Hampton); Creative Dance Center (East Hampton); Lakeside Automotive (East Hampton); Mancuso & Rotundo Family (East Hampton); Rich Farm Ice Cream (Middlefield); Solo Bella Hair Studio (South Glastonbury); Style, Craft & Soul by Karen (East Hampton); Sweet Jean's Cafe (East Hampton); Tania Sones Photography (East Hampton); The Dublin (East Hampton); Yoga with Amie (East Hampton).

We thank the following for providing goods, services and equipment: EH Dept. of Public Works, EH Hawks Football, EHHS athletic director, EHHS cross-country team and head coach Bill Wilkie, EHHS Interact Club, EHMS fall coaching staff, East Hampton Police Department, EMT Terri Benoit, Big Y Marlborough, Dunkin', McDonald's, Redi Rooter, residents of Childs Road, soccer officials Bob Booth and Cenk Sahin, Stop & Shop, Town Tavern, and more than 75 parent and community volunteers. Without you this event wouldn't happen year after year. Thank you!

Go Panthers!

Christina Amaral, EHMS Principal Emily Asklar, EHMS Assistant Principal Mike Mercaldi, EHMS Athletic Director Cyndi Buchan and Donna Roberts, **Pantherfest Committee** Nancy Kohler and Nancy Oakley, **EHMS PTO Board** 

#### **Stand Strong for Education** To the Editor:

What makes a strong candidate? I believe it is having the courage to speak up when people in power are trying their best to silence you. It is standing for what you know is right and fair regardless of politics or friendships. Strength is fighting for every child's right to a great education. As roadblocks are repeatedly established, a strong candidate is determined and unwavering.

Residents, especially parents, need to ensure that the education in our Elementary School meets their expectations. A good place to start is by electing effective school board members. According to the Center for Public Education, Great School Board members:

Work as a team. They collaborate well and are respectful of the other board members and the superintendent.

· Focus on what is best for all students, on student achievement, and implement policies that will ensure success for all students.

Stand as a united group with the superintendent, each from their respective roles, with strong collaboration and mutual trust.

Andover needs strong women on our boards and committees. I have complete confidence in Shannon's ability to continue fighting to ensure your children have the same opportunities as the children who went before them.

Please help Andover prepare for the future. Stand strong with Shannon Louden for the benefit of your children's education, and the success of our school. Vote her back onto the Board of Education.

#### Thank you,

each and every situation as if it were my own personal business while offering a welcoming, joyful experience to each and every member of our community.

I encourage you to bring any concerns, questions or suggestions to me. If I cannot personally help, I will graciously assist you in finding someone that can. I look forward to hearing from you. You can reach me at Colchester. tc.candidate@gmail.com.

Shannon Nazario - Colchester **Republican Candidate for Town Clerk** 

#### Nadeau-Schmeizl for BOE To the Editor:

My name is Allyson Nadeau-Schmeizl, and I am excited to ask for your support to continue to serve on the Hebron Board of Education! I was born and raised here in Connecticut, and I am the proud mom of twins who attend Hebron Elementary School. I currently serve on the Hebron BOE assigned to the Safety and Security and Wellness Committees. In addition, I have been a behavioral health advocate for my entire career serving on the state of CT Suicide Advisory Board among other local boards and coalitions. I have a passion for fiscal responsibility and collaborating with others to improve outcomes for communities. Volunteerism is an important part of my life, and my favorite part of serving is listening to others' perspectives and finding common ground. I am incredibly grateful to raise a family in Hebron and I look forward to continuing to collaborate to best meet the needs of our children, parents, and schools. Thank you for your continued support and

please come out to vote in November!

Allyson Nadeau-Schmeizl - Amston

#### We are the Strong Team To the Editor:

Greetings Colchester! I'm Michelle Millington. I currently serve on Colchester's Board of Education. I have been on the board for just over a year. In that time, we hired a superintendent, developed successful subcommittees, brought outstanding transparency to our budget and its process, answered questions to the public, and rallied around the concerns of our students, parents, and residents.

