

U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GLASTONBURY CITIZEN, INC.  
PRESORTED STANDARD  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
LOCAL

RIVEREAST

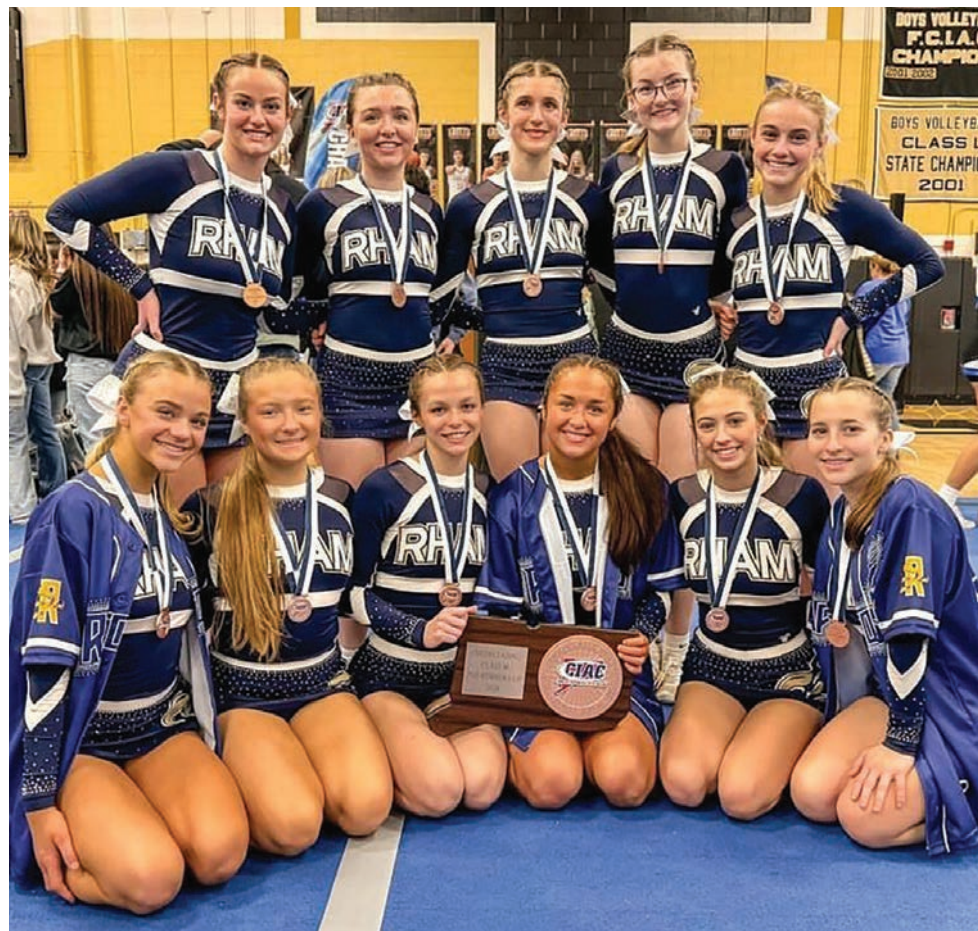
# News Bulletin

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

Volume 48, Number 07

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

March 8, 2024



**RHAM Cheer Shines at States...** RHAM High School cheerleading placed third at the 2024 CIAC Class M State Championship, posting a team-best score of 84.35 to secure the program's second straight Top-3 finish at the state finals. Last month the Raptors won the Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) – East title for the third straight season. All-State senior captain Dani Poudrier is highlighted on page 3.

## Concerns Emerge Over Portland Schools Plan

By London Brazal

Portland officials appear to be leaning toward a plan that would shutter two schools, placing all of the town's elementary-aged students in one building.

While a vote on any possible proposal is still months away, concerns about the plan are already starting to surface.

The Board of Selectmen is preparing a possible bonding question for inclusion on the Election Day ballot this November. The bonding would address the aging infrastructure of the town's elementary school facilities – Valley View Elementary School, Gildersleeve Elementary School and Brownstone Intermediate School. The three buildings have not seen significant capital improvements for nearly 30 years, the town has said.

A survey of 1,000 residents conducted at the end of 2023 showed the majority of respondents – 57% – preferred to decommission both Gildersleeve and Brownstone, and renovating and expanding Valley View to establish a Pre-K through Grade 5 facility.

In an update from Feb. 23, First Selectman Ryan Curley wrote that the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education have engaged in discussions regarding the next course of action. And while no official vote has been taken, there is a consensus among members of the two boards to move forward with the town's preferred choice – closing Gildersleeve and Brownstone and expanding Valley View. Grade 6 would then be moved from Brownstone to

Portland Middle School, where there is existing space, Curley said.

Any plan must be approved by the voters of Portland at a referendum, and the Board of Selectmen is working towards a bonding question added to the November ballot.

The proposed plan, creating a single Pre-K through Grade 5 elementary school, offers several benefits, according to Curley. A newer school would maximize school security and indoor air quality. In addition, it maximizes state reimbursement, covering 51% of the total project cost and reducing the town's burden to almost half. Decommissioning two schools would also save up to \$962,320 annually in overhead costs.

Furthermore, Curley said, swing space would be available at Gildersleeve Elementary School and Brownstone Intermediate School to minimize the negative effects of construction.

In a few weeks, there should be an update regarding costs to provide clarity on the financial implications.

### Concerns Emerge

With one school to host seven grades – Pre-K through 5 – there are concerns regarding safety and logistics. At a BOS meeting last month, the selectmen voiced their comments and opinions. Selectman Michael Hernandez was worried about the number of students attending one large school. Specifically, he didn't know how the school could accommodate gym use and time to eat lunch.

Resident April Graves addressed concerns with the *Rivereast*, and said she also feels it's too many students at one location. "Sadly, in this day and age, we must think about school safety,"

*See Portland Schools Plan, page 33*

## 'It's Not an Ideal Place to Be'

By Michael Sinkewicz

Colchester officials last week updated the Board of Finance (BOF) regarding the state of the town's finance department following months of uncertainty and reconfiguration.

While they reassured the community that progress is being made, officials cautioned that more work needs to be done moving forward to fully resolve the issues afflicting the department.

During its Feb. 28 meeting, the BOF heard from Michelle Marceau, the acting director of finance, who spoke to the efforts being made to fix widespread accounting issues within the department. Those concerns were part of the rationale for First Selectman Bernie Dennler III implementing a soft budget freeze in January.

MUNIS reports relied upon by local officials to track monthly town expenditures appeared inaccurate, and expenses were either "double-booked" or needed to be reclassified into the correct accounts, Dennler conveyed.

Maggie Cosgrove, Colchester's former long-time chief financial officer — who currently serves a finance advisor — warned Dennler that

numerous transactions needed to be corrected between different accounts. Until the problems were resolved, the reports shouldn't be relied upon to make decisions, she previously stated.

Dennler told the board during last week's meeting that "for the most part, things are pretty much [classified] where we believe they should be at this point."

And when asked by a board member what her confidence level was, and how caught up the department was at this point, Marceau replied, "We've come a long way."

"I don't feel conformable saying we're there, but we're really much better than we were in January," she said.

This week, Dennler told the *Rivereast* that the department had "resolved many of the issues" and that expenditure reports represented an "accurate snapshot" compared to a couple months ago.

"But that doesn't mean the work is done," he conveyed.

While there was good news in regard to im-

proving the accuracy and dependability of reports, the actual content and data within them signaled financial struggles, specifically indications of the current 2023-24 fiscal year potentially going over-budget.

Through the end of February, 81.5% of the overall budget was expended. With a third of the fiscal year remaining, the spending plan appears to be exceeding its anticipated trajectory.

At the meeting, Dennler said "it's not an ideal place to be" at this stage of the year.

Items such as payroll will almost certainly exceed their original blueprints, he said, pointing to police and fire department overtime costs.

Dennler previously told the finance board, "I'm not saying that we are in an apocalyptic budget situation, I'm telling you I genuinely don't know where we are based on what data I have as first selectman."

During his interview, he said that the current budget year doesn't appear to be an "apocalyptic" situation. And there are some expenses,

*See 'It's Not an Ideal Place to Be', page 33*

### Inside...

- Marlborough**  
*Lions Receive Awards*.....pg 9
- East Hampton**  
*Senior Center Director Retires*.....pg 16
- Colchester**  
*\$45.73M BOE Budget Proposed* .....pg 26
- Hebron**  
*Local Woman Releases Memoir*.....pg 29
- Hebron**  
*Invention Convention* .....pg 31
- Regional**  
*Obituaries* .....pg 32

Wake up to a new home!

COMING SOON!



33 Oakum Dock  
Middle Haddam  
\$899,900

COMING SOON!



90 Belltown Road  
Glastonbury  
\$899,000

COMING SOON!



288 Old Marlborough Road  
Glastonbury  
\$675,000

Margaret

WILLIAM RAVEIS

Call me for a private showing or to feature your home! 860-916-3517

**LLINAS LAW**  
CRIMINAL DEFENSE & DUI LAWYER

**I Fight For Your Rights**

Full-service Criminal Defense Lawyer Serving Connecticut

860-530-1781  
www.llinasdefense.com

Highly Recommended  
100% Client Focused  
5 STAR RATING  
Criminal Defense

**BIGBY'S Colchester**  
WINE & SPIRITS

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

**LILY**

**ONE FREE WEEK!**

Must enroll prior to May 31, 2024.  
Coupon expires May 31, 2024. Restrictions apply.  
Call 860-659-3002 for details.  
— 586 New London Tpke., Glastonbury —

**Now Enrolling!**

Childcare • Pre-School  
Before & After School  
Age-Appropriate Programs  
Ages 6 weeks to 9 years

After the Stork comes the...  
**Stork Club**  
CHILD-CARE & DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

**Childcare • Before & After School Program • Pre-Kindergarten**  
Call (860) 659-3002 or visit 586 New London Tpke., Glastonbury

Email us:  
[storkclubs@gmail.com](mailto:storkclubs@gmail.com)

*Saint Clement's*  
CASTLE & MARINA

**SAINT PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION**

Join us for a night of Irish cheer, delicious food, great beer, and live music! Admission is \$35!

Date | Friday, March 15, 2024  
Time | 6:00PM - 10:00PM  
Address | 1931 Portland-Cobalt Rd. Portland, CT 06480

[Register Here!](#)

**M&NU**

<b>Passed Hors D'oeuvres</b>	<b>Food Stations</b>
Deviled Green Eggs & Ham Irish Bacon Flatbread Mini Reuben Spring Roll	<b>Carving Station</b> Corned Beef, Pastrami, & Brisket
<b>Desserts &amp; Drinks</b>	<b>Irish Potato Bar</b> House-made potato chips, potato wedges & sweet potato fries. <i>Toppings include: Irish beer cheese, Corned beef, Tomatoes, Bacon, Sour cream, Jalapenos, Onions, &amp; Salsa</i>
San Francisco Irish Coffee Station Small Bites of Irish Desserts Cash Bar - Irish Brands	<b>Irish Soda Bread</b>

*Saint Clements Castle & Marina*

**MENU**

Complimentary Glass of Champagne Upon Arrival!

**CLASSIC BREAKFAST**  
Omelet Station, Traditional Eggs Benedict, Scrambled Eggs, Deviled Eggs, Hard-Boiled Eggs, Pancake & Waffle Station, Bacon, Pork Sausage, Corned Beef Hash, Assorted Baked Goods & Pastries, Fruit Platter, Custom Parfaits, Fresh Juices, Coffee

**FROM THE SEA**  
Ceviche, Baked Stuffed Clams, Mini Crab Cakes, Shrimp Cocktail, Cedar Plank Salmon

**TASTE OF TUSCANY**  
Penne Pasta with Italian Sausage, Roasted Peppers, and A La Vodka Sauce  
Chilled Cheese Tortellini with Red Onion, Kalamata Olives, Feta Cheese, and Olive Oil  
Pork Milanese with Lemon Arugula, Cherry Tomatoes, and Parmesan Cheese  
Custom Salad Bar

**CARVING STATION**  
Spiral Ham with Whole Grain Mustard  
Prime Rib with Horseradish & Au Jus  
Served with Chef's selection of Starch & Vegetable

**DESSERT STATION**  
Carrot Cake, Cookies, Brownies, Chocolate Cake, Cheesecake, Petit Fours

**REGISTER HERE:**

**MEET THE EASTER BUNNY!**

**EGG HUNTS EVERY HOUR!**



**From the Editor's Desk**

**Observations & Ruminations**

By Mike Thompson

The time has come. It's time for an extra hour of daylight. In the wee small hours of Sunday morning, March 10, our clocks will move ahead an hour, as daylight saving time makes its long-awaited return. True, it's just a manipulation of the clock; no actual daylight is gained or lost in this transaction. But still, it'll mean sunsets after 6 p.m. I'll take that.

I'd love it if it were daylight saving time all year, to be honest. I love when it's still daylight out when I leave work. Driving home in the dark is just...depressing. And as spring turns to summer, and daylight stretches to 8 p.m. and even later – well, that's delightful.

It looked very recently that I may get my wish. In 2022, the U.S. Senate by unanimous consent passed the Sunshine Protection Act, which would've seen states remain on daylight saving time year-round. It was unanimous! Do you know how hard it is to get the Senate to unanimously agree on anything? (Seriously, I think a resolution stating the sun rises in the east and sets in the west would somehow turn into a party-line vote.)

The bill headed to the U.S. House of Representatives, and it wound up just dying there, never being taken up before the session ended. The Senate reintroduced legislation last year, and it too has gone nowhere. Now, I'll concede that maybe there are more pressing matters to deal with than clocks changing, but still. I wish Congress would get on it.

In the meantime, boy am I going to enjoy those later sunsets.

\*\*\*

A couple of weeks ago, I plugged the upcoming Connecticut Spelling Bee. Well, the

bee took place last weekend, and I'm pleased to announce we have a winner!

Hayden Hughes, a seventh-grader from Newtown, is the 2024 Connecticut Spelling Champion. She will head to Maryland in May to represent the state at the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Hayden brought home the gold for spelling a word I'd never even heard of: "dropsical." It sounds like what happens when an icicle falls off of a house, but no, according to the dictionary it's a word that dates back to the 1600s and means turgid or swollen.

Along the way to her championship, Hayden also tackled words like "berceuse," which is another word for lullaby, and "chalcolithic," which was the archaeological period characterized by the increasing use of smelted copper.

Nope, I'd never heard of those words either.

A couple *Rivereast* towns were represented at the competition. Hilary Boris, from Andover Elementary School, was among the 13 students who tied for 19th place, and Avery Guild of East Hampton Middle School was among five students that tied for ninth place.

The spelling bee wound up going an impressive 14 rounds before Hayden won with the aforementioned "dropsical." It's a word I'm sure she won't forget.

Heck, I still remember the word that sunk me at my fifth-grade spelling bee. "Vegetables" did me in; I thought the second 'e' was an 'a.' I was able to get over it and eventually start eating broccoli and green beans again, but it took a while.

\*\*\*

See you next week.



**We Are the Champions... The Hebron 9/10th grade rec basketball team recently won the 2024 Eastern Region JV Championship.**

**Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum**

**Gratitude**

To the Editor:

I feel that gratitude is lacking lately and felt compelled to give two people some kudos!

Thank you to Mike Thompson for sharing information about the new CT State Policy and Alzheimer's Association CT Chapter registry called Bring Me Back Home. Thank you so very much for including the details in the Feb. 16 *Rivereast*. (Google: CT Bring Me Back Home.)

Thank you to Jim Hallas for his commentary about Robo Calls and Robo-Ashely in the Feb. 23 *Rivereast*. It was humorous and made a direct point that 'they' can be relentless and at times you just can't get away from the calls. My wish is that there is a 'super hacker' on the side of the good guys that will give these robocall scammers a run for their money. That would be a monthly subscription I could get behind!

**Thank you kindly,  
Tonya Maurer – Hebron**

**More Empathy Needed**

To the Editor:

Different ('Oko'a in Hawaiian) is defined as, "Not the same as another or each other, unlike in nature, form, or quality." Kindness (Aka'hai in Hawaiian) is defined as, "The quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate." Empathy is defined as, "The ability to understand and share the feelings of another." From polynesia.com, "Without Aloha all the other cultural values are not complete. It is defined as a noun and means love, affection, compassion, charity, grace, em-

pathy, and much more. It can also be used as a verb that means to love, show affection, give compassion, show charity, and so forth. Aloha is also used as a greeting and salutation."

Maybe if we didn't treat Nex Benedict as 'Oko'a but treated them with more Aka'hai, empathy, and Aloha they would still be alive today. But that's how we roll isn't it? History is replete with examples of what's been done to someone/people just because they were considered to be less than (Women, Native Americans, people of color, the LGBTQIA+ community) to be considered "different." Nex Benedict wasn't hurting anyone, but because they were deemed "different" their life was taken from them.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Eric Manning – Andover**

**Stop Punishing Police Officers!**

To the Editor:

Another police officer is going to trial for his actions of defending himself and the public from a person attempting to escape while committing a crime. This then-19-year-old had just crashed his car into another and was surrounded by police. This thug reached into his pocket to take something out to inflict harm on the police officers. What would you do if you were this police officer? The officer did exactly what I would have done! Shoot him to prevent him from killing someone!