As the Communications Committee chair, I have continued and led my goal of providing clear and updated communications to our community. As a member of the Budget Committee, I have contributed to intelligent and creative ways to give all we can to our students while lessening the tax burden on the community.

We have many exciting plans for Colchester Public Schools, such as clear communications and intelligent budgeting, to adding top-notch teachers, administrators and overall staff. We'll continue development in the district to add career pathway opportunities and explore the possibility of being a regional magnet. And this is just the beginning!

When you have people that work together in a team, in a bipartisan manner, we can continue to get things done. The board is sad to see Mary Tomasi retire after many years of service. Still, we are delighted to announce Stafanie Tracy-Calash's candidacy to continue strengthening our team with great experience and new ideas. Chris Rivers, Stefanie, and I are the ideal candidates to continue this progress, and we look forward to your support and vote on Nov. 7!

Michelle Millington - Colchester Candidate, Board of Education

#### Friday Night Nostalgia Colchester Neighbors:

Autumn is upon us. The mornings are crisp, the leaves are changing, the sun is setting sooner, and I often find myself reminiscing around this time of year. As a high school student who grew up just a few towns over from Colchester. I remember the anticipation and excitement I'd have as I prepared for the culminating event of each week - Friday night football. It may seem silly, but I wasn't the only person who looked forward to "Friday Night Lights" every fall. Our entire community came together weekly to support our students, to enjoy the investment we all made in our school and athletic program (a full renovation was completed during my freshman year of high school — including an updated school building, turf field, lights, stadium seating, concessions, etc.), and to just enjoy each other's company regardless of where we lived in town, what we looked like, or what our political leanings were.

be a champion for our athletes. And, in turn, to be a champion for our community. Proactively investing in the maintenance and updating of our schools and school fields isn't just a benefit for our students, but one we will all be able to enjoy - together.

I'd love your support to work collaboratively with other board members and put partisanship aside now and in the future. Thank you!

> Sincerely, Stefanie Tracey-Calash - Colchester Candidate for Board of Education

#### Fake Patriots & False Patriotism To the Editor:

What is it with Republicans at all levels wrapping themselves in the flag and then screwing those that served? As I write, Republicans in the House refuse to pass a bill that would guarantee military pay during a government shutdown. The Republican Party's de facto leader, former President Trump, loved to say, "Nobody's done more for the military than me." Yet he never missed an opportunity to attack the troops, from going after war hero John McCain to calling those soldiers laid to rest in a European cemetery "suckers and losers."

Our local Colchester Republicans seem to be taking cues from their extremist national members. Board of Finance Member Tim Vaillancourt, RTC Chair Taras Rudko, and former Republican turned populist independent Jason LaChapelle all love their veterans' branded tshirts and accompanying big American flags-yet not one of them has raised their right hand and taken an oath to support and defend the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic. They're delighted to lob insults against Americans who have, including me, saying that our efforts aren't genuine and are just union-led astroturf resistance.

The Republicans have tried to claim a monopoly on patriotism - but loving one's country isn't dependent on one's political ideology. The problem with the Republican extremists is that they fail to understand that America is great because she has always strived to improve. We should celebrate that process of continual improvement. Thomas Jefferson's assertion that We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights... in our Declaration of Independence has been an aspirational goal. I love my country. I served her for over 22 years, and I still believe our best days are in front of us.

Jeremy McKenzie - Colchester

#### RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY SEWER CONNECTION TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH, CONNECTICUT INVITATION TO BID

The Town of Marlborough invites sealed bids from qualified contractors. Sealed Bids will be received by the Town of Marlborough by hard copy in the Office of the Town Clerk located at 26 North Main Street until 11:00 AM local time on Thursday, October 19, 2023. Received Bids will be publicly pened and read aloud at this time. The Project consists of installation of sewer lateral, grinder pump chamber, electrical connection, and abandonment of the septic tank and pump chamber. Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum.

Bidding Documents are available for free download from the Town webpage Marlboroughct.net. Prospective Bidders may examine and obtain the Bidding Docu-

nents in the Office of the Town Clerk during Town Hall hours of

A pre-bid conference will be held Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 4:00 PM at eh Richmond Memorial Library 15 School Drive. The building and site will be available for inspection after the meeting. Pre-bid conference attendance is encouraged but is not nandatory.