The item he reached for was not a gun but a knife. Should this police officer die because he

**Bulletin Board**

We used to have a chair in our upstairs bathroom. It wasn't much of a chair, really. It was a sturdy wooden thing with a painted historical scene on the upper panel representing a pre-condo Glastonbury when you could still find a cow around town.

Unfortunately, at some point someone had left a wet towel on the seat, which left a big white blotch on the finish. Still it was a sturdy chair and just the thing for those of us who have come to the point that we risk breaking a hip when we try to stand on one leg to remove a sock, or who feel compelled to sit and stare into the mirror and wonder what the hell happened to us (a process even more painful at my age if you're not wearing clothes).

So it was with some confusion that I entered the bathroom to find that the familiar chair was gone. In its place stood an odd contraption that appeared to be constructed out of corroded copper piping. It was a stand of some sort, about waist-high, with two little fake faucet handles on the back and a sort of miniature showerhead thing rearing up in between. A white metal bowl inscribed "Bain" rested on the top, while the open bottom was apparently designed as a storage area for towels and assorted beauty products.

While my French tends to be rudimentary—in Paris, I once ordered shrimp and got veal (at least I hope it was veal; it could have been breaded rat for all I know)—I seemed to recall that "bain" is French for "bath." And while from a practical standpoint the contraption was (to my eyes, at least) useless enough to be French, I suspected that it could actually trace its origins to some treasure horde at Ikea or Bed and Bath or even the Christmas Tree Shop, probably by way of China.

It was, in a word: "decorative."

Now my experience with "decorative" over the years has tended to involve torments like bob-tailed curtains that don't keep the sun off the TV screen, pillows you're not supposed to drool on, lampshades that turn perfectly adequate light into gloom and so on and so forth. And God help you if you thumbtack a black garbage bag over the window so the sun won't shine on the TV screen.

So, all things considered, I was pretty sure this thing up in my bathroom was intended to be decorative.

Whatever its origins, I clearly couldn't sit on it. However, being a practical Yankee, it occurred to me after several minutes of hopping precariously around on one foot trying to get my socks off prior to my shower, that the roomy bowl on top of the thing made an ideal repository for my dirty clothes as they awaited pickup at some future date. So, ever the optimist, I filled it up accordingly and went blithely about my business to see what transpired next.

What transpired next was a lengthy tutorial on "responsibility," which (go figure) in my case apparently involves bringing my dirty laundry downstairs and leaving it by the washing machine and not just depositing it on "the thing."

"Yeah, about the thing. What happened to the chair?"

"The chair is gone."

The chair is gone? That's it? What are you, Vladimir Putin? "Yeah, I can see that. You know, I kind of liked the chair."

"It didn't fit in."

Sure that's easy for you to say. You can still balance on one leg. But of course all I actually said was, "Oh."

"It was old and decrepit," she added.

It suddenly dawned on me that if she's intent on getting rid of old and decrepit, I could be in serious peril. "You know," I hastily observed. "The thing is actually kind of stylish in a pseudo-European kind of way."

"I'm going to put a nice big plant in the top bowl," she said.

Right. Just in case I should ever again presume to throw my dirty socks and wet towels in there. "That will be lovely," I said.

"Anyway, you have your own space," she remarked generously.

Yeah. That would be the corner of the garage where I park the lawn tractor.

Anyway, to wrap this thing up, I happened to go out the garage a little later and guess what I found standing forlornly next to the lawn tractor?

Yup. The chair.

There but for the grace of God and my finely honed diplomatic skills...

**Jim Hallas**

**Rivereast Hours of Operation**

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

**RIVEREAST**

**News Bulletin**

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

Published Every Friday by The Glastonbury Citizen

87 Nutmeg Lane • Glastonbury, CT 06033

Telephone (860) 633-4691

Email: [bulletin@glcitizen.com](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com)

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

Email classified line ads to [admin@glcitizen.com](mailto:admin@glcitizen.com).

Email Legal Notices to [legals@glcitizen.com](mailto:legals@glcitizen.com)

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

Kevin and Pat Rarey, Publishers

Advertising Representatives:

Josh Howard—Office Manager, Sports Editor

Jason Baran, ext. 104 • [jason@glcitizen.com](mailto:jason@glcitizen.com)

Mike Thompson, Editor

Lisa Snietka, ext. 103 • [lisa@glcitizen.com](mailto:lisa@glcitizen.com)

Staff Reporters:

London Brazal—East Hampton, Portland

Art Department

Michael Sinkewicz—Colchester, Hebron, Marlborough & Andover

Jeanne Giovann, Julie Kristoff

and Julie Misuraca

PUBLISHER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL ANY ADVERTISEMENT AT ANY TIME

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

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

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

(860) 633-4691 — [bulletin@glcitizen.com](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com)

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

was not 100% sure this criminal was not pulling out a gun? Of course not! Should the officer have waited until he could verify that it was a gun and waited until he pointed it at him or others? Of course not! This is a split-second decision. Do what you think is right! You have no time to verify what you think is happening.

Our politicians believe that these criminals deserve rights while committing crime. I believe anyone in the act of committing a crime should automatically lose all their rights! If criminals knew that they had no rights while committing crime and police officers had the right to stop them by any and all means, they might think twice about committing crime. Let's replace our current politicians with ones that will fight for the public not the criminals.

We now have an Office of Inspector General to investigate and prosecute all police use of deadly force. If criminals had no rights while committing crime we would not need this office.

Frank Blume – Colchester

### Numbers Tell the Story

To the Editor:

As residents of Marlborough, you and I need to be aware of some numbers that affect us all. How? Through our budget and subsequent taxes.

The BOE has proposed a budget which, if looking only at the bottom line, might seem acceptable. However, studying the numbers tells a different story.

Let's look at principals' salaries. Currently there is a principal and a vice-principal (both of whom will retire in June). The salaries are \$157,910 and \$145,543 respectively. Add to that the benefits (health, etc.) and the 25 vacation days, 13 paid holidays, 15 yearly sick days, and 5 yearly personal days, the picture gets clearer. With the retirement of two veteran administrators, one would assume that new hires would have a starting salary somewhat lower than veterans. Wrong! The superintendent negotiated a contract for administrators which had added \$4,000 split two ways until such time as a special education director was hired. Oh, yes, there's one in the new budget proposal. The proposed budget calls for two full-time principals, not a principal and vice principal, at \$161,621 each (plus all the benefits listed above). Why? To split the school into two schools: Pre K – 2nd grade with its own full time principal and grades 3

– 6 with its own full time principal. Why? So that the principals can be in the hallways, the cafeteria, out on the playground, and in the classrooms. Each "separate" school would have approximately 225 students to administer. Gee, our town manager who oversees a town of 6,200 residents works for much less in salary and with fewer benefits!

Are you aware that 69% of Marlborough households are without children, and 76% of the total budget is for education? And over 20% of Marlborough's population is age 65 and older! People, pay attention!

Fran Terase – Marlborough

### Thanks, Belltown Knights

To the Editor:

East Hampton High School's Unified Sports Team would like to thank the local East Hampton Knights of Columbus for their generous financial contribution to our club. Their donations help in making it possible for the continued success of our Unified Sports program. Some of the things that the club was able to purchase are new team shirts, equipment allowing us to establish cornhole as a new competitive sport, as well as sponsoring an upcoming field trip to the Yard Goats' "Baseball in Education Day."

The support from KOC exemplifies what Unified Sports is all about; promoting inclusion through sports and activities. With much thanks and appreciation,

Unified Sports Team  
East Hampton High School

### Did You Know This?

To the Editor:

Marlborough's two previous School Superintendents made some effort to address the growing ratio of administration costs relative to the shrinking student body. Dr. Sal Menzo, our last full-time superintendent, told the BOE that, in his opinion, our small school only needed a part-time superintendent. We next hired Dr. David Skarlz, part-time, and he decided that the vice principal could assume the duties of the part-time special education director, and that position was eliminated. Last year we hired a maintenance/technology supervisor, part of whose duties would relieve the vice principal of dealing with maintenance issues and the various problems that occur in an aging building. Next year's budget includes two full-time

principals, the maintenance/technology supervisor, and the return of the part-time special education supervisor. This represents an actual increase in administration personnel relative to what existed when Dr. Skarlz recommended the elimination of the part-time special education director position. At the recent school board meeting the current superintendent justified the increase by stating that the administrators regularly work "more than 12 hours a day every day." This assertion was accepted by the board without comment.

I am curious. What changes have occurred that result in our administrators now being so overworked? The school board didn't ask. Hopefully the Board of Finance will.

George O'Brien – Marlborough

### Israel

To the Editor:

Israel is going full 'Old Testament.' Moses, the first genocidist, whom the Jews call the 'lawgiver of Israel,' commanded them to attack the Canaanites and kill all the men, all the little boys and all the women that had lain with men. When all were gone, he commanded them to confiscate their land and make themselves a home in it. Substitute Palestinians for Canaanites and we are watching the same massacre and horrors happening before our eyes. Israeli forces have destroyed more than half the buildings in Palestine. They are targeting hospitals, ambulances, UN aid workers, reporters and refugee tent camps where those that lost their homes had sought refuge. They are purposely creating a famine and disease outbreak by limiting international aid. They remove anesthesia, oxygen tanks, water filtration systems, water purification tablets and maternity kits from the few trucks they let in. And then when starving Palestinians swarm these few aid trucks, they slaughter them with bullets and the resulting panic.

Jews insist this was started when Hamas slaughtered 1,140 Israelis, many being raped and humiliated, along with kidnapping another 250. But in 1948 Albert Einstein and other famous secular Jews were revolted when fascist

Jewish militias massacred a peaceful Palestinian Arab village along with raping, kidnapping and humiliating many of them. This was the start of the 'Nakba,' the catastrophic Palestinian exodus from their lands and homes, who feared death if they stayed. Since then, Israelis have annually killed 20 Palestinians for every Israeli killed while keeping Palestinians prisoners under apartheid rule. Hamas arose out of these unending injustices. It is Israeli policy, Orthodox Jewry and Netanyahu that created Hamas. Before anyone plays their default anti-Semite card, are there any falsehoods in what I have written? No? Then Israel is a fascist state and America its enabler.

Edmund Smith – Andover

### Debating for MAGAs

To the Editor:

Remember the *For Dummies* books, tutoring those without relevant background? Or *The Complete Idiot's Guide* series, for those understanding even less than the dummies? I propose a new series for the still more clueless: *For MAGAs*. Here's a snippet from *Debating for MAGAs*, in response to Don Denley's latest incoherency.

Lesson 1: We understand that whining about perceived slights makes you feel bigger – more Trump-like, I suppose. But claiming conspiracy in the placement of your letters makes you look much smaller. *Rivereast* archives are online; double-check before putting your foot in your mouth. As recently as Dec. 8 you'll find Ed Kozlowski and Frank Blume on page 7, Ed Smith and me on 32.

Lesson 2: Before saying, "He said A and B, and he's completely wrong; here's the evidence against B," please double-check. A: Most people thought the economy was bad, but not for themselves. B: Inflation has been lower under Biden. The trouble is, I said "A", and supplied evidence; you offer no dispute. But I didn't say "B". Go ahead and reread. To play "Gotcha," you must understand the facts. We know it's difficult for MAGAs, but please try!

Lesson 3: Don't obsess over a fault in one while overlooking it in another. Biden has long

See Letters, page 6

**WANTED**  
**Buying Antiques & Old Stuff**

Costume Jewelry, Pottery, Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Toys/Games, Glassware, Silver Plated Items, Signs, Typewriters, Sewing Machines, Bar Items, Tools, Sterling, Gold, Watches, Coins, Kitchenware, Cookware, Automotive, Books, Radios, Clocks, Lanterns, Lamps, Knives, Hunting, Fishing, Military, Masonic, Fire Dept & more.

**Donald Roy 860-874-8396**

**A&R ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC**  
*Radon Specialists since 1995*

Radon Mitigation & Testing  
Specializing in Air & Water Systems

Licensed, Certified & Insured **FREE QUOTES**

[www.arenvironmental.com](http://www.arenvironmental.com)

**NOW HIRING A Service Technician – CALL TO INQUIRE!**

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

**GLASTONBURY ANIMAL HOSPITAL of MARLBOROUGH**

**NOW OPEN!**

Always Accepting New Patients & Clients!

**21 South Main Street  
Marlborough, CT 06447**

**860-295-3939**

Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-3pm

**Fornarelli's**

LUNCH – HAPPY HOUR  
DINNER & DRINK SPECIALS  
DOWNSTAIRS LOUNGE • PATIO

Check Out Our New Lounge Menu Downstairs!

**SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARTY**  
STARTING @IPM  
DOWNSTAIRS LOUNGE  
16<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY & SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup>

JAMESON GUINNESS  
\$6 SHOTS \$6 CANS  
\$7 DRINKS  
\$10 CARBOMBS  
\$20 CORNED BEEF DINNER

— Gift Cards Available —  
Fornarelli's 112 Halls Hill Road, Colchester  
860-531-9160  
[www.fornarellis.com](http://www.fornarellis.com)

From my American Heritage dictionary, the definition of GENOCIDE: "the systemic, planned annihilation of a racial, political, or cultural group". After the straightforward impassioned statements of many Israeli leaders, can any sane observer deny this as the goal? Could such goals truly be interpreted as defending Israel?

As a Vietnam combat veteran, I now see our participation in Vietnam as illegal and wrong-headed, as the Vietnamese people were no threat to us. However ugly our acts, they fell far short of genocide. Now my shame is that our leaders are not only allowing these despicable actions to occur to Gazan civilians, but we actually 'foot the bill' for more bombs and equipment to continue the genocidal war crimes.

Cease fire now. Please join citizens in dissent of this slaughter. Call your State Representatives in Washington (Joe Courtney 202-225-2076) (Richard Blumenthal 202-224-3121), and let them know that respect for us as Americans erodes every day we continue to enable genocide, and you do not want to be a part of it!

— Bill Potvin

\* advertisement paid for by Bill Potvin – does not necessarily reflect the views of the Rivereast News Bulletin \*

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

★ Letters cont. from page 5

been known for verbal gaffes. They pale in comparison to Trump's. Biden confused certain foreign leaders? Trump can't keep his current competitors straight, confusing Haley and Pelosi, mixing up Biden, Obama and Clinton! Watching his befuddlement is excruciating.

Lesson 4: We know math isn't MAGAs' strong suit. We sympathize; it's challenging to have no clue. But it's ridiculous to discuss how a \$1.4 billion program will affect taxpayers (maybe \$5), a mere rounding error against the \$2 trillion debt from Trump's Tax Scam giveaway.

Also, coming soon: *Empathy for MAGAs.*

Sincerely,  
Scott Sauyet – Andover

Note: Sauyet is co-chair of the Andover Democratic Town Committee and member of the RHAM Board of Education, but said he is writing as an individual.

**Alexander Smirnov**

To the Editor:

The House Republicans were working with Smirnov to dig up dirt on Joe Biden for their impeachment inquiry. He was arrested and charged with making false statements to the FBI on his 1023 form. Rep. James Comer, R-Ky., chair of the House Oversight Committee that has been investigating the Biden family's business dealings, told Fox News' Jesse Watters that the form was "a very crucial piece of our investigation." In January, Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, an Oversight Committee member, told Fox News' Sean Hannity that the 1023 form documenting Smirnov's statements was the "most corroborating evidence" Republicans had supporting allegations that Biden accepted a multimillion-dollar bribe. (NPR, NBC, Yahoo News)

Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

**Just Pave It**

To the Editor:

Mike Judge would do a better job of explaining economic politics. News, from Hebron's Town Hall, fuels my interest in dark humor. When hearing rhetoric about installing a pedestrian bridge, adjacent to decent sidewalks and parking improvements "to safely connect residents between local sites through walking, while lessening the impact of vehicles on the community" (*Rivereast* 10/13/23), one wonders. What does that even mean? How will vehicles access "parking improvements" without using community roads? If the goal is to increase income to businesses, that's one thing, but, won't more traffic show up in our community, not less?

This thinking sounds like 2019, when residents were reassured it's environmentally safe

to put extensive development on corn fields surrounded by water. Or, how a traffic light at Church and Kinney would reduce congestion at the school. Were these studies expensive or did they appear in dreams?

Will shoppers actually be found wandering around Hebron's Historic District lugging merchandise over a bridge? As for the bridge, surely there's more pressing issues to invest in? Wouldn't it be wiser to plant shrubs to protect the district's stream corridor from erosion? These bushes could provide cover for birds and bugs while enhancing the charm of our library and pollinator gardens. Another idea: have Jeff Bezos patriotically pave over Hebron Center with an Amazon warehouse. The big question remains, can we stop this compulsion to pave over our historic charm and privacy?