The successful Bidder will be required to provide a Performance Bond in the amount of one hundred percent of the Contract Price The Surety Company shall be licensed in the State of Connecticut and listed on IRS Department Circular 570. A Payment Bond and Payment of Prevailing Wage Rates will not be required unless Contract amount is equal to or greater than \$100,000. Bid Bond is not required. The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good, capable of being accepted, and may not be withdrawn for a

### **Public Safety**

Dear Colchester Residents:

During my first term, we made a historic investment in public safety. New electronic emergency signs were secured, rectangular rapid flashing beacons at crosswalks townwide were installed, and \$135K in yearly tree removal has been budgeted. A public safety working group was also established with the purpose to strengthen collaboration with the community, increase transparency, and make public commendations.

The fire department has seen a revitalization, which began with the new hiring of Fire Chief Steven Hoffmann. Together we have collaborated in securing 24/7 town-wide coverage by hiring 2 new firefighters/EMS. In just one term, the fire department upgraded the UHF portable radios, upgraded the 800Mhz radio system, constructed a new roof for Fire Company #2, secured a new off road utility vehicle, secured a new boat and trailer, secured a new OHD fit tester, entered the fire marshal mutual aid agreement, secured over \$100K in new apparatus equipment, and constructed a new parking lot at Fire Headquarters.

The police department is also a priority. Though they secured a new K9 unit and have made excellent hires to replace retirees, the time has come to expand their operational quarters. For years, life-long politicians have sat back ignoring the cramped spaces and the OSHA violations waiting to happen. I have taken the initiative to collaborate with our police department to design floor plans for the expansion of their operational quarters. I am the only first selectman candidate who has publicly committed to this expansion.

According to both the fire chief and the resident state trooper, the Democratic first selectman candidate has made zero efforts to sit down to discuss public safety with them.

It is unfortunate that 10 months of rhetoric takes precedence over the public safety of our community.

Sincerely, Andreas Bisbikos **Colchester First Selectman** 

#### TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Hearing

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a regular meeting on October 4, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall and via ZOOM Virtual Meeting to consider the following: Continued: Text Amendment Regarding Required Setbacks on Non-Conforming Lots in the R-1 Zone: Section 8.2 of the East Hampton Zoning Regulations Continued: PZC-23-012: Michael Bakaj, 37 South Main Street, a 22-lot (33 units) HOD subdivision in existing HOD Zone, Map 20 Block 51/ Lot 27 PZC-23-014: Flanders Road Estates LLC, Flanders Road, Fifteen (15) Lot subdivision, (Home Acres Estates), Map 26/ Block 87/ Lot 6 Kevin Kuhr, Chairman Note* any question re: Applications and Maps are on file in the Land Use Office 860-267-7450. 2TB 9/22, 9/29
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#### **ACTION NOTICE** TOWN OF ANDOVER ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

ACTION NOTICE - The Andover Zoning Board of Appeals took the following action at their meeting held on September 20, 2023

APPROVED - Application of Ronald Mike, Property of Benjamin J. Mike & Kyleen M. Welchman, property at 227 Lake Road, Andover. The ZBA granted relief of Section 11.2 of the regulations so as to reduce the sideyard setback from 25' to 21' so as to allow for the construction of a second floor over existing first floor.

Please direct any questions to the Zoning Agent at Andover Town Hall, 17 School Road. Phone 860.742.7305 or zoning@ 1TB 9/29

Catherine Magaldi-Lewis, Chair Andover Democratic Town Committee

#### **Running for Town Clerk** Citizens of Colchester:

It has been my pleasure meeting with you while door knocking and throughout our daily interactions in town. We have a great community of people that I would be honored to serve as your next Town Clerk. Please allow me to inform you about my personal and professional values and morals.

I believe that earning someone's trust comes with vulnerability. I understand that what I am responsible for is of value and/or sensitive information and should be handled promptly, professionally and most importantly, with care.

Over the last 20 years, my honesty and integrity have built my character. I have worked for the largest banks and casinos in the country, bringing a strong work ethic to the job. Working for these organizations also means being privy to confidential information and following established policies. I give you my word to never violate the trust of the people whom I'd be proud to serve.

If elected as your town clerk, I will handle

This experience doesn't exist in Colchester.

While there are a number of ways to enjoy each other and our community, the camaraderie that comes with cheering on your town's football team together (from our youngest to oldest residents), while sipping hot cider underneath the hum of the lights ... simply doesn't happen.

If elected to the Colchester Board of Education on Nov. 7, I'd love for nothing more than to period of sixty [60] days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays

excluded, after the opening of bids. The Town reserves the right to waive any technical defects in the bids; to reject bids which do not conform to the terms and conditions described in the specifications; to reject any, any part of, or all bids; to waive informalities or irregularities in the bidding process; and to accept that bid which the Town deems to be in its pest interest, whether or not it is the lowest dollar proposed. All work to be performed in connection with the proposed project will be subject to all applicable federal, state, and local law ordinances and regulations.

If the Town determines, in its sole discretion, to proceed with the work, the successful bidder must execute and deliver the Contract for Construction of a Small Project and furnish a valid Certificate of Insurance with full policies, a Performance Bond, and Paymen Bond if applicable, to the Town prior to the start of any work. t is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that it has received any and all addendums to this Invitation to Bid prior to submitting a bid

This Invitation to Bid is not binding on the Town The Town reserves the right to revise or amend the plans and specifications from time to time as it deems nece This Invitation to Bid has been prepared solely to solicit bids and does not constitute a contract offer. The Town reserves the right to amend, cancel, postpone, with draw, or resubmit this Invitation for Bid at any time if it is in the best interest of the Town to do so. The Town of Marlborough is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority/Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to apply. By: David R. Porter, Town Manager

Date: September 23, 2023

2TB 9/29, 10/6

andover.ct.org.

#### **TOWN OF HEBRON** SEWER USE LEGAL NOTICE

Sewer Use Bills are due and payable October 1, 2023. The billing rate is \$592 which may be paid in two equal installments the first installment being due October 1, 2023 and the second installment being due April 1. 2024.

First Installment payments must be postmarked or received no later than November 1, 2023 to be considered on time with no additional charges. Second Installments must be postmarked or received no later than May 1, 2024. Payments that are unpaid as of November 2, 2023 and May 2, 2024, will be charged interest of 1.5% per month retroactive to the installment due date per State Statute 12-146.

To make payments by check, please make check payable to: Town of Hebron. Payments may be mailed to: Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248. If desired, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a receipt. There is a drop-off box attached to the Town Office Building located next to the entrance on the lower level, south side. In addition there is a box inside the building located in the hallway between the Tax and Assessor's Office. Payments left in the box after the close of business will be retrieved the following morning. The Collector's office is located in the lower level of the Town Hall at 15 Gilead Street. Hours are Monday through Wednesday 8:00am to 4:00pm, Thursday 8:00am to 6:00pm, and Friday 8:00am to 1:00pm. Please note Monday – Thursday the office is closed for lunch from 12:30pm - 1:15pm Respectfully, Adrian MacLean Revenue Collector

3TB 9/29, 10/6, 10/27

NEWS BULLETIN • September 29, 2023

# LEGALS

#### LEGAL NOTICE **GLOBAL 17 LLC** 244 Middletown Ave. East Hampton, CT 860.267.6639

Will sell or otherwise dispose of such personal property on Saturday October 7, 2023 at 8:00 AM Property previously owned by: A Paradis K Hartley

2TB 9/22, 9/29

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 October 10, 2023 at the East