The ever-brilliant minds, dreaming up these notions, might want to dream up ways of creating "resources, including water," which are often limited in Hebron Center (BOS 10/19/23). This water might be necessary for remediating residential wells after development plans explode in the surrounding neighborhoods. Please consider attending the P&Z meeting on 3/12/24. #save17

Jean Tulimieri – Amston

# ENTERTAINMENT



**FARRELLS**  
Restaurant & Caterers

**ST. PATRICK'S WEEKEND**  
Serving **Corned Beef Dinners** on Friday evening and all day Saturday & Sunday!  
Regular Menu also available on Friday & Saturday  
Reservations for Friday & Saturday only, first come first serve on Sunday 3/17

**Irish DJs Pete & Chris** — Sat. 6-10PM & Sun. 3:30-7:30PM

CALL OR ORDER ONLINE FOR TAKE-OUT:  
Must pre-order by 3/16 for pickup on 3/17

Bagpipers on Sunday Afternoon!

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

**THE HUNGRY TIGER**  
music club & cafe

120 Charter Oak St.  
Downtown Manchester  
(exit 3 off I-384)  
(860) 649-1195  
www.thehungrytiger.com

**ST. PATRICK'S WEEKEND CELEBRATION**

**Friday, March 15th**  
The U-2 Concert Experience  
"I Will Follow" 9:00pm

**Saturday, March 16th**  
"Ben & The Boutots" 6:00pm  
"Hardly Newer" 9:30pm

**Sunday, March 17th**  
"Jeff The Godfather & Friends" 4-8pm

NO COVER!  
Guinness Pint Specials

♣♣♣ Irish Dinner Specials All Weekend ♣♣♣  
Corned Beef & Cabbage • Shepherds Pie • Bangers & Mash

**Maple-Flavored History**

To the Editor:

I am pleased to announce that a special presentation of the unique history of Hebron Center will be held at the 2024 Maple Fest. Spanning millions of years of geologic time and 12,000 years of human habitation, Hebron Center is a showcase of earth science, Indigenous, Colonial, enslaved and free Black history, as well as European immigration and even Post-World War II suburbanization.

Hebron Center was the focal point of land deeded in February 1675 to colonial settlers by the Sachem Attawanhood (aka Joshua), the son of the Mohegan Sachem Uncas. Stone artifacts have been documented spanning an area from the Douglas Library, east to CVS and south to Kinney Road. These Indigenous inhabitants were drawn to the area due to its fertile soil and vibrant wetlands, a result of the rich glacial lodgment till soil deposited here between 100,000 and 15,000 years ago. It is likely that the knowledge of this special soil was passed directly from Hebron's Woodland Indians to the first colonial settlers in 1702.

The recipients of Sachem Attawanhood's deed included a number of his fellow soldiers in King Phillips War of 1674 and 1675. These influential early settlers formed the basis of Hebron's first colonial families and were known as the Saybrook Legatees. Among them was William Shipman, who was granted 3,000 acres and settled just south of Kinney Road. Other proprietors included David Barber of Windsor, who acquired prime farmland in the heart of Hebron Center.

Please stop by to view a copy of the map of The Barber Lot created by Governor John S. Peters circa 1825, extensive account book entries from Governor Peters, as well as other historic documents and artifacts. Many thanks to The Town Center Project for this opportunity. For more information, please visit Save Hebron Center on Facebook.

Sincerely,  
Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

Now Open on Franklin Ave.

**Adriatic Restaurant**

Featuring Italian & Balkan/Mediterranean Cuisine  
Brought to you by the owners of Portofinos in Berlin

Our Dining Room is Open Wednesday through Monday, 11am to 9pm

Bring Your Own Wine or Beer – No Corkage Fee!



Also Offering Take-Out, Party Platters and Delicious Family Meals to Go!  
Chicken Parmigiana  
Chicken Marsala  
Chicken Adriatic  
Adriatic Combo- Cevapi, Cufte, Sudzuk & Grilled Chicken

577 Franklin Ave., Hartford  
860-726-4155

**Portofinos**  
Italian Restaurant

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

**You Deserve a Great Meal!**

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



Shrimp & Pasta



Salad



Filet Mignon



Pizza

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

Lunch & Dinner menu  
www.portofinosrestaurantct.com

- Dine In
- Outside Patio Open
- Take Out

**Order: 860-826-6374**  
(No Minimum)

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

**Truly Irresponsible**

To the Editor:

Last week's *Rivereast* reported the hiring of two full-time principals for Marlborough Elementary School, and gave their professional backgrounds. That is, the voters' opinions won't matter, the decision was made and acted upon in advance, by the superintendent. Thus, even should the Board of Finance cut the BOE's "bottom line" or even should the voters reject the budget, the superintendent's preference takes

◆ **Happenings** ◆

**BREAD-MAKING SPRING SPECIAL:** Small baking class. For experienced bakers and beginners. \$55 each class, includes ingredients. 1pm-4pm. Sweet dough 3/17, Challah 4/7, Italian/French 4/14. Join me to understand ingredients & techniques to make baking fun & easy. Chef Dory 860-537-6325. Email aldermanfamily@sbglobal.net

For more information on advertising your "Happenings" please call 860-633-4691.

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

priority with no due diligence about the facts, finances, or the needs of the school and community. The conclusion to be drawn is that this budget is so padded it doesn't even matter what reductions might be forced on the bottom line.

Some specific numbers are useful for the community to consider: the same community expressing concerns (See lead article, last *Rivereast*) about lack of affordable housing especially for young families and seniors. The newly increased salary for each of two principals is \$161,621. Then there is dental and health insurance coverage, 25 vacation days per year, which can be carried over, 13 holidays, and 15 days sick leave, which can be accumulated to 150 days. Each receives five days' personal leave. This is very top-heavy and represents roughly 75% of the whole town budget, a town with 69% of its households with no schoolchildren. And, of great concern, board member Chris Barella said at the latest BOF meeting this will result in a significant tax increase! This is truly irresponsible. Board of Finance, take note. Voters, take note.

There is a false equivalence in some people's minds, between caring for and protecting all of our children with a fine education, and making it "bigger" and "more" in order to achieve that. This is an inaccurate and unfair correlation. We all want a fine local education. More administrators is not the way to achieve that.

Ann Terezakis - Marlborough

### The Big Stick

To the Editor:

The theme of the Affordable Housing forum was the need to create a more diverse population because the white majority are dying off. One presenter commented that white residents just aren't having as many kids nowadays, to which an audience member shouted "Yeah, because we can't afford them!"

An elderly woman, who is rapidly being priced out of her home asked if senior housing was planned in Marlborough; if so, would residents be able to secure a home there. "No ma'am, we can't promise anyone anything. It would all have to be in the open market, otherwise it would violate equal housing opportunity laws." The town gladly takes elderly residents' tax dollars for decades and then nudges them aside when development does come to town. The tone of the meeting was more of a lecture than a forum, with residents' concerns left unanswered it felt like an illustration of Stockholm Syndrome.

While change appeals to some, we shouldn't forget that government (federal/state/town) has brought us where we are today and that many of our problems aren't just exacerbated by government action but are actually created by the government. Is using "racial equity" as the vehicle to drive these changes and "right wrongs" appropriate?

The presentation focused on race as the de-

termining factor for zoning changes, but the issue of class is more at play...best to ignore socio-economics when you can drive the wedge down racial lines and create the division government thrives on.

The meeting ended with a warning from a Zoning alternate, urging us to bend the knee or the state would change zoning regardless. The sentiment was echoed by Mr. Hughes, who commented that the "town is going to get hit with a big stick"...proving the government is only a hammer, and considers us all nails.

Colin McNamara - Marlborough

### Stop Fertilizer Use at Lake

To the Editor:

Spring is just around the corner, and many people will continue to fertilize their lawns without regard for the consequences of runoff into Lake Pocotopaug. Data over the last three years shows spikes in the levels of phosphorus in the late springtime.

Lake Pocotopaug is recovering slowly, but that precious improvement that we all have come to appreciate will be in jeopardy as long as fertilizer is used in the watershed.

The summer of appearance of blue-green algae (BGA) in Lake Pocotopaug did not materialize in 2023. The BGA "caution" level rec-

ommended by the State is 20,000 counts per milliliter; average counts at the start of August 2023 was 892, well below the 20,000 mark, 75% lower than the same period in 2022.

The phosphorus (PH) levels declined again in 2023 and remained below the target of 20mg/liter at 17-18mg/l. Nitrogen levels off Oakwood shows a decrease from 800 ug/l (micrograms/liter) to 300 since June 2022 with a spike (up to 1400 ug/l) in spring of 2023. Markham Bay data shows a flat trend for the same period with a spike (up to 1400ug/l) in spring 2023, and a level of 350-400 ug/l in early August 2023.

There is vast improvement in water clarity from the 1.5 foot range in July 2021 to the 3.5 to 4.8 range to August of 2023. The water clarity noticeably improves after the wake-boarders, wave-runners, and deep-draft vessels have left, reducing the waves crashing on the shores, adding to the contaminants entering the lake.

We cannot afford to lose or even lessen the momentum of the lake improvements. Your individual support as a homeowner is necessary for continued success; stop using fertilizer, or at the very least cut it down by 50%. Brown-ish lawns never killed a fish or caused blue-green algae.

Regards,

Bob Yenker - East Hampton

# ENTERTAINMENT

Full Menu Served Daily  
11AM-10PM



Call Ahead for WING ORDERS To Go!

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**  
*Never A Cover 8:30PM-12:30AM*

Fri., 3/8 "Raniacs"  
Fri., 3/15 Karaoke  
Fri., 3/22 "Who Asked Lisa"

St. Patrick's Day Weekend  
Saturday 3/16 & Sunday 3/17  
Corned Beef Dinner  
Dave Sadloski on Sunday

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



**OZ N BONES**  
SOME KINDA KICK ASS BBQ AND SIDES

43 Hayward Ave.  
Colchester, CT

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

Celebrating St. Patty's Week!

**REUBEN SPECIAL ALL WEEK!**

3/14 Thursday Live Music with Matt Sperzal 5-8pm with \$5 Drafts and 25% OFF Wine

3/16 Saturday Brunch with Live Music from Martin Piggot

Dine In • Take Out • Lunch • Dinner • Catering

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

(860) 537-3355  
oznbonesbbq.com

*Gina Marie's*

Restaurant & Catering Service

Pizzas • Gluten Free Items  
Beer/Wine • Catering

— Online Ordering —  
www.ginamariesct.com

Try one of our freshly ground in-house

**Steak Burgers**




**\$200 OFF** Any Large Pizza

Offer good w/ this ad till 3/31/24. Pick-Up & Takeout Only.  
Try one of our other 10 Gourmet Pizzas



71 Main Street, Rt. 66  
Hebron, CT

**860-228-9375**

Sun 8am to 7pm; Tues to Thurs 8am to 8pm; Fri & Sat 8am to 8:30pm

The Dublin

Beef & Seafood Company



★ RATED TOP 10 RESTAURANTS! ★

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

The Dublin... Often Imitated, Never Duplicated

Area's Best Burgers & Wings!

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



**St. Patrick's Day Party Headquarters**

- Bagpipers at 2:00pm
- Irish Step Dancers at 2:30pm
- Driving Rt. 9 from 3:00 - 7:00pm
- Enjoy the very best **Corned Beef & Cabbage all day!**

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

Gift Cards Available

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

RES-8-24

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

**Call for Artists and Artisans**

The Marlborough Arts Center will hold its annual Members Art Show Sunday, May 5, from 2-4 p.m.

All media will be accepted, including paintings, photography, digital art, sculpture, pottery, woodwork, and jewelry. Artist members are invited to bring up to three pieces of artwork to the Arts Center, 231 North Main St., on Sunday, April 16, between 1 and 4 p.m., or on Monday, April 17, between 4 and 6 p.m. The entry fee is \$20 for two pieces, and an additional \$5 for a third. Membership dues must be up to date.

Judging the show for awards will be Rebecca Moran, a practicing fine artist, professional graphic designer and university professor. She is

executive creative director and owner of a small progressive design studio, Spring Hill Studio, LLC located in northeast Connecticut, halfway between Boston and New York. Moran holds an MFA in visual arts from The Art Institute of Boston, a Master of Science in art education and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in oil painting from the University of Connecticut.

The Members' Art Show will be open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m., from May 10 to June 1, including Memorial Day weekend.

More information, including a prospectus and entry forms for the artists, will soon be available at [www.marlborougharts.org](http://www.marlborougharts.org).

**Arts Center to Host Annual Student Show**

The Marlborough Arts Center will once again host the annual Student Art Show for students from Marlborough, Hebron, Gilead and Andover.

The Show is coordinated by Sue Hollister and Lin Gotta, collaborating closely with art teachers from all the schools in Regional School District No. 8. The art teachers are Denise Ketterer in Marlborough; Roseanne Modzelewski in Hebron; Susan Giammarco in Gilead; Jessica Waine in Andover; and Bev Fisher, Carrie Dinunzio, Shelly Osowiecki, Nicole Van Sicklin, and Micaela Gradie in the RHAM middle and

high schools.

The show will be open on weekends through March 17; hours are every Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free.

Marlborough Arts Center is a nonprofit regional center for the fine arts, performing arts and fine crafts. The center is located at 231 North Main St. There is free on-site parking and the building is handicapped-accessible.

For more information, visit [www.marlborougharts.org](http://www.marlborougharts.org) or, to speak with a member of the Board of Directors, leave a message at 860-467-6353.

**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. The center also serves as a warming center.

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

**Food Bank:** Located at 3 Wilhenger Drive (860-295-6008), it 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.

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

**In Case of Bad Weather:** Tune in to WFSB-TV Channel 3 or NBC Connecticut Channel 30 for news on senior center closings or late openings.

**Monday, March 11:** Free bread and bakery goods from Stop & Shop; Help & Support, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: meat lasagna with marinara sauce, chuck wagon vegetables, wheat bread, fresh fruit; Bingo, 1-3 p.m.; Setback, 3-4 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 12:** Free bread and bakery goods donation from Big Y; Help & Support, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-ball pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Tai Chi, 1-2 p.m.; Exercise with Anne, 3-4 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 13:** Not Just Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. -- All Sew Day; Help & Support, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-ball pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: boneless chicken with gravy, white rice, mixed vegetables, white bread, yogurt cup; Setback, 3-4 p.m.; Sophisticated Ladies, 5-7 p.m.; Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m.

**Thursday, March 14:** Help & Support, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Not Just Quilting, 9 a.m.; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Tai Chi, 1 p.m.; Parkinson's Disease Exercise w/ Anne, 3-4 p.m.; WPCA, 7 p.m.

**Friday, March 15:** Not Just Quilting, 9 a.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Help & Support, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: grape juice, macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, 100% whole wheat bread, brownie (no nuts); Setback, 1-4 p.m.

**St. John Fisher Church News & Notes**

St. John Fisher Roman Catholic Church is located at 30 Jones Hollow Rd. Pastor is the Rev. Alvin LeBlanc, Bill Gilles is deacon John McKaig is deacon emeritus. Heather Mancini is church secretary and can be reached at 860-295-0001; hours are Monday-Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. People are asked to call before heading over or connect via email at [stjohnfisher30@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnfisher30@yahoo.com).

**Lenten Reconciliation:** Mondays during Lent, from 5-6 p.m.

**Lenten Stations of the Cross:** Fridays beginning at 7 p.m. Most Fridays also include a simple soup supper prior to Stations, at 6 p.m.

**Weekend Masses:** 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. All are welcome. **Weekday Mass:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Mondays at 9 a.m.

**Weekly Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturdays, 3-3:30 p.m., or by appointment

**Family Faith Formation:** Led by Cindy Bryan, this is an active family faith formation program for the church's kindergarten through elementary school population. Deacon Bill Gilles

leads the middle school program. For more information, call the church office.

**Confirmation Community:** Led by Helena Thomas, this is a 9th- and 10th-grade confirmation program. For more information, call the church office.

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

**Community Outreach and Service:** Food drives are held weekly for Marlborough Food Bank. You may also bring non-perishable food or household donations directly to the Marlborough Food Bank Monday and Tuesday mornings. Sandwich-making and collection is the last Thursday of the month for St. Vincent de Paul in Middletown. Other scheduled service opportunities can be found on the church website and are scheduled monthly.

**Other Programs and Offerings:** For more information on other programs, seasonal offerings, adult faith formation, youth group, book club, OCIA, Knights of Columbus or other ministries, call the office, visit [www.stjfisherchurch.org](http://www.stjfisherchurch.org), or look for the church on Facebook (Saint John Fisher Roman Catholic Church).

**4th Friday @ the Arts Café**

The Marlborough Arts Center, located at 231 N. Main St., will present the jazz saxophonist Daniel Bennett and his Daniel Bennett Group at the 4th Friday @ the Arts Café on Friday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m.

The group is based in New York and is a part of the Greenwich Village jazz scene. The quartet features saxophone, clarinet, flute and oboe. Bennett is on the faculty at the

Bloomington School of Music and the New York Jazz Academy. He is also active on social media and even broadcasts his classes on Spotify. The group's album We Are the Orchestra is also on social media.

Admission is \$10. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the show beginning at 7:30. You are welcome to BYOW. The center is handicapped-accessible and there is on-site parking.