Hampton Town Hall - 1 Community Drive and via Zoom meeting

westside setback from 25' to 16.75' for Garage, Map 06/ Block

LEGAL NOTICE

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

**HEBRON, CONNECTICUT** 

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Pub-

2023, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoToMeet-

Special Permit approval for an accessory structure (garage) that exceeds 900 square feet on a lot under 5 acres in size

pursuant to Section 2.E.8 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations,

premise located at 103 Burrows Hill Road, Residence-1

2. Petition 2023-08 - Petition of John Tarquinio / The Tar-

quinio Estate for a Special Permit to change a non-conform-ing use to a conforming Rural Business Use in accordance

with Section 6.B.3.7. of the Hebron Zoning Regulations at 33

East Street, Residence-1 District. 3. <u>Petition 2023-05</u> - Petition of the Hebron Planning and

Zoning Commission to Amend the Hebron Zoning Regula-

to address prohibition; and Identify "Cannabis Establish-

Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 26th day of September,

tions to delete existing 6.D Moratorium on Cannabis Estab-lishments; Proposed Section 6.C.5 Cannabis Establishments

ments" in the use table for each Zoning District as prohibited.

Planning and Zoning Commission Sep 27, 2023, 7:00–10:00 PM (America/New\_York)

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2TB 9/29, 10/6

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Legal Notice will be published in the Rivereast News Bul-

letin on September 29, 2023 and October 6, 2023.

ing Platform, on the following: 1. <u>Petition 2023-07</u> – Petition of Paul Fichera requesting

lic Hearing at a Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 10,

2TB 9/29, 10/6

(see Town website for details) to consider the following

ZBA-23-007: Tommaso Progáno, 12 Terp Road, Reduce

14/ Lot 5/6.

District

2023

Natalie Wood, Chair

#### Legal Notice Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

The Duly Authorized Agent of the Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission APPROVED the following Application on September 21, 2023:
Application #IWWC 23-15: Justin McAvoy-LaFlamme, 10

Webster Lane- Placement of a pre-built 12-foot by 20-foot wooden shed on a gravel base. Shed is within the 100-foot Upland Review Area of a wetland.

The above decisions may be appealed to the Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission pursuant to Section 12.2 of the Town of Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercours-12.2 of the Town of Andover Illianu Vectoria and the second secon

#### MARLBOROUGH WATER POLLUTION **CONTROL AUTHORITY** LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all property owners connected to the sew-ers in the Town of Marlborough that a sewer usage charge is due in one installment on October 1, 2023. The last day to pay without interest is November 1, 2023. Interest for a late payment is 1.5% per month reverting to the due date. Minimum interest is \$2.00. The usage charge set for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 is \$587.00 per EDU. Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the fee or interest. Contact the tax office immediately if you do not receive a bill. Please make checks payable to MWPCA (Marlborough Water Pol-lution Control Authority). Payments may be mailed to Tax Collector, P.O. Box 29, Marlborough, CT. 06447. There is a lock box to the left of the Town Hall door for check payments only, or at the Tax Office in the Town Hall, 26 No. Main Street, Marlborough, CT. The Tax Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Barbara C. Murray, WPCA Collector

# REAL ESTATE

3TB 9/29, 10/6, 10/27

### RENTALS

3 BDRM RANCH: in Colchester. 1.5 BTH, one car attached garage, full basement. \$2,400 plus utilities; no pets, non smoker, available November 1st. Call or Text 860-908-4716.

### HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL For Help Call 888-247-4401

If anyone refused to rent to you because of your source of income, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, religion, marital status, age, disability or because you have children, you may have been the victim of illegal housing discrimination. Contact the Connecticut Fair Housing Center.

# EMPLOYMENT

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FT/PT CLEANER: **BAKERY**: front helper wanted. Early until 2pm. Please stop in to Marlborough Country Bakery. sales associates. Parttime positions. Tues-COOK WANTED: dav thru Saturdav. No Stop in to the Greennights. No Sundays. Call 860-633-8832 or leaf Cafe in Hebron or call 860-228-8148. 860-338-0023.

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#### LEGAL NOTICE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 7:30 PM, at the Hebron Town Office Building, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT, concerning the following:

. Petition 2023-5; Request of John Paardenkooper, Jr. & Gabriella R. Paardenkooper, Owners, for a variance of Section 2.E.5 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, to allow a 14' x 24' accessory structure (shed) to be located 15' from the side property line where the minimum side yard setback is 35', on premise located at 409 Jones Street, Residence 2 District. Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, on this 19th day of September 2023.