**Spring Watercolor Classes at Arts Center**

Local artist Mary Horrigan will offer adult watercolor classes at Marlborough Arts Center, 231 N. Main St., on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, from 10 a.m.-noon, starting March 19 and running through April 25.

Tuesdays' lessons are designed for "Basic Beginners." This class starts with the very basics: brush handling, laying a wash, making simple shapes, controlling values, mixing colors. Subject matter will include still life objects and landscape elements. Dates for this class are March 19-April 23.

Thursdays' lessons are designed for students with some fundamental experience in watercolor. This class assumes knowledge of the ba-

sics - laying a wash, controlling values, brush-handling, mixing colors. We will concentrate on composition, color theory, working from photos and still life setups. Dates for this class are March 21-April 25.

Material lists will be sent once the class is confirmed with enough students registered.

Cost for the class is \$120. Registration forms can be downloaded from [www.marlborougharts.org](http://www.marlborougharts.org), and checks can be mailed to: Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main St., Marlborough, CT 06447.

For more information, contact Horrigan at [mehorrigan@comcast.net](mailto:mehorrigan@comcast.net) or leave a voicemail message at the Arts Center at 860-467-6353.

**Parks and Rec Upcoming Programs**

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

**Trips: Boston Saint Patrick's Day Parade:** Sunday, March 17. Trip fee is \$85. Bus leaves from Putnam park and ride in Glastonbury at 7:30 a.m.

**Boston Celtics vs. Washington Wizards:** Sunday, April 14, 1 p.m., at TD Garden. Trip fee is \$190. Bus leaves from Putnam park and ride at 7 a.m.

**Boston Red Sox vs. Cleveland Guardians Patriot's Day Game:** Monday, April 15, 11 a.m., at Fenway Park. Trip fee: \$175. Bus leaves Putnam park and ride at 7 a.m.

March Youth Programs: Dance Classes: All held at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. The schedule is: Dazzling Cheer: Thursdays, March 21-May 23 (no class 4/11), 4:15-4:45 p.m., for ages 3-7. Fee: \$130. Tiny Twirlers Thursdays: Thursdays, 5:15-5:45 p.m., March 21-May 23 (no class 4/11), for ages 2-3 with caregiver. Fee: \$130. Sparkling Spinners: Thursdays, March 21-May 23 (no class 4/11), 4:45-5:15 p.m., for ages 3-4. Fee: \$130. Tiny Twirlers Saturdays: Saturdays, 9-9:30 a.m., March 23-June 8 (no class 3/30, 4/13 or 5/25), for ages 2-3 with caregiver. Fee: \$117. Funky Tumblers: Ages 4-7, Saturdays, March 23-June 8, 10:45-11:30 a.m. (no class 3/30, 4/13 or 5/25), for ages 4-7. Fee: \$162. Little Lighthearts: Fridays, March 22-June 7 (no class 3/29, 4/12 and 5/24). Ages 3-4 meet 5:15-5:45 p.m., and ages 5-7 meet 5:45-6:15 p.m. Fee: \$117.

**After School Co-Ed Dodgeball League:** Mondays, March 18-April 29 (no dodgeball April 8), 3:15-4:15 p.m., at MES, for grades 5 and 6. Fee: \$30/resident.

**After School Co-Ed Handball League:** Wednesdays, March 20-May 1 (no handball April 10), 3:15-4:15 p.m., at MES, for grades 5 and 6. Fee: \$30/resident.

**Parents Night Out:** Fridays, March 22 and

April 26, 6-9 p.m., at MSC. Drop off your kids in grades K-6. Fee: \$20 per child/resident, \$25 per child/non-resident.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Saturday, March 30, at Blish Park. Ages 2 and under are at 11 a.m., ages 3-5 are at 11:30 a.m., ages 6-8 are at 11:15 a.m., and ages 7-10 are at 11:45 a.m.

**Horseback Riding Lessons:** For ages 5 and up. Lessons are private, run for an hour, and days and times are flexible. Fee for four lessons is \$175/residents, \$180/non-residents.

**Adult Programs: Beginner & Intermediate Tai Chi:** Thursdays, 1-2 p.m., at MSC. Fee: \$40/resident, \$45/non-resident.

**Adult Intermediate Tap:** Tuesdays, 8-8:45 p.m., March 19-May 28 (no class April 9), at Dance Dynamics. Fee: \$180.

**Adult Ballet or Adult Beginner Tap:** Wednesdays, 7-7:45 p.m., March 20-May 22 (no class April 10), at Dance Dynamics. Fee: \$162.

**Dog Obedience - Polite Dog Manners:** Saturdays, April 9-May 14, 12:30-1:30 p.m., at MSC. Fee: \$120/resident, \$125/non-resident.

**Zumba:** Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at MES. Fee: \$50/resident, \$55/non-resident. Drop-in fee is \$10.

**Drop-In Volleyball:** Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., at MES. Fee: \$5 per week. Session runs until June.

**Drop-In Basketball:** Sundays, 8-10 a.m., through March 31, at MES. Fee is \$5 per week. Session runs until April.

**Marvelous Engineering Using Legos:** Mondays, April 15-May 20, 3:15-4:45 p.m., for grades K-4. Fee: \$114/resident, \$119/non-resident.

**Soccer Shots:** Saturdays, April 13-June 8 (no session May 25), at West Road Memorial upper field. Mini, for age 2, meets 3-3:35 p.m. and fee is \$102/resident, \$107/non-resident. Classic, for ages 3-5, meets 3:45-4:30 p.m., and fee is \$108/resident, \$113/non-resident.

**Spring Into Yoga:** Wednesdays, April 17-May 8, 5:15-6 p.m., at MSC, for ages 4-10. Parent/guardian required to attend. Fee: \$65/resident, \$70/non-resident. There is also a drop-in option for \$17 per week.

**Skyhawks:** Thursdays, April 18-May 23, at MES. Mini-Hawk, for ages 5-7, meets 4-5 p.m., and Multi-Sport, for ages 5:15-6:15 p.m., meets 5:15-6:15 p.m. Fee: \$89/residents, \$94/non-residents.

**Kids/Family Sewing - Pajamas:** Wednesday, April 24, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at MSC, for ages 8 and up. Fee: \$45/resident, \$50/non-resident.

**Mad Science - Energy, Forces, Flight:** Thursdays, April 25-May 30, 3:15-4:15 p.m., at MES, for grades K-6. Fee: \$128/resident, \$133/non-resident.

**Kids Fishing Derby:** Sunday, May 5, 9-11 a.m., at Blish Park, for ages 4-15. Fee: \$10. Prizes will be awarded.

**COMPLETE KITCHEN & BATH REMODELING**

We've relocated to Oak Street!

**CHRISTINO KITCHENS, LLC**  
860.430.2661  
160 Oak Street #210  
Glastonbury, CT 06033  
[www.christinokitchens.com](http://www.christinokitchens.com)  
Lic. #HIC0660016

VISIT OUR NEW SHOWROOM!

**HUGE WINTER SALE on Trailers.**

Contractors Get Ready For The Season With Our Service Specials!

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

**Burn Oil COMPANY**  
(860) 295-9046

Residential & Commercial Heating Oil  
Senior & Volume Discounts

Minimum **100** Gallons! No Pre-Buys Available

Now offering on and off road Diesel Sales. Please call for competitive pricing.

P.O. Box 32 • Marlborough H.O.D. #1087



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

### Presidential Preference Primary Coming

The presidential preference primary (PPP) is April 2. As of press time, there will be Democratic and Republican primaries.

Also, for the first time, Connecticut has early in-person voting which will be available March 26, 27, 28, and 30, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Town Hall 26 North Main St.

Important voter registration deadlines: March 15 is the last day to register by mail or use online registration; and March 25, by noon, is the last date for only unaffiliated voters to appear in person at the registrars' office to enroll in the Democratic or Republican parties.

(The deadline for registered Democrats and Republicans to switch parties has passed.)

New Marlborough voters wishing to participate in early voting must register and enroll in the Democratic or Republican parties by noon at the registrars' office the day prior to the day they want to vote early.

Absentee ballots become available Tuesday, March 12, in the town clerk's office. You must complete an application and be a registered voter in order to obtain an absentee ballot.

Call 860-295-6206 for more information.

### Oil Painting Classes at Arts Center

The Marlborough Arts Center will hold adult classes in oil painting starting in March.

Classes will run for eight weeks and are offered Mondays from 10 a.m.-noon and Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. Classes start the week of March 11, and end the week of April 29.

Holly Lavigne, an experienced artist from Glastonbury, will teach. She said the class will be a fun and practical way for beginners to learn the fundamentals of oil painting. Students will explore various techniques, tools, and materials, with a mix of demonstrations, hands-on practice and constructive feedback.

Cost for the class is \$160. Registration forms can be downloaded from [www.marlbrougharts.org](http://www.marlbrougharts.org), and a check mailed to The Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main St., Marlborough, CT 06447.

A materials list will be provided as soon as enough students are enrolled to form a class. For more information, contact Lavigne at [hollylavigneart@gmail.com](mailto:hollylavigneart@gmail.com) or leave a voicemail message at 860-467-6353.

### Kindergarten Registration

Elmer Thienes - Mary Hall Elementary School (MES) in Marlborough will accept registration packets for kindergarten students for the 2024-25 school year on two days next month.

Packets will be accepted Wednesday, March 20 (9-11 a.m., 1-2 p.m., and 5-6:30 p.m.) and Thursday, March 21 (9-11 a.m. and 1-2 p.m.). All completed kindergarten packets should be dropped off at the school's Main Office, located at 25 School Drive.

Children will need to be five years of age by Sept. 1 in order to attend kindergarten. If your child does not meet the new entry cut-off, they may still be admitted to kindergarten upon a written request from the parent or guardian

that is sent to the MES administration and an assessment completed by the school that determines admitting the child to kindergarten would be developmentally appropriate. All interested families will have their child assessed in the spring along with all the children who meet the new state guidelines of Sept. 1.

If you have an eligible child or a child you would like assessed and you have not received a registration packet, call the school office at 860-295-6220. If you receive a registration packet and do not plan to enroll your child for the 2024-25 school year, please notify the school as soon as possible.

### Congregational Church News & Notes

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

**Sunday, March 10:** The service will be led by the Rev. Valerie Server. Her sermon title is "Who's Afraid of the Dark?"

**Congregational Meeting:** Sunday, March 10, 11:15 a.m., in the sanctuary. Church members can vote to approve the purchase and installation of mini-split heat/air-conditioning units for the Community Fellowship Hall as recommended by the Board of Trustees and Church Council.

**Dorcas Women's Fellowship:** Will meet Friday, March 8, at noon with Lions Club member

Kevin McNally as guest speaker.

**Outreach:** The church collects non-perishable food items year-round for Marlborough Food Bank, with a basket located in the narthex for Sunday worshipers to bring their donations. The Drive-Thru Café for Marlborough Food Bank patrons with vouchers is usually held on the last Sunday of each month. First-quarter mission-giving will go to the Marlborough Food Bank. On March 10, the youth group will sponsor its monthly "Serve the Lord" luncheon at the Florence Lord Senior Housing.

**AA:** The church sponsors three weekly meetings: Wednesdays and Thursdays at noon in the Youth Room, and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Fellowship Hall.

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

**Second Blessings Thrift Shop,** located on the lower level, is open for spring shopping and donating on Fridays from noon-3 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The shop sells year-round through eBay at [bit.ly/MCCebay](http://bit.ly/MCCebay).

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



Marlborough Lions Dr. Jennifer Greloch, left, and Megan Lloyd each received awards at the Lions District Governors' Breakfast, which was held March 3 in Glastonbury.

### Marlborough Lions Receive Awards

Marlborough Lions president Megan Lloyd and member Dr. Jennifer Greloch received awards at the Lions District Governors' Breakfast, which was held March 3 in Glastonbury.

Lloyd received the Outstanding Marlborough Lion Award for 2023-24.

"Megan has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service within our organization," the Lions said in a press release. "Her passion for community outreach and willingness to go above and beyond expectations have significantly enriched the lives of those we serve and inspired fellow members. Through her selfless contributions and enthusiasm, Megan exemplifies the true spirit of Lionism, making her a shining example and invaluable asset to our club."

Greloch, meanwhile, was this year's Amanda Rose Freeman honoree. The Lions said Greloch "epitomizes the essence" of the award.

"Through her efforts as a comprehensive, pediatric and low vision doctor, Jennifer has touched countless lives," the Lions said. "Her contributions serve as a testament to the enduring legacy of Amanda Rose Freeman, making her a truly deserving recipient of this distinguished award." Greloch also serves the Marlborough Lions by managing their social media

platforms.

The March 3 breakfast event also featured local Lions clubs donating used eyeglasses and hearing aids, which will be sent to countries around the world. The Marlborough Lions have eyeglass/hearing aid collection boxes at Liberty Bank, Town Hall, Richmond Memorial Library, the Senior Center and at Dr. Steven Rafalowsky's office on Saner Road.

The Lions Club supports programs, which address various issues including blindness, drug abuse prevention and diabetes awareness as well as supporting many local services such as the Marlborough Food and Fuel Banks and vision screening for children in grades Pre-K to 6 at Marlborough's elementary school.

Upcoming Marlborough Lions events include the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 21, at the East Glastonbury Fish and Game Club, and the annual Memorial Day Weekend 5K Road Race on Sunday, May 26, which has a course that starts at the entrance of Blish Park and loops the lake.

For more information on the Marlborough Lions Club, or to express interest in joining, call Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or club secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116.



**MARLBOROUGH COUNTRY**  
*Bakery*  
**TAV&RN**

*St. Patrick's Day* Sunday, March 17, 2024  
 Open till 6pm

**FOOD**  
 Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner \$18.99  
 (2 Dinners for \$36.00)  
 Corned Beef Reubens \$10.99  
 Irish Soda Bread • Seeded Rye  
 Baileys Irish Cream Cheesecake • Baileys Cake  
 Beer • Wine • Cocktails  
**ALL DAY - EAT IN OR TO GO!**  
 PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Drop off your email address to receive our daily hot & cold lunch specials  
 SEE OUR EVER-CHANGING MENU ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE  
 Open Mon.-Fri. 6AM - 6PM; Sat. & Sun. 6AM - 3PM  
 8 Independence Dr., Marlborough  
**(860) 295-9251**

**Setback Tournament**  
 American Legion Post 197 will hold a setback round robin tournament Friday, March 15, at the Legion Hall, 128 East Hampton Rd. (Route 66), Marlborough. Registration is at 5:30 p.m. and games start promptly at 6 p.m.  
 Entry fee is \$10 per person. There will be prizes, raffles and chili. Contact Tracy (860-878-9672) or Sharon (860-805-6917) with any questions.



**DOUG'S BARBER & STYLING SHOP**  
 9A South Main St., Marlborough, CT  
 FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN  
**WALK IN OR MAKE AN APPOINTMENT**  
 HOURS: TWF 8:30-5:30, THU 8:30-7:30, SAT 8-3  
**860-295-9366**

**Marlborough Lawn & Tree**  
**Got Dead Trees? CALL US TODAY!**  
**Call for Tree Removal**  
 Senior Citizen Discounts  
**Stump Grinding**  
 Lawn Expansions & Landscape Rejuvenation  
 Fully Insured 30 Years Experience  
 Bucket Truck Service Available  
 Visit us at: [www.marlbroughlawnandtree.com](http://www.marlbroughlawnandtree.com)  
**860-220-3786**

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

## Lions Club Scholarship Applications

The Portland Lions Club is now accepting scholarship applications for Portland resident students enrolling in post high school certificate or degree program that serves the public in some manner.

Applications will be accepted from students of all academic levels as well as learning challenges. Portland students can obtain an application form from the Portland High

School guidance office or by emailing Portlandclionsscholarship@gmail.com.

All applications must be received by April 15 for consideration.

The Portland Lions Club meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., at the Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave. This month's meeting will be March 13. Visitors are welcome.

## Trinity Episcopal Church News

Trinity Episcopal Church, 345 Main St., holds Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday, and services are held at 9:30 a.m. All are invited. Children, ages 4 to 12, are welcome to attend Church School.

On Fridays, the church is open for prayer and meditation, and for Anglican Prayer beading, from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. All are welcome; no prior beading experience is required.

All are invited to the church's Holy Week and Easter services. The church will worship jointly with Holy Trinity in Middletown on Palm Sunday, March 24, at 9:30 a.m., and on Good Friday,

March 29, at 7 p.m. On March 28 at 6 p.m., there will be a Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner and stripping of the altar. The church's Easter Service will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m. on March 31.

For more information, the church's calendar of events, to donate, or to listen to past sermons at [www.trinitychurchportlandct.org](http://www.trinitychurchportlandct.org). If you have prayer requests, email the church office at [trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com).

To make an appointment with the Rev. Darryl Burke, email [trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com) or call 860-342-0458.

## Second-Hand Prose, Read & Recycle

The Second-Hand Prose Bookshop at Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., is open during normal library hours.

There are fiction, romance, teen, and children's used books as well as DVDs available 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.