#### Martin Halloran, Chairperson

Interested persons may appear and all written communica tions will be received.

Legal Notice will be published in the Rivereast News Bulletin on Friday, September 22, 2023 and Friday, September 29. 2023.

Legal Notice will be published on the Town of Hebron Website at https://hebronct.com/agendas/ 2TB 9/22, 9/29

#### TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON PERSONAL PROPERTY DECLARATION FILING DEADLINE

The East Hampton Assessor's Office reminds owners and lessees of tangible personal property that Connecticut General Statute 12-40 requires all persons, both residents and nonesidents to file with the Assessor by Wednesday, November 1, 2023, a sworn declaration of all assets used by the business as of October 1, 2023. Failure to file such Declaration with the assessor's office will result in the assessor filing on behalf of the business and adding a 25% penalty per CGS 12-41(d). Examples of such tangible personal property include but are not limited to: machinery, cables, conduits, pipes and other fixtures of water, gas, electric companies; leasehold improvements classified as other than real property; furniture and fixtures; unregistered motor vehicles; farm machinery; tools; expensed supplies; horses & ponies. Various exemptions are explained on the declaration and available if filed on time. Personal property declaration forms are available at East Hampton Town Hall or on the town's website: www.easthamptonct. gov. For more information, please contact the East Hampton Assessor's Office, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. Friday, (860)267-2510. 1TB 9/29

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

# WANTED TO BUY

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

### CASH PAID for any Toyota

Other makes, running or not, crashed ok. Will take other makes and models. Free pickup. Call any time: ¢

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### FREE

FREE ITEMS: left over from estate sale. Come on Saturday, Sept 30th, 9-1pm. 58 Wellwyn Dr, Portland. Everything must go! Random furniture, household items, tools, glassware, outdoor items. Come and take what you want. All Free!

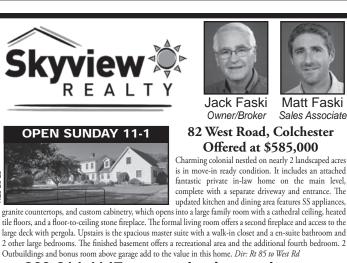


FLEA MARKET: Elmwood Senior Center 1106 New Britain Avenue West Hartford. October 1, 9am-1:00pm. Discover a wide range of treasures and treats. Lots of clothes all sizes including brand new baby clothes and a large variety of plus size women's suits and dresses sizes 22-24. Large collection sale and pepper shakers. Polish pottery. Water-ford crystal. Hummels. Floral arrangements Huge variety of household goods too many to list.

Matt Faski

Sales Associate

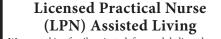
SUNDAY MORNING



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2272 or apply at 32 Halls Hill Road, Colchester.

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

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

**TOWN OF HEBRON** FIREFIGHTER/EMT

The Town of Hebron is seeking candidates for a full-time position of Fire Department Firefighter/FMT. The individual prepares for responds to and performs required functions at emergency fire, ambulance, rescue and service calls. Performs general maintenance work and upkeep of the Fire Department buildings, grounds, vehicles, equipment, including appropriate record keeping. The following are required to apply for this position: high school diploma or GED: IESAC, ProBoard or Eirefighter II Certification: current valid EMT certification and AHA, BLS and CPR cards; a valid Connecticut Driver's License with a Q Endorsement or CT CDL B. Two years of experience as a career Firefighter/EMT is preferred. Starting rate \$28.64 plus benefits. Please send resume with a Town of Hebron application, copies of

certifications, Connecticut Driver's License, current EMT and CPR cards to the attention of Andrew J. Tierney, Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248 by Friday, October 27, 2023. For more information, please visit www.hebronct.com. The Town of Hebron is an equal opportunity employer. 1TB 9/2

8-5. Dental office in Marlborough. 860-295-8132.