Also, the Friends of the Portland Library's Read & Recycle program will accept donations on Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m.-noon, in the Mary Flood Room of the library. The Friends welcome donations of gently used books, puzzles, CDs, DVDs and games. No textbooks, business books, computer books, self-

help books, VHS videos or magazines, please. All donated items must be in "sellable" condition; the library will not 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](http://www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org) for more information or email questions to [friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com).

## Spring Rec Soccer Registration

Portland Soccer Club (PSC) has opened registration for the Spring 2024 Recreational Soccer Season. Deadline is Sunday, April 7. To register, visit [clubs.bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub](http://clubs.bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub).

Player fees are \$75 for all Rec divisions. Late registrations are not guaranteed and will be charged a late fee of \$30 if accepted. Refunds will be given for anyone not placed on a team. Uniforms/jerseys are provided to all divisions, and a ball will also be provided to pre-k players. The spring season will run eight weeks, beginning in late April and ending early June. All Rec activities take place at the Portland Recreational Complex.

Practice/game session start/end times are TBD, with all Saturday activities ending by 12:30 p.m. or earlier. PSC said it expects to operate Six Rec Divisions for the season as follows:

(1) Pre-K - U4 (born 2020); (2) Dribbler - U5 (born 2019) and U6 (born 2018); and (3) Kicker Divisions - U7 (born 2017), U8 (born 2016), and U9 (born 2015). Pre-K and Dribblers will be Saturday-only. Kickers will hold one-hour practice sessions on Wednesdays and have game sessions on Saturdays.

PSC is a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization. Volunteer coaches are a must, and prior coaching experience is not a requirement; PSC said it will help all coaches who volunteer.

If you have any questions about coaching, contact any of the following club officials: Chad Wilson, President, [nosliw.dahc@gmail.com](mailto:nosliw.dahc@gmail.com) or 205-999-8842; Chris Donahue, Vice President and Recreational Director, [donahuecj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donahuecj@sbcglobal.net) or 860-638-7400; Anne Whalen, Registrar, [awhalen34@yahoo.com](mailto:awhalen34@yahoo.com) or 860-690-3414.

## Town-Wide Tag Sale Plans Begin

The Portland Historical Society's 28th annual Town-Wide Tag Sale will take place Saturday, May 11 – and planning is already underway.

The Town-Wide Tag Sale is six hours of shopping at over 100 tag sales throughout Portland. Organized by the historical society, individuals, families and organizations can be included on the large free map for a fee of \$20-\$25. Your location will be clearly marked and a brief description of your items will help buyers find just what they are looking for on Tag Sale Day. Local restaurants and businesses can purchase a space on the map to advertise their offerings.

Online registration for tag sales is now open. Visit the society's website, [www.PortlandHistSoc.org](http://www.PortlandHistSoc.org) and click on the link to register your tag sale or to be a Tag Sale Map sponsor. To complete a paper registration form that can be mailed, visit the society's website., download and complete the form and mail to P.O. Box 98 with payment. Watch *Rivereast* for the opening date for availability of paper registrations at 492 Main St. in late March.

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

**Volunteers Needed:** Much help is needed in preparation for the sale. Donations will be

collected at the Callender House on Saturdays, April 13 and 20, from 9 a.m.-noon. People are needed to help carry donations from vehicles to the tents for storage. Help will be needed to sort and price donations on those days and additional days the week before the May 11 Tag Sale Day.

Volunteers are also needed to contact Tag Sale Map sponsors throughout town, from March 20 to April 15. Help will be needed after 4 p.m. Thursday, May 9, to deliver the tag sale poles to locations having sales. Volunteers will be needed to help pick up these same signs after 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 11.

Volunteers for the actual tag sale day are still needed and anyone interested in baking, working at the society's bake sale or at the museum's tag sale at 492 Main St. can contact Susan at 860-982-1486.

Also, if you're a shopper and like to take photos, let the society know if you're interested in taking photos of people shopping around town for the newsletter and future publicity.

There will be a meeting for Town-Wide Tag Sale volunteers at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 19, at the Ruth Callender House Museum of Portland History, 492 Main St. If you would like to volunteer but can't make the meeting, email to [portlandcthistory@gmail.com](mailto:portlandcthistory@gmail.com) to indicate how you can help.

## Zion Lutheran Church News

Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., offers in-person worship Sundays at 9 a.m. 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](http://zionlutheranportland.org).

Sunday School for children ages 3 to 16 meets the first and third Sunday of each month at 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study is continuing its discussion of *The Chosen* video series and meets the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 10:15 a.m.

On Wednesdays during Lent, Zion will once again participate in a Soup and Substance program together with Bethlehem Lutheran Church in East Hampton. Participants will meet

together at 6 p.m. for a simple meal and discussion, alternating between the two churches. Remaining dates are: March 13 at Zion; March 20 at Bethlehem.

Also throughout Lent, Zion will collect items on Sundays for Portland Food Bank. Items to be collected include: March 10, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, dental floss; March 17, deodorant, feminine products; March 24, shaving cream, hand lotion, and body lotion. Any items are welcome at any time.

All are welcome to all worship services and special events. For more information or if in need of pastoral assistance, call 860-342-2860, email [zion.lutheran@snet.net](mailto:zion.lutheran@snet.net), or visit [zionlutheranportland.org](http://zionlutheranportland.org). Sara Stall-Ryan is pastor.

## Portland Library News & Notes

Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., has announced the following events. Registration is required for all programs unless noted. To register and for full program descriptions, visit the calendar of events at [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://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.

**Read & Recycle:** Saturday, March 23, 10 a.m.-noon. The Friends of Portland Library group is collecting gently-used books, CDs, DVDs and puzzles for its ongoing sale.

**Spring Storytimes:** Registration is underway and, due to overwhelming demand, the library has opened a second preschool storytime session at 11:30 a.m. All other storytime sessions are waitlist only.

**Youth Programs: LGBTQ+ Social and Support Groups:** Teens are invited to social meetings 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.

**Chess with Michael Pelton:** Mondays at 3 p.m. through March 25. All ages are invited to train to compete in the Portland Chess Battle Royale on March 26. Registration is not required, but is recommended.

**Solar System Expedition:** Thursdays at 3:30 p.m., March 14 and 21. Kids in grades 3-5 are invited to learn about the sun, moon and other

planets in the Milky Way galaxy, through games, experiments and more. Attendees will also learn more about the solar eclipse that will take place on April 8. Space is limited.

**Family Craft Night: Shamrock Wall Art:** Wednesday, March 13, 6:30 p.m. Create your own customized shamrock wall art. This activity has steps that are appropriate for all ages, but a parent or guardian must be with children to help with supervision. Space is limited.

**Teen Program: Nintendo Switch Hangout:** Tuesday, March 19, 3:30-5 p.m. Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to play Nintendo Switch games. No registration required.

**Adult Programs: Seeds Wanted:** Portland Library's Seed Library is seeking seed donations for the spring and summer gardening seasons and is also looking for help to sort and repack donations for distribution. There will be volunteer work sessions from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 9. Registration is requested but not required.

**March Art Exhibit – Youth Art Month:** The visual arts instructors for Portland Public Schools present an exhibit of student drawings, paintings, prints and ceramics created by students from grade 7-12 in celebration of Youth Art Month. The exhibit runs through April 3.

**Hummingbirds, CT Audubon:** Wednesday March 13, 6 p.m. Joe Attwater returns to talk about the hummingbird. Registration requested.

**Movie:** Wednesday, March 13, 1 p.m. *Priscilla* (rated R) will be shown.

**Monthly Writers' Cafe:** Saturday, March 16, 12:30-2 p.m., in the Van Beynum Room. The first hour will be quiet, communal, writing time, with the final 30 minutes set aside to chat about your project with fellow writers.

**Composting:** Monday March 18, 6 p.m., via Zoom. A panel of experts will discuss different composting methods to enrich your spring and summer garden.

**Book Clubs: Mystery Lovers' Book Club:** Tuesday, March 19, 1 p.m. *City Under One Roof* by Iris Yamashita will be discussed. **Talk About Books:** Tuesday, April 2, 1 p.m. *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus will be discussed. **1st Thursday Night Book Club:** Thursday, April 4, 6:30 p.m. *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Mohsin Hamid.

**Medicare Basics:** Tuesday, March 26, 6 p.m. Learn all about this necessary benefit and which program is right for you. Registration requested.

**Classifieds**  
Pay  
The Glastonbury Citizen & The Rivereast News Bulletin  
Email your Classified Line Ad to [admin@glcitizen.com](mailto:admin@glcitizen.com) and call with your credit card number.  
*(We regret we cannot take ads over the phone)*

**DiMauro Oil Company, LLC**  
**Heating Oil – Diesel Fuel – Kerosene**  
**24 Hour Emergency Burner Service**  
Pre-Buy Price Protection Plans Budget Plans  
Service Contracts Senior Citizen Discount  
Automatic Delivery Volume Discount  
Prompt Delivery On-Site Diesel Delivery  
**(860) 342-2969**  
CT Reg # HOD. 596  
VISA MasterCard  
Portland

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

# Curley Proposes \$15.3M General Government Budget

By London Brazal

First Selectman Ryan Curley has proposed a \$15.3 million general government budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year – an increase of 3.89%, or about \$600,000, over current year spending.

Combined with the \$24.7 million budget the Board of Education adopted in January – a 5.08% increase over the current year – Portland's proposed mill rate for the next fiscal year is 34.30, a 3.11% increase from the current rate.

Some of the goals for the next fiscal year include completing projects such as sidewalk replacement and road construction. Others include continuing to increase economic development and the analysis of the water, sewer systems and town-owned roads. Furthermore, some priorities surround the town's energy plan on how to reduce costs and increase energy efficiency and the promotion and support of several services ranging from emergency to recreational.

Curley said he feels the spending proposal is a "fair and healthy" budget. "It was important

for me to keep the town side flat," Curley said, noting the 0% increase for the mill rate on the town government side.

Most departments in the overall budget feature only slight increases. However, there is a large increase in elections funding, due to the state's early voting mandate which adds extra in-person voting opportunities for residents. Curley said this unfunded mandate has significant staffing requirements with the elections coming up later this year. The town received a one-time state grant of \$10,500 to help offset the costs of implementing early voting but he said it ultimately will be a significant cost in the future.

For new employment initiatives, the budget includes the addition of a 13th police officer beginning in January 2025. However, the regular payroll was adjusted to reflect several retirements. With several large economic developments and more construction of the town's infrastructure, it made sense to many town officials for another officer. There was an increase

in licensing software due to the Police Accountability Act which requires specific software. The police department's budget is increasing by 5.64% and makes up about 12% of the total budget. To achieve the goal of continuing upgrades for emergency services, the total public safety budget is increasing by 4.91%, about \$120,000.

The senior center is also looking to add a part-time position that works 8 hours per week. With the position, the budget for the senior center has a proposed increase of about \$10,000, or 6.44%. There was an increase in service contracts due to additional HVAC requirements but certain costs such as electricity were lowered to help offset a larger increase.

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a five-year plan identifying items that require major repair or replacement in the town's infrastructure. Of the five years, only the first year is approved by the Board of Selectmen with the remaining years more of a "wish list." Curley said there are a lot more projects to get done but the list has a nice spread of items. "We're doing a lot so I was focused on some larger ticket items," explained Curley.

For the 2024-25, the amount identified in the CIP is about \$1.3 million. Portions of the plan

are funded through taxation, water and sewer usage fees and state grants. Some items funded through taxes include additional materials and items for the fire department, grounds maintenance, sidewalk reconstruction and HVAC upgrades. Projects also include park and field improvements, building maintenance for town buildings and masonry improvements.

Curley also mentioned various accomplishments the town has made within the last year, including the digitization of all land records since 1841, the beginning phase of the Brainerd Place development and the town receiving a half-million dollar grant for Small Town Economic Assistance (STEAP). Many projects, such as the search for a new potential water source and fixing the town's infrastructure, will continue to help Portland's future, Curley said.

A public hearing regarding the submitted budget is scheduled on Tuesday, March 12, at 7 p.m. in the Buck-Foreman Community Room, 265 Main St. Residents are encouraged to attend. The budget workshops will begin the following day and throughout March. To look at the full proposed budget, visit portlandct.org/budgets.

## Scholarship Offered by Portland Garden Clubs

Applications are now available for a \$500 scholarship offered by the Portland garden clubs.

The scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior who is a resident of Portland and has been accepted at an accredited college or post-secondary school, and plans to pursue a major in one of the following fields: agronomy, botany, city planning, conservation, environmental studies, floriculture, forestry, horticulture, land management, landscape design, plant pathology or allied subject. Applicants must have a grade point average of at least 3.0.

The scholarship is funded from the pro-

ceeds of community activities of The Portland Garden Club and The Portland River Valley Garden Club. The review committee will consider the applicant's academic record, ability to articulate career goals, and their recommendations. Financial need could be part of the decision.

Applications and letters of recommendation must be received by The Garden Clubs of Portland, Connecticut in care of the applicant's guidance or counseling department or emailed to sueanderson06480@aol.com or portlandrivervalleygc@gmail.com before April 20.

## First Congregational Church News

The First Congregational Church of Portland, located at 554 Main St., is an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. All are welcome to participate in the worship services and activities of the church. The church is handicapped accessible and also offers You Tube services for those unable to attend in person. The church office is open three mornings a week, and may be reached at 860-342-3244.

**Worship Services:** Held each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. The March 10 worship service will be led by the Intentional Interim Minister the Rev. Dr. Barry McCarthy. Communion will be offered and all are welcome to partake.

**Children's Activities:** Church School and Infant/Toddler Care are available each Sunday. School aged children begin in the worship service in the sanctuary with their families and will be brought downstairs for church school after the Children's Message. Infants/toddlers may be dropped off in Fellowship Hall before the service or at any point during the service. The Faith Formation program is under the direction of Mary Clark.

**Lenten Soup Supper and Speaker Evenings:** Wednesdays, March 13 and 20. The soup supper begins at 6 p.m., with the speaker portion to follow immediately after. The program will conclude by 8 p.m. This year, the Lenten speaker theme is a personal story of what led you to

God. The speakers for March 13 are Kelle Young and Beau Doherty.

**Adult Choir:** All are welcome to join the choir, which sings at Sunday worship services. Choir practice is held Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** The Women's Fellowship of the church sponsors a Prayer Shawl Ministry. All knitters are invited to be part of the knitting group that makes the shawls on Tuesdays at 1 p.m.

**Twelve-Step Groups:** Alanon meets at the church on Sundays at 7 p.m. Living Clean meets at the church on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

**Community Outreach and Service:** The church collects non-perishable food for Portland Food Bank and Amazing Grace Food Pantry at each Sunday's worship service. The church sponsors meals for Streetfire Ministries and St. Vincent De Paul in Middletown. The next opportunity to assist with this ministry is on March 14, when the Mission Board will sponsor a beef stew meal for Streetfire Ministries in Middletown.

**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 from September to June. Contact Amy Jahnke at 860-342-1111 or 1stchurchnurseryschool@gmail.com for more information.

## 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.; Syncosize II Dance and Fitness, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday: Bears on a Journey, 9:30-11 a.m., making fleece teddy bears for cancer patients – donations are sought of light fleece, one yard or more, for making bears (to donate, call 860-342-0809); Watercolor Class, 9:30 a.m.-noon; Coupons for Troops, 1-4 p.m.; Setback, 1 p.m.; St. Patrick's Day Party, 1-3 p.m. There will be no congregate meal served today. Wednesday: Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Trip to Lenny & Joe's for Lunch, 11:30 a.m.; AARP Tax Service: Every Wednesday until April 10,

from 9 a.m.-noon – appointments necessary by calling Sarah or Holly at 860-342-6761; Thursday: Stretch & Tone, 9:30 a.m.; Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Nutritional Program – UConn Cooking Class, 10:30 a.m.; Lunch and Learn with National Health: Warning Signs of Dementia, noon; Mahjong, 12:30 p.m.; Scrabble, 1 p.m. Friday: Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**St. Patrick's Day Celebration: Tuesday, March 12, 1 p.m.**

**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:** Meals would be delivered to the homebound Monday-Thursday. The delivery usually takes about an hour. For full details, call 860-342-6761.

## Palm Cross Sale

St. Mary Ladies Guild is conducting a Palm Cross sale. These crosses are used to adorn the gravesite of a loved one for Easter. Cost is \$13 each. Call/text Guild President Jane Klemba at 860-301-3731 to place an order. Deadline is March 17.

## Police News

3/1: Robert McLellan, 41, of 183 Rose Hill Rd., was arrested and charged with second-degree failure to appear, third-degree assault, second-degree threatening, second-degree strangulation, and disorderly conduct, Portland Police said.

## Kindergarten Registration

Valley View School is holding Kindergarten Registration for the 2024-25 school year.

Parents/guardians whose children will be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2024, should contact Valley View School at pgross@portlandct.us to indicate if you will be registering your child for kindergarten. Please provide your child's full name, date of birth, phone number and address.

Further information regarding kindergarten registration will be provided once you contact the school.

LIKE US ON Facebook



RivereastNewsBulletin



**Check out our tire prices!**

**COMPLETE TRANSMISSION SERVICE AND AUTO REPAIR**

- Domestic
- Standard
- Automatic Cars
- Light Trucks
- 4x4





**PORTLAND TRANSMISSION**  
25 SILVER STREET, PORTLAND  
860-342-4273

# Wood Pellets & Bio Bricks

## NOW IN STOCK!

Ready for Pick-Up or Delivery

**CALL TODAY!**

*East Hampton*



Route 66, East Hampton  
(860) 267-7943

OPEN: Mon-Wed 8-6;  
Thurs & Fri 8-7; Sat 8-6; Sun 9-5

*Portland Home & Hardware*

724 Portland Cobalt Rd.  
Route 66, Portland  
(860) 342-4847

OPEN: Mon-Fri 8-6;  
Sat 8-5; Sun 9-2

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



**Looking for the Easter Bunny? He'll be at the Easter Family Fair at Trinity Church on Saturday, March 16, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.!**

### Easter Family Fair

Trinity Church, located at 345 Main St., will host its Easter Family Fair Saturday, March 16, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Admission is free. A \$5 fee gets you into all the crafting tables. There will be free Dance Parties at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Face-painting will be available for \$10. Families can take their picture with the Easter Bunny (free will donation sug-

gested), and play games for free.

A variety of Easter sweets and goodies will be available for purchase at the Bake Sale table. Easter wreaths and decorations will also be for sale.

For details, search for "Trinity Church Portland \* CT" and click on Events.

### From the First Selectman's Desk...

Dear Portland Residents:

Spring is on the horizon here in Portland and I hope this letter finds you well. Below are some recent updates on various town projects, as well as some important announcements.

**FY25 Budget:** On Tuesday, March 12, I will be presenting the first selectman's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25 to the Board of Selectmen and taxpayers. There will be a Public Hearing at 7 p.m. in the Buck-Foreman Community Center, located at 265 Main St., and also live-streamed on YouTube. Superintendent Britton will be on hand to present the Board of Education's proposed budget as well. I encourage all residents and taxpayers to attend. You can view the proposed budget in the town clerk's office during regular business hours and online at [www.portlandct.org/budgets](http://www.portlandct.org/budgets). After the public hearing, the budget will then go before the Board of Selectmen for their review and possible changes.

**Economic Development:** Plans have been submitted for a proposed Nordic Spa and are now before the Planning & Zoning Commission for approval. This proposed spa would be located at 311 Brownstone Ave., currently home to Quarry View. Plans include several buildings totaling 33,000 square feet as well as a great deal of supporting infrastructure. The facility is expected to employ 70 staff members if approved. More details on this development will be coming soon.

**Water Source Project:** The town's engineers, GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc., have completed the preliminary engineering report for the proposed new public well, located north of the Recreational Complex on Gospel Lane. Their report outlines each step to implement the new water source as well as the associated costs. The Town is currently working on a wetlands and soil survey of the area as well as a well-site suitability study. The goal is to drill the proposed well that is needed later this summer should funding allow. We are currently in the process of exploring possible funding sources.

**Russell Avenue Project:** A water main replacement and road reconstruction project has begun on Russell Avenue and will run through April. During this time there may be minor disruptions to water service in the area when the service lines are connected. This project is funded through American Rescue Funds.

**Coe Avenue Pump Station:** Staging for the replacement of the Coe Avenue pump station has begun and the project will begin soon. This project will improve and maintain the pump station's critical operation of our wastewater system through these upgrades. This project is also funded through American Rescue Plan funds.

**Main Street Sidewalks:** The engineering for the Main Street sidewalk replacement project has been completed and the project is now out to bid. We anticipate this project to begin sometime this spring and will include the replacement of sidewalks from Arvid Road to approximately 510 Main Street. This project is funded through a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant.

**Portland Recreational Complex:** An automated external defibrillator (AED) has recently been installed at the Portland Recreational Complex. This lifesaving device was funded in part to a \$1,000 donation from the Kenny Fletcher Memorial Car Show and a \$1,000 donation from the Knights of Columbus. Both of these donations were made in memory of longtime Portland resident, Buddy Hernandez. A big thank you to both organizations!

**Police Department:** I am pleased to announce some exciting changes within our Portland Police Department. We recently welcomed two new officers to the department, officer's Justin Cochran and William Mudano. Officer Cochran comes to Portland from Teaneck, N.J., and Officer Mudano joins us from the City of Middletown. Both bring valuable experience and skills to our community and we are thrilled to have them on board.

Additionally, I recently had the honor of swearing in two new sergeants, Daniel Knapp and James Cappello. Their promotions come as a result of recent retirements and signify a new chapter in our department's leadership. Please join me in congratulating Sgt. Knapp and Sgt. Cappello on their well-deserved promotions.

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

Respectfully,  
Ryan Curley, Portland First Selectman

### Creative Floral Arrangements Presentation

The garden clubs of Portland will present the program "Creative Floral Arrangements" by Leah O'Hearn, co-owner and floral designer of It's So Ranunculus Flower Shoppe of Marlborough, on Wednesday, March 27, at 7 p.m., at the Waverly Center, located on 7 Waverly Ave.

O'Hearn will demonstrate her creativity and style while arranging several floral designs, which will be raffled off to several lucky attendees.

The Portland Garden Club and the Portland River Valley Garden Club are members of the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut and National Garden Clubs.

The program is open to the public and admission is free. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call Sue at 959-231-9630.



Leah O'Hearn

### Portland Exchange Offering Scholarship

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

For the scholarship, the club is looking for the student to provide the committee with a short essay describing their community service and its impact on how the community benefited.

Other secondary factors considered are good academic achievement and participation in extracurricular activities.

The application for the scholarship is available at the Portland High School Counseling Center and online at [www.portlandexchange.org/john-w-goodrich-scholarship](http://www.portlandexchange.org/john-w-goodrich-scholarship). Deadline for applications is April 15.

### Bar Association to Award Scholarships

Attorney Richard F. Paladino, Chair of the Middlesex County Bar Association Scholarship Committee, has announced that the Middlesex County Bar Association will, once again, award a total of \$3,000 in funding for two scholarships of \$1,500 each.

The association's president, attorney AnnMarie Rocco, has continued this scholarship program and the expansion of eligibility this year to include both seniors attending Middlesex County high schools and all high school seniors

residing within Middlesex County but attending schools elsewhere.

Middlesex County includes the *Rivereast towns of Portland and East Hampton*.

The award recipients will be honored at the association's Law Day luncheon on May 3.

Applications can be obtained from Paladino and any questions can be answered by contacting him at [rfpgwpsherwood@aol.com](mailto:rfpgwpsherwood@aol.com). The deadline to receive applications is April 5.

### Scholarship Applications Available

The executive board of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords is accepting applications for its annual scholarships to be awarded to students from Middlesex County graduating seniors pursuing a career in nursing or music. Applicants must have been accepted at an accredited college or university.

The Review Committee will consider academic records, extracurricular and community

service activities, the student's ability to articulate his/her career goals and the recommendations of references.

The \$1,500 scholarships will be paid directly to the recipients at the spring concert at Portland High School, Saturday, May 4, at 7 p.m. Applications are available at [vocalchords20.org](http://vocalchords20.org), or at your school guidance office. Applications must be submitted by March 15.

### 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](http://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.

**Bereavement Support Group:** The group meets every second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call Susan Bongiorno at 860-685-1966.

### Memorial Day Parade – Invitation to Participate

Portland's Memorial Day parade will take place Sunday, May 26, rain or shine – and local groups and organizations are invited to participate.

The parade will assemble at Victoria Road at 1:30 p.m. Floats or vehicles should assemble at 12:30 p.m. Step-off will be at 2 p.m.

The procession will stop for a brief ceremony at the Civil War monument on Bartlett Street, it will continue down Main Street as usual. A reviewing stand will be stationed at the Brownstone Intermediate School. The parade will then turn left on Waverly Avenue, left onto East Main Street, and right onto Fairview Street, ending at

Veterans Memorial Park.

Details about no parking and road closures for the day will be announced in the weeks ahead.

Registration forms may be picked up at 117 Main St. For more information, contact Sara Sterry Rutter, parade organizer, at 860-250-2041 or [sserryrutter@yahoo.com](mailto:sserryrutter@yahoo.com). People interested in volunteering for the Memorial Day Parade Committee should also contact Rutter.

Visit "Portland Memorial Day Parade" on Facebook, as additional information will be posted there.

### Parks and Rec. News & Notes

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

**Paint Night: Kusama Yayoi Still Life:** Wednesday, March 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Buck-Foreman Community Center. Class fee is \$25, which includes all supplies.

**Slamma-Jamma Basketball Camp (Spring Break & Summer Sessions 1-3):** Taught by Portland High School boys basketball coach David Bradbury, campers will learn the fundamentals of basketball. Camp is held Monday-Friday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the PHS gym. The Spring Break session is April 8-12. The first summer session is June 24-June 28; the second summer session is July 15-29; the third summer session is Aug. 5-9.

**Ladies' Spring Golf Clinic:** Mondays, April 22-May 20, 6-7 p.m., at Portland West Golf Course.

**Junior Golf Workshop (Grades K-8):** Saturdays, April 20-May 11, at Portland West Golf

Course. The K-2 class is from 12:30-1:30 p.m.; the grades 3-5 class is from 1:45-2:45 p.m.; and the grades 6-8 class is from 3-4 p.m.

**Kids' Blast: Morning (7-8:15 a.m.) and afternoon (3-6 p.m.)** child care is available, for students enrolled in grades K-6 in the Portland Public School system. Call Parks and Rec. for prices and more information.

**Self-Defense for Women:** Sunday, March 31, 6-8 p.m., at The Inner Circle.

**Skyhawks – Multi-Sport (Age 2-5):** Saturday mornings, April 13-May 11, at Riverfront Park. This soccer, baseball and basketball class uses age-appropriate games and activities. Parent participation required for ages 2-3.5 years.

**Connecticut Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation (CPWO):** Monday, April 1, and Wednesday, April 3, from 5-9 p.m., at Portland Library. The successful completion of this eight-hour beginner boating class will give you the knowledge and a Completion Certificate needed to obtain a boater's license/certification in Connecticut. There will also be a session Tuesday, May 21, and Wednesday, May 22, at the same times.



**Ahoy There, Mateys!...** Maureen and Geoff Rich of Portland brought the *Rivereast* on a recent cruise to the southern Caribbean on St. Thomas.

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

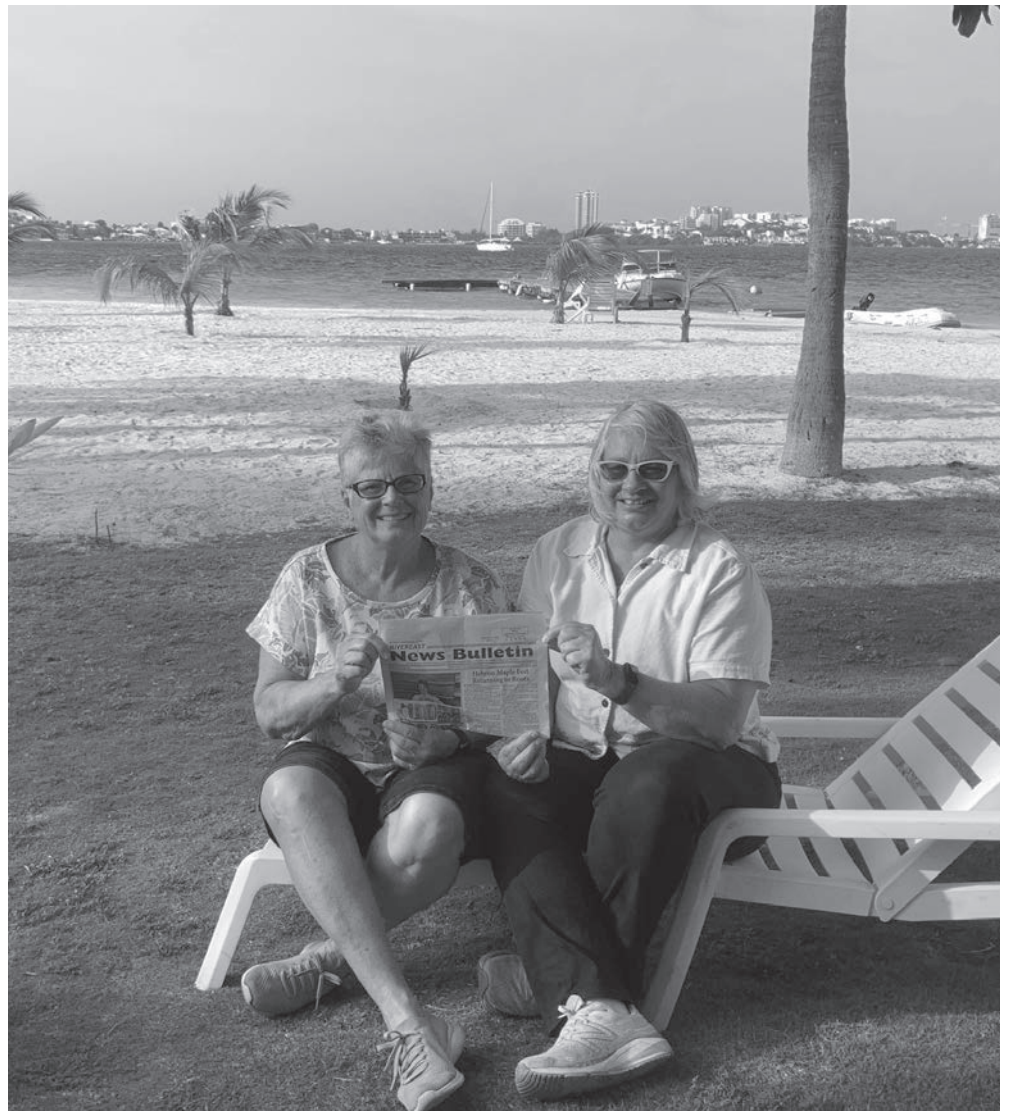
Hey! Are you taking a vacation or a day trip soon? Bring the *Rivereast* along with you, snap a picture with it, and email the photo and your address to [bulletin@glcitizen.com](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com).



**Rivereast Goes to Egypt!...** Joan Guilmette of Portland recently took a cruise on the Nile River in Egypt – and brought with her a copy of the *Rivereast*.



**Newport News...** East Hampton resident Barbara Merrifield with her daughter Annie Rojas and granddaughter Mila Rojas, both from Norwalk, recently brought the *Rivereast* on a trip to visit the mansions in Newport, R.I.



**Sittin' on the Shores of the Bay...** Pictured is Marlborough resident Jackie Mickiewicz and her sister Suzanne Barkyoub on the shore of Nettles Bay in the Caribbean island of Saint Martin.

# Where in the World?

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

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

To enter, email your photo and address to: [bulletin@glcitizen.com](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com)

**\$25 GIFT CARD**

*Campagna*  
Restaurant & Lounge

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

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton



**Spring Classes at Epoch...** Epoch Arts is offering a variety of classes this spring. Students in pre-K through 12th grade can register online to take classes like art, photography, ceramics, theater, improv and more. Classes run for eight weeks and begin March 25, and are all held at 27 Skinner St. Full class descriptions and registration are at [www.epocharts.org/classes-registration](http://www.epocharts.org/classes-registration). Pictured is Ellen Hanks from one of Epoch's winter classes.



**Scouts Meet Police...** Cub Scout Pack 57 met with Sergeant Tim DeRoehn and Officer Maciej Bankowski, from the East Hampton Police Department, at the scouts' February Pack meeting. The scouts learned about safety, the gear the police use, and their role in keeping the community safe. The scouts also presented the EHPD with a tray of cookies as a "thank you" for their dedication to East Hampton and for taking the time to meet with them. Pack 57 welcomes boys and girls in grades K-5. For more information, contact cubmaster Sara Perez at [pack57easthampton@gmail.com](mailto:pack57easthampton@gmail.com).

### High School Honor Roll

East Hampton High School has announced its Honor Roll for the second quarter of the 2023-24 school year.

#### High Honors

**Grade 9:** Lucy Alford, Rohnan Burke, Charlie Burr, Azalea Cartier, London Clark, Kota Cloutier, Olivia Correia, Madeline D'Elia, Sayla DeStasio, Lilly Engel, Michael Farrell, Owen Fielding, Daniel Fields, William Finn, Oliver Frucce, Pearl Gaston, Isla Gerrie, Kaelyn Gould, Madison Grgas-Tucilo, Aidan Kelley, Benjamin Kohler, Alexander Kowalczyk, Dolan Krasnitski, Mineth Kulatunga, Colin Ladue, Ryan Lopes, Kelsey Lynch, Madeleine Mohr, Eva Moren, Paige Ottone, Braelyn Paddock, Lillian Pinkleton, Devin-Patrick Preble, Dempsey Russell, John Salafia, Zephra Sanderson, Daniel Sullivan, Teagan Sullivan, Kaylan Sullivan, Jaylynn Turney, Empress Valencia, Taylor VanBlaricom, Aubrey Varni, Mya Viveiros, Jay Wisniewski, Sebastian Woodson, Ethan Worrall, Caitlynn Zory.