CARLGUILD

SEEKING ENERGETIC PERSON: to help mother and daughter, living in Hebron, on weekends from 9:30-2:30, doing outdoor fun activities. \$15/hr. Call 860-228-0809.

Somerset Square, Glastonbury Currently hiring **PART TIME** Retail Sales positions: Weekdays 10:00-3:00 Flexible: Mon. through Fri. 2-3 days per week No evenings/weekends Applications accepted daily or call: 860-633-6966 CIT9-28-2 We are seeking family oriented, fun, and dedicated peopl to join our team! Offering not your average LPN shifts, per-diem shifts available on ALL shifts including 11pm-7am! Colebrook Village is a proud community and home to Independent, Assisted Living, and Memory Care Residents. It is a privilege to serve our residents, alongside our amazing staff. If you are looking for a change and aspire to be appreciated for the important, and honorable work you do; reach out for more details! A Unique Healthcare Opportunity Awaits! Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, 401k

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

### **Certified Nurses Aide** (CNA) Assisted Living

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NEWS BULLETIN • September 29, 2023









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collection, huge. Pez

**BUILDING LOT FOR** SALE: Owner financing available. 860-604-4601.

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a cord, \$170 for half. dinners, etc. THE GLASTONBURY Make your reservation, CITIZEN. 87 Nutmeg to be delivered now Lane (off Oak Street) or later. 860-633-4691.

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# TAG SALES

FIRST CHURCH SU-PER GIANT TAG SALE: 10/20, 12-6pm, 10/21, 9-3pm. Clothes, books, craft supplies, jewelry, collectibles, furniture, kids, holiday décor, household, Cider Donuts by Dude's! Much, much more! 2183 Main Street, Glastonbury.

Page 40

HUGE TAG SALE: Saturday, 9/30, 9a-3p, 57 Buck Road, Hebron. Household, décor, bedding, furniture, costumes, gowns, tires, saw. No early birds. Rain or shine!

**MOVING TAG SALE:** Sept 30th, 8a-2p. Glassware, lamps, furniture, kids toys, queen mattress, women's clothes, piano, and more! No early birds. 36 Shagbark Road, Glastonbury.

MOVING YARD SALE: Household, kitchen and lawn tools, mower, books, knick-knacks, decoratative items a bike Sept 28,29,30 7 to 12. 46 Marlin Rd New Britain CT 06053 off of Barbour Rd.

**MULTI-FAMILY TAG** SALE: Saturday 9/30 & Sunday 10/1, 9-3p, 15 Chesbro Bridge Road, Columbia. Home décor, fashionable women's clothing, glass computer desk, seashells and coral, dried silk flowers and hats, Relay For Life, and so much more!

Many, Many things to choose from. Come and see!

Buy or sell with me... Use my truck for free!

) Cl.

MULTI-FAMILY GIANT TAG SALE: Saturday and Sunday, Sept 30th and Oct 1st, 7-4p. 85 Hog Hill Road, East Hampton. House Flippers dream sale! Tons of building materials, windows, patio doors, interior trim, door hardware, light fixtures, vanities, tools, etc. Home furniture, mirrors, home and holiday decor, ski boots, snowboard, adult and kids clothing, designer handbags, antique dishes. Come see. Everything needs to go!

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE: Sunday Only! October 1st. 9am-1pm. Olde Flatbrook Road, East Hampton. Baby/kids items, lawnmower, furniture, exercise equipment, appliances, and so much more.

TAG SALE: Sat, Sept 30th & Sun, Oct 1st. 95 Hill Farm Rd, Colchester, 8am-3pm. Please no early arrivals. Getting ready to move soon. All kinds of stuff. Cleaning out 40 years of Stuff. Some even in unopened boxes.

TAG SALE: Sat/Sun, Sept 30th & Oct 1st, 8am. 52 Hubbard Street, Glastonbury. Multi-seller. Antiques. jewelry, collectibles, kitchenware, MCM, fiestaware. tools. Dealers welcome.

TAG SALE: Sept 30th, 8am-2pm. 60 Main Street, East Hampton. Seasonal clothing, books, tools, household goods, collectibles, holiday décor and more











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