**Grade 10:** Gabriel Allis, Marian Andoh, Sofia Aresco, Beckett Asklar, Michael Bellemare, Lilah Butson, Dylan Carlson, Anastacia Cooke, Jack Cote, Madelyn Daniels, Hannah DePino, Matthew Drlik, William Faber, Andrew Fenton, Ryder Fijalkowski, Nadia France, Brielle Gay, Hailey Geoffrey, Aiden Gora, Jocelyn Gustavson, Ethan Hall, Jaxon Hanson, Ava Jedziniak, Ashley Johnson, Dean Jump, Kendall Jump, Ollie Kennedy, Abigail Kiernan, Moon Knouse, Julianna Korczak, Adriana Kromish, Jillian Leonardo, Mikah Levenduski, Bethany Limmer, James Limmer, Sophia Long, Domenic Mangino, Jacob Marchinkoski, Noah Mokrzycki, Aiden Niderno, Leah Norton, Chase Palmer, Sophie Perron, William Potter, Samantha Pugo, Angel Rodriguez, Cheyenne Rodriguez, Jackson Rurka, Declan Russell, Aubrey Stevens, Samantha Traino, Sydney Vicino, Caleb Wagner, Evan Wagner, Amelia Wiesner, Madelyn Wilk.

**Grade 11:** William Anderman, Alyssa Anderson, William Bothamley, Rachael Boudreau, Macie Brazal, Davyan Burke, Charlotte Cascio, Colton Chrin, Alicia Colegrove, Matthew Correia, Olivia D'Agostino, Olivia DeMartino, Oliver Dickson-Cotto, Cassie Dugan, Keira Engel, Gavin Fazekas, Skyler Frosti, Elliott Galovich, Kaitlyn Grenier, Parker Gustine, Danielle Healy, Kaitlyn Ireland, Allison Jacobsen, Emily Jovel, Emma Kelly, Jacqueline Laboy, Gavin Ledas, Kristoffer Lintz, Angela Lombardo, Evan LoPresti, Abbie Miller, Rylee Montalvo, Amanda Murphy, William Nafis, Theodore Nanos, William Naughton, Aiden Nolan, Jillian Oakley, James O'Brien, Baylee Olzacki, Jarod Ondas, Marley Paris, Addison Partridge, Raleigh Paulauskas, Sydney Pettine, Liana Salamone, Jadin Sawyer, Sierra Selger, Zachary Selger, Neha Sidana, Keenan Spooner, Aiden Sullivan, Zachary Tassmer, Austin Taylor, Sonja Venetianer, Gabriella Wiesner, Samantha Yorker.

**Grade 12:** Jayson Beal, Austin Bigelow, Riley Briggs, Erik Brody, Robert Buccheri, Nicole Carl, Brian Collisson, Audrey Cooke, Abigail Daley, Matthew Dickinson, Maya Dobson, Ethan Fields, Riley Flatley, Cameron Fraser, Teagan Frost, Madison Gay, Adriana Gonzalez, Rileigh Govoni, Ryan Govoni, Lyndsey Gravel, Michaela Healy, Sam Heilman, Amarylla Ingala, Jason Johnson, Lauren Johnson, Samantha Kearney, Ella Khongkham, Tyler Khongkham, Leah Kohler, Maya Korczak, Brayden Kramer, Nathaniel Laird, Christian Lanou, Sierra LaRose, Hailey Ledas, Daniel Lopes, McKenzie Magge, Aidan Maiorino, Maya Marino, Benjamin Maynard, Tyler Millett, Charlotte Minnick,

Anthony Miro, Amber Murphy, Kylie O'Brien, Erica O'Connor, Aiden Palen, Artur Piech, Ophelia Pugliese, Holly Pugo, Luisa Rojas, Delaney Russell, Jacquelyn Russell, Katherine Searles, Jaden Sinsigalli, Aiden Sones, Camry Sprague, Sonoma Steiner, Delaney Sullivan, Cadence Thibodeau, Emily Tinson, Kali Trapp, Louis Uliano, Hailey VanBlaricom, Andrew Wagner, John Wilson, Alexander Zimmerman.

#### Honors

**Grade 9:** Hailey Adams, Marlee Alston, Raymond Basley IV, Ray Beauparlant, Hunter Cashin, Andrew Christensen, Arielle Clark, Macie Coleman, Miles Coleman, Luke Garcia, Shea Gaughran, Savannah Groeper, Avery Leitch, Madison McMillian, Emma Meleo, Bryson Milton, Colin Neary, Kenji Nichols, Liam O'Connor, Bryn Parmelee, Skye Peck, Vanessa Perdion, Gabriela Proxee, Danielle Riley, Alexandre Rodrigues, Robert Rodrigues, Aubrey Root, Logan Supinski, Adelle Sylvester, Nathan Tiano, Abigail Trinks, Julia Uliszewska, Valeriia Volchynska, Samantha Werme, Josie Wilson, Jaxon Wilson, Maria Zabroski.

**Grade 10:** Ava Archer, Lila Babcock, Ayomide Bamgbose, Francis Barry, Jackson Benson, Nicolas Borrelli, Alexis Cardenas, Richard Carl, Klara Cygan, Izzy Dickinson, Javier Garcia-Villa, Madeline Griswold, Sofia Johnson, Logan Johnston, Jake Morrone, Mackenzie Mortimer, Grace Pekar, Nevaeh Ranney, Jaelynn Ray, John Riley, Brooke Ryan, Landon Searles, Lucy Shogren, Katrina Smith, Sophia Snyder, Griffin Valley, Damon VanBlaricom, Jacob Woods, Marley Zinkerman.

**Grade 11:** Katherine Banack, Micah Buckley, Natalia Calvo, Sophia Calvo, RubyGrace Casey, Lauren Correa, Ashley Cost, Lily Cronin, Jonathan Crowley, Austin Cuthbertson, GabrielCygagan, Jace Donahue, Claire Fentress, Addison Fraser, Emma Giovannelli, McKayla Greenwood, Madsion Hall, Alison Heb, Kathryn Johnson, Sean Jones, Blake Kapernaros, Colin Kosek, Jacob LaPolt, Brady Lynch, Faith Machnik, Marissa Martin, Maximilian Mozerowski, Skylar Parker, Avery Parmelee, Tess Parmelee, Siena Paul, Julia Rau, Ayden Raymond, Kiersten Roland, Lydia Roloff, Christopher Ruggiero, Juliana Sinsigalli, Aidan Trombino, Landon Vail-lancourt.

**Grade 12:** Enja Barry, Andrea Berg, Sophie Billings, Ethan Blakey, Emma Braga, Izabella Buccheri, Aubrey Dallaire, Madelyn DeLauro, Benjamin Donahue, Thomas Fenton, Mason Flood, Lucas Gagne, David Johnson, Glenn Judkins, Jacob Karrenberg, Mimi Lira-McGuire, Madison Lockhart, Riley Lombardo, Logan Markward, Ethan Marshall, Arianna McCann, Gabriel McMillian, Evan Michaud, Sadie Michaud, Valentina Morales, Julia Morrell, Jayson O'Neill, Finn Piper, Baden Plante, Mackenzie Player, Shane Proxee, Hailey Pyrek, Liam Quast, Jakub Remiszewski, Madison Reola, Valerie Rolland, River Schiavoni, Coleman Sharpe, Alyssa Snyder, Nathan Torres, Zachary Trinks, Makayla Wolf.

### Gelding Clinic

The Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue is hosting the 12th annual Gelding Clinic on Saturday, April 20 (rain date: Sunday, April 21), from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., to help economically challenged horse owners castrate their colts/stallions.

Veterinary students from Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, under the direct supervision of both Tufts and local veterinarians, have all volunteered their time to perform the gelding. Cost is \$125 per horse/mule/donkey and covers all necessary aspects of the procedure, in-

cluding anesthesia administration by trained professionals, the surgery itself, pain medication for comfort, and a penicillin injection to prevent infection.

Note: the clinic will take place at the CDHR (113 Chestnut Hill Rd.), so the rescue will be closed to the public on that day.

Pre-registration and pre-payment are required. Registration deadline is April 8. To find out more and to register, visit [www.ct-draftrescue.org/geldingclinic2024](http://www.ct-draftrescue.org/geldingclinic2024). Questions can be sent to [ctdraftrescue@aol.com](mailto:ctdraftrescue@aol.com).

### Dean's List

East Hampton residents Joshua Berg, Madeline Crumb, Thomas Morton and Elijah Ripper made the fall 2023 Dean's List at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I.

### Dean's List

East Hampton residents David D'Antonio, Alexis Harris, Dylan Levesque and Iseabal Turner made the fall 2023 Dean's List at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford.

### Dean's List

Mya Field of East Hampton, a sophomore majoring in marketing, made the fall 2023 Dean's List at the University of Tampa in Tampa, Fla.

### Dean's List

East Hampton residents Jordan Murphy, Josh Rudder and Reilly Keegan made the fall 2023 Dean's List at the University of Hartford.

East Hampton residents Dylan Levesque and Iseabal Turner made the fall 2023 Dean's List at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford.

### Enrolled at Eastern

East Hampton residents Jimmy Mirabito, Logan Lefebvre and Jasmine Young are among the students newly enrolled at Eastern Connecticut State University this spring 2024 semester.

Mirabito is a graduate student majoring in accounting, Lefebvre is a junior majoring in accounting, and Young is a sophomore majoring in criminology.

Be prepared, not scared.

Considering the number of disasters that have occurred in the past decade, chances are you'll experience some sort of emergency. Between school, sports and other activities, chances are you won't be with your kids when it happens.

Ready.gov/kids has the tools to make preparing easy and even fun, so your kids can feel...

Prepared, not scared.

Go to [www.Ready.gov/kids](http://www.Ready.gov/kids) and talk to your family today.



### ADVERTISERS

The Glastonbury Citizen and RiverEast News Bulletin will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. The Citizen will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. The Citizen cannot guarantee specific placement.

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton

# New Invasive Species Found in Lake Pocotopaug

By London Brazal

A representative of GZA, a geotechnical and environmental company, recently reported the presence of an aquatic plant in Lake Pocotopaug. Ben Burpee, who represents GZA, delivered a presentation to the members of the Conservation-Lake Commission in February regarding the presence of hydrilla in the lake.

Hydrilla, also known as “water thyme,” is considered one of the world’s most invasive aquatic plants, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Its impact includes crowding out native species and impending irrigation and boating. The exact acreage of hydrilla in the lake remains unknown.

Working alongside the Conservation Lake Commission, Recreation Director Shawn Mullen submitted an application to the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for funding from its grant programs aimed at controlling aquatic invasive species. It was determined that hydrilla is susceptible to herbicide treatment. The grant application seeks support for a lake-wide herbicidal treatment to tackle the growth of the invasive species. The type of hydrilla discovered in Lake Pocotopaug matches that currently affecting the Connecticut River. The estimated cost for the lake-wide herbicide treatment is about \$135,000, and the

grant, if received, would cover \$75,000 of that amount.

The lake level has begun to decrease, and recent rainstorms have not aided in maintaining the water level. It was suggested that a comprehensive lake treatment would be most effective in addressing the hydrilla issue, especially if herbicide treatment is employed. John Tucci of Everblu Lakes plans to research more treatments and suggested having it on the meeting agenda scheduled for next Thursday, March 14.

\*\*\*

The town is currently in the process of concluding a variety of projects funded under the federal Section 319 grant program. Mullen has requested an extension from the state DEEP to ensure that all aspects of the projects are finalized. Tasks such as installing signage, completing closeout procedures and submitting final reports are necessary to complete the projects. Additionally, the town has applied for AIS funding to address the issue of hydrilla in the lake.

The projects under the Section 319 grant include locations at Sears Park, Wangonk South, Wangonk North Beach, Sears Pl., Seven Hills, Sky Line Estates, Mott Hill, Clark Hill, Hawthorne Ave., Bay Rd., Christopher Brook, a brook at Edgemere Water Supply System, a

pond at Town Hall and an excavated pond at Paul and Sandy’s Too. The details of each project are listed on the Conservation-Lake Commission’s page at [easthamptonct.gov](http://easthamptonct.gov).

For the commission’s budget, the tech services line item has been increased to 50% to cover the new limnologist. Last year it was \$35,000 but was raised to \$55,000 since there is a large bill for GZA coming up for the work they performed.

During the meeting, commission member Marty Podskoch presented multiple signs aimed at educating members on how to properly wash a boat before launching it into the water. These signs were intended for posting at Sears Park for residents’ reference. Additionally, the members reviewed information regarding a CD3 boat washing station, with some models being solar-powered and capable of washing, drying and disposing of contaminants on boats. It was proposed to establish a sub-committee or ad-hoc group to further discuss the washing systems. The signs aim to educate town residents and discourage the frequent movement of boats between the lake and the Connecticut River.

In other news, the final design for the Wopowog culvert is nearly finished. The Army Corps of Engineers accepted the town’s self-verifica-

tion form regarding their regulations, allowing the project to proceed as outlined. A detailed application for the Inland Wetlands and Waterways Agency was submitted at its last meeting in February, and final approval is expected at the March 27 meeting. The consulting engineer prepared the bid package set to be released in late February with a short return time. Bids will be reviewed in mid-March and presented to the Town Council for approval on March 26. The contractor is expected to receive notice to proceed on April 1, with construction estimated to take 60 days, concluding around May 31.

Communities in the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (River COG) have long collaborated on a household hazardous waste collection program. The RiverCOG, including Town Manager David Cox, is updating the agreement governing the program. Once approved by RiverCOG, the Town Council will confirm participation and agreement approval. The annual program consists of seven collections across RiverCOG communities, including one at East Hampton Water Pollution Control Facility on Gildersleeve Drive on May 11. Additionally, four paper shredding events are scheduled, including one at the town’s Water Pollution Control Facility on May 4.

## Retired State Historian to Discuss Book

On Saturday, March 16, author Walter W. Woodward will give a talk on his recent book, *Creating Connecticut: Critical Moments that Shaped a Great State*, at 11 a.m. at the East Hampton Library Community Room, located at 105 Main St.

Woodward, who served as Connecticut State Historian from 2004 until his retirement in 2022, is a scholar of early American and Atlantic world history, with an emphasis on Connecticut

and New England. His research interests cover a variety of subjects, including witchcraft, alchemy and the history of science, the use of music in early America, and environmental history.

You can register in person at East Hampton Public Library, by phone at 860-267-6621, or online at [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org). For more information, contact Chatham Historical Society member Marty Podskoch at 860-267-2442 or [podskoch@comcast.net](mailto:podskoch@comcast.net).

## Dinner and a Show

Epoch Arts will hold its annual Dinnershow Saturday March 16, at 6 p.m., at Epoch, 27 Skinner St.

This is a fundraiser for the Mainstage Theater Production that’s coming in May. At Dinnershow, the cast of the production will serve a full-course pasta dinner, and then perform in a variety of skits, musical numbers and the

famous Wackadoodles. Skits will randomly be called out and the cast will scramble to put their costumes on and perform on the spot.

Cost is \$12. To reserve seats, or if you would like to sponsor a skit for \$25 or a wackadoodle for \$10, email [elizabeth@epocharts.org](mailto:elizabeth@epocharts.org). For more information, visit [www.epocharts.org](http://www.epocharts.org).

## 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](http://www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com) for directions. The Holy Eucharist is celebrated with the Rev. Diana Rogers.

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

Sunday School: Sunday School classes are in session.

Lenten Fundraising Drive: All parishioners are asked to donate to the Mission Team’s annual Lenten fundraising effort for St. Vincent’s School for Handicapped Children in Haiti. Conditions for all are very difficult there, and

the children of the school are particularly in need of all kinds of medical supplies. Save your change during Lent, or write a check with Missions in the memo line.

Easter Bake Sale: All are asked to participate by donating baked good, jams, and jellies for the March 30 Bake Sale in the Parish Hall.

Lenten Series: End of Life Planning as Spiritual Practice: This series is hosted on Zoom each Saturday during Lent from 9:30-10:45 a.m. Christ Church and St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in East Haddam will combine for this activity. Those interested should contact Rogers at [revdianamrogers@gmail.com](mailto:revdianamrogers@gmail.com) to register.

For more information or if in need of assistance, contact Donna Hyrb, senior warden, at 860-633-0472 or [donnadubehyrb@gmail.com](mailto:donnadubehyrb@gmail.com).

## 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.

Community Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, March 23, promptly at 1 p.m. Hundreds of candy-filled eggs will be hidden outside the church. All are also invited to take some photos with the Easter Bunny.

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 the worship service. The theme is “Friends with God” and is taught through Bible stories where the characters are friends with God. A toddler nursery is also available. All are welcome.

Vocal Choir: Choir rehearsals are held Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. New members are welcome.

Adult Bible Study: Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Music Room. The study is on “Fruits of the Spirit.”

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

## Middle Haddam Public Library News

Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles Rd., Middle Haddam, has announced the following. To register or for more information on any program, email [middlehaddamlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:middlehaddamlibrary@gmail.com), visit [middlehaddamlibrary.com](http://middlehaddamlibrary.com) or call 860-267-9093. Mailing address: P.O. Box 123, Middle Haddam, CT 06456.

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

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

Yoga: With Erin Day of Ten Summit Yoga. Mondays at 9 a.m., Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Saturdays at 9 a.m. Cost is a \$15 drop-in fee. Register at [tensummitst@gmail.com](mailto:tensummitst@gmail.com).

Yoga for Kids: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. For children who are crawling, up to age 5. Cost is \$12 for each child/parent/caregiver pair. To register

call or text the instructor Kathleen at 860-638-9097 or email [kmarshall0227@yahoo.com](mailto:kmarshall0227@yahoo.com)

Thursday Night Pilates: Thursdays at 6 p.m. Drop-in fee is \$12. To register, call 203-592-4448 or email [abstite@sbcglobal.net](mailto:abstite@sbcglobal.net).

CommuniTea: Saturday, March 9, 10 a.m. All are invited for tea, coffee and conversation.

Fly Fishing with Rowan Lytle – Fly-Tying Discussion and Presentation: Thursday, March 14, at 7 p.m. Lytle will offer a fly-tying discussion and presentation. Bring your own materials.

Save the Date: A talk on Shipbuilding and Trade on the Connecticut River, including Middle Haddam, will be held Saturday, March 23, at 2 p.m., featuring Barbara Milfkosky, former executive director of the Connecticut River Museum in Essex. The program is free and open to the public.

## Kindergarten Registration

Memorial Elementary School in East Hampton is accepting applications for all children eligible to enter kindergarten in September.

Any child who is five years old on or before Sept. 1, 2024, is eligible to register for Memorial’s kindergarten program. If your child will not be 5 by this date but will be 5 by Jan. 1, 2025, and you would like them to attend kindergarten in the 2024-25 school year, you must submit a request for early entry.

Registration packets are available in the Memorial School lobby, at East Hampton Public Library, and at [www.easthamptonps.org](http://www.easthamptonps.org). Completed registration forms are due to the Memorial School office by Thursday, March 28, along with a full-size copy of the child’s birth certificate and proof of residency in East Hampton.

In addition, a current health assessment form must be on file with the school nurse’s office by

## Dean’s List

East Hampton residents Nathan Bigelow and Annin Daley made the fall 2023 Dean’s List at Vermont State University in Randolph Center, Vt.

## Dean’s List

Alexander Sones of East Hampton, a civil engineering major and member of the Class of 2026 at York College of Pennsylvania, made the college’s fall 2023 Dean’s List.

## Senior Center News & Notes

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

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

**Weekly Activities:** **Quilting Group:** Mondays, 9 a.m.; **Setback:** Mondays and Thursdays, 1-3 p.m.; **Bible Study:** Tuesdays, 1 p.m.; **Mexican Train Dominoes:** Tuesdays, 1 p.m.; **Bingo:** Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m., in person and via Zoom; **Cross-Stitch & Embroidery with Shannon:** Tuesdays, 2 p.m. -- Bring projects to share and work on together; **Yoga with Kitch:** Wednesdays at 1 p.m. -- next session runs March 6-May 15, and cost is \$20; **Tai Chi:** Thursdays, 10:30-11 a.m. -- next session runs March 7-May 9; **Tap Dance:** Thursdays, 11:15 a.m. **Cribbage:** Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m. -- let the center know in advance if you plan to attend; **Mahjong:** Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon -- call also to put your name on a list if interested in learning how to play; **Textile Group:** Fridays, 1 p.m.

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

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

**Wonderfully Wicked Women’s Group (WWW):** Meets the first and third Mondays of each month, at 10 a.m. This is an opportunity to

meet others and share resources.

**Mighty Magnificent Men’s Group (MMM):** Meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 10:30 a.m. This is an opportunity to meet others and share resources.

**Aging Gracefully at Home:** Tuesday, March 12, 10 a.m. All are invited; call the senior center for more information.

**Meditation and Reflection Session:** Wednesday, March 13, 10:45 a.m.

**Design and Create a Memory Box:** Thursday, March 14, 1 p.m. Using various objects, design and create a memory box to hold your keepsakes or give to a friend.

**Family Tree:** Friday, March 15, 10:30 a.m. Learn about your family history and genealogy with group leader Kenneth Doney. Bring your laptop, iPad or cellphone.

**Scrabble:** Friday, March 15, 1 p.m.

**Line Dancing by Video:** Tuesday, March 19, 10 a.m.

**Calling All Senior Center Volunteers:** Save the date for a Special Volunteer Appreciation Celebration on Wednesday, April 10, from 1-3 p.m. All volunteers from the community are welcome to attend.

**Trip: Shopping and Lunch in Old Saybrook:** Wednesday, April 17, 11 a.m. Head to the Estuary Thrift Shop and have lunch on your own at The Little Pub. Cost is a \$4 donation for transportation.

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

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton

# Senior Center Director Retiring After 24 Years of Service

By London Brazal

After 24 years at the East Hampton Senior Center, Director JoAnn Ewing is retiring this month. She recently sat down with the *Rivereast* reflected on the many changes she's seen over the years.

Back around the year 2000, a neighbor of Ewing, who was the food service manager at the center, encouraged her to apply, as there was a position open. The hiring process took a long time but ultimately Ewing got the job, and started a long journey of helping the older population in town.

For the 20 years prior, she worked with people with disabilities – and she said the two positions blended nicely.

"The abilities may be different but both populations face the same issues, transportation, housing, insurance, socialization..." described Ewing. With a bachelor's in recreation, the transition to the senior center put her degree to good use.

While reflecting on the changes from the beginning of her time with the center to now, Ewing said the biggest difference is the number of people in attendance to the vast programs and resources the center has to offer. With that, she explained that there has been an increase in the older adult population. Ewing also mentioned that more people started to seek out services and became aware of what initiatives were provided. Across the board, she saw growth in the programs and how people are more comfort-

able with the instructors and have made new friendships along the way.

Among accomplishments at the senior center, Ewing was awarded the East Hampton Village Lions Citizen of the Year in 2010 for her contributions to older adults. Lots of residents put her name in the running including one woman who called Ewing when her electric chair failed on Main Street. "We put her chair in neutral and I pushed her to the senior center," Ewing recalled.

Over the years, Ewing helped provide a diverse program for residents to enjoy including a wide variety of exercise classes that draw in different people. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she and her staff had a list of about 600 residents and called each person on an ongoing basis to check-in. Many of those people were happy to have someone who cared and asked how they were doing. As restrictions lifted, Ewing and her team worked to help make the center a safe place to gather and continued to upgrade their programs.

One of the challenges Ewing faced in her role was the lack of staffing. The programs and attendance continued to grow but there has not been an availability in the budget to reflect that. In the last five years, she started to ask formally for another member to join the center's team. "More staffing provides continuity so we can give a nice blend of services, social and recreational," Ewing said.

Another issue she has worked on was transportation, as the center only has one part-time

driver with one aging vehicle. "In order for the program to grow, we need a backup to help in case the part-timer can't come in."

Following Ewing's retirement, the senior center will have an interim director in place, until a new hire is made. Ewing said she hopes that the new director will take care of people and keep developing so the various needs can be addressed moving forward.

As for Ewing's future, she said she plans to take a vacation after her official last day later this month. She is excited to focus on home renovations and visiting friends out west – which are items she had placed on the backburner.

Ewing said she also plans to volunteer with CHOICES – Connecticut's state health insurance assistance program. As the senior center director, she did the training but didn't have the time to support as often as she wished, Ewing said. "The program helps save people almost \$1,000, since we check benefits and what their insurance covers," she said.

Ewing said she is grateful for the support from the town and the Commission of Aging. She said the commission's support has grown exponentially. Ewing also commended the leadership in town who has been invested in the senior center and making sure the older adults of East Hampton are treated respectfully and heard.

An open house retirement party for Ewing will be held from noon to 4 p.m. tomorrow, Sat-



JoAnn Ewing

urday, March 9, in the cafeteria at East Hampton High School, 15 North Maple St. All are invited to come share memories and celebrate the service of Ewing. There will be entertainment, food and beverages donated by local businesses and restaurants. Testimonials for Ewing will begin at 1 p.m.

## Longtime Dentist Retires

Local dentist Dr. Stewart Danziger, owner of Belltown Dental at 190 East High St., is announcing his retirement from dentistry and the purchase of Belltown Dental by Dr. Dikshant Kathuria of Chatham Dental.

Danziger said he has genuinely enjoyed his multiple decades of practicing dentistry in East Hampton, starting back in the old IGA plaza days with neighbors Thatcher's, Suburban Stationers, Palmers Eye Care and Diamond Pizza.

Danziger and his neighbors from the IGA Plaza re-established new locations for their businesses when the modern grocery store came to town. Rebuilding and relocating were not what he had envisioned, as Danziger had chosen and preferred a small and close-knit practice, but

there was a dental office with patients that needed a new home. He was lucky and happy to find a rough on the outside but beautiful and sturdy on the inside building at 190 East High St. that had been known as the Comstock building and had recently been a daycare run by the Wallace family.

Danziger with his family, friends, a prominent dental office designer from Long Island and a close cousin who was a fine home builder in the Newtown area were able to build a dream dental office inside and out. Belltown Dental continued at 190 East High St. for many years.

Kathuria began practicing at the Belltown location last month. The merging of the two offices is effective immediately.

## Middle Haddam Public Library News

Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles Rd., Middle Haddam, has announced the following. To register or for more information on any program, email [middlehaddamlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:middlehaddamlibrary@gmail.com), visit [middlehaddamlibrary.com](http://middlehaddamlibrary.com) or call 860-267-9093. Mailing address: P.O. Box 123, Middle Haddam, CT 06456.

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

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

Yoga: With Erin Day of Ten Summit Yoga. Mondays at 9 a.m., Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Saturdays at 9 a.m. Cost is a \$15 drop-in fee. Register at [tensummitst@gmail.com](mailto:tensummitst@gmail.com).

Yoga for Kids: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. For children who are crawling, up to age 5. Cost is \$12 for each child/parent/caregiver pair. To register call or text the instructor Kathleen at 860-638-

9091 or email [kmarshall0227@yahoo.com](mailto:kmarshall0227@yahoo.com)

Pilates: A second session of Thursday Night Pilates began Feb. 29 at 6 p.m. Pay \$12 to drop in. To register, call 203-592-4448 or email [abstite@sbcglobal.net](mailto:abstite@sbcglobal.net).

Fly Fishing with Rowan Lytle – Fly-Tying Discussion and Presentation: Thursday, March 14, at 7 p.m. Lytle will offer a fly-tying discussion and presentation. Bring your own materials.

Save the Date: An illustrated talk on "Ships for the Trade & the Rise of the Customs Port" will be held at the library Saturday, March 23, at 2 p.m., featuring a discussion on shipbuilding and trade on the Connecticut River – including Middle Haddam. The talk is presented by Brenda Milkofsky, former founding director and senior curator at the Connecticut River Museum in Essex and former executive director at the Wethersfield Historical Society. The program is free and open to the public.

## Bar Association to Award Scholarships

Attorney Richard F. Paladino, Chair of the Middlesex County Bar Association Scholarship Committee, has announced that the Middlesex County Bar Association will, once again, award a total of \$3,000 in funding for two scholarships of \$1,500 each.

The association's president, attorney AnnMarie Rocco, has continued this scholarship program and the expansion of eligibility this year to include both seniors attending Middlesex

County high schools and all high school seniors residing within Middlesex County but attending schools elsewhere.

Middlesex County includes the *Rivereast* towns of *Portland and East Hampton*.

The award recipients will be honored at the association's Law Day luncheon on May 3.

Applications can be obtained from Paladino and any questions can be answered by contacting him at [rfgwpsherwood@aol.com](mailto:rfgwpsherwood@aol.com). The deadline to receive applications is April 5.

## Knights of Columbus State Raffle

The St. John Paul II Council 6190, Knights of Columbus is again offering Connecticut State Council raffle tickets.

There are 10 prizes to be awarded. First prize is \$5,000; second is \$3,500; third is \$2,000; fourth is \$1,500; fifth is \$1,000; sixth is \$600; seventh is \$500; eighth is \$400; ninth is \$300 and tenth is \$200.

The drawing will be held Saturday, April 20, at 9 p.m., at the Hartford Marriott Downtown, 200 Columbus Blvd., Hartford. Ticket holders need not be present to win.

Tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased through any of the Knights of Columbus members or by calling Bob DeMarchi at 860-267-5978.

## 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](http://cc-eh.org).

Church school classes meet every Sunday. The Yarners meet every Thursday from 10:30 a.m.-noon in the Fellowship Hall. All knitters and crocheters are welcome.

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

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

## Dean's List

Madison Phillips of East Hampton made the fall 2023 Dean's List at Emmanuel College in Boston.





## EAST HAMPTON FAMILY DENTAL

**Family Friendly Dentist for Adults & Kids**  
**Gentle, Convenient & Affordable**



Meet Our Dentist:  
Dr. Vijaya Canakala

- Personalized Dental Care
- Implants, Porcelain Crowns & Bridges, White Fillings
- Cosmetic Dentistry, Teeth Whitening, Extractions, Dentures
- Modern Technology (Digital X-rays, Intraoral Cameras)
- Preventive & Conservative Treatment
- Open Evenings for Convenience
- Emergency Same Day Appointments
- Flexible Payment Options

**WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!**  
Schedule your appointment at: **860-267-9904**

41 West High Street, East Hampton, CT 06424  
[www.EastHamptonFamilyDental.com](http://www.EastHamptonFamilyDental.com)

# STARR AUTO

INC.

## Collision & Auto Body Repair

*3 Generations of Service in East Hampton*

We work directly with your insurance company.  
Call owner Victor Biondi for a free estimate or more info.

**860-267-4225 OR 860-808-9191**

2 Starr Place, East Hampton, CT



## BROTHERS OIL COMPANY

860-289-9468 • 860-289-6292

Automatic Delivery for less than COD  
24 Hour Emergency Repair Service  
Same Day Oil Delivery Available

**WE ACCEPT ENERGY ASSISTANCE**

[www.BrothersOil.com](http://www.BrothersOil.com)

HOD 114 • S7-308374

WHEN THE HEAT'S ON US... WE DELIVER!



East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton

### EHHS Music Cabaret

The East Hampton High School Music Cabaret will take place Wednesday, March 27, in the EHHS cafeteria, 15 N. Maple St. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the performance begins at 6:30 p.m. The night will include a pasta dinner, student musical performances and raffle prizes. Tickets are \$10 for students and senior citizens and \$16 for adults. To purchase, go to [www.easthamptonps.org](http://www.easthamptonps.org), click on "Optional Online Payments," then click on "Pay for HS-

Music-Cabaret." You can check out as a guest, login to your account, or create an account. Be sure to clearly specify your name and number of tickets to ensure a smooth check-in at the event. You will receive an email confirmation of your purchase to present at the door. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the door. All proceeds benefit the EHHS Music Department.

### Fabric, Yarn Donations Sought

Haddam Neck Congregational Church is accepting donations of fabric and yarn for the upcoming Bits & Pieces sale planned during the church's annual Quilt Show coming up in April. For information on drop-off or pick-up of items, contact Darci at 860-301-4994 or Melissa at 860-993-5311 or [mapionzio@comcast.net](mailto:mapionzio@comcast.net). The church's annual Quilt Show and Bits & Pieces sale on Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, April 14, from noon-5 p.m.

The event features dozens of handcrafted vintage and new quilts, a tea room where beverages, soups and pie can be purchased, and the Bits & Pieces sale of fabric, yarn and notions. Admission to the event is \$8. To submit quilts for the show, contact Dianne McHutchison at [diannemchutchison@icloud.com](mailto:diannemchutchison@icloud.com), Lisa Malloy at [elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com) or Melissa Pionzio at [mapionzio@comcast.net](mailto:mapionzio@comcast.net) or 860-993-5311.

### EHACC Taking Grant Applications

The East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission (EHACC) welcomes grant applications from East Hampton organizations and individuals with programs and/or projects that enrich the lives of East Hampton residents through the arts.

or project and its likelihood of continuing viability or success. The organization's or project's accessibility and service to the East Hampton community. Grant recipients must credit the East Hampton Arts and Culture Commission on all press releases, posters, print advertising and programs.

One of two \$500 grants are available to be awarded to individuals or organizations residing in East Hampton. The commission reserves the right to award a grant to an individual or organization it determines will have the most potential impact of arts and/or culture on the town. Incomplete forms will be denied; applicants can resubmit.

Evaluation: An interview may be requested of the candidate prior to awarding the grant. An update of your progress will be required six months post-award date and a final report will be required one year post award date.

Criteria for awarding grants: The artistic and organizational quality of the organization and/

Deadline to apply is April 1, by emailing [arts@easthamptonct.org](mailto:arts@easthamptonct.org). Applications can also be dropped off at Town Hall, in the town manager's office.

### KoC Scholarship and Grant

The Knights of Columbus Council 6190 has three \$1,000 scholarships available to students continuing their education at an accredited college/university.



Applicants must be members of St. John Paul II Parish, East Hampton and Moodus. The council will also award two \$500 Helping Hands grants to members of St. John Paul II Parish attending Mercy or Xavier high schools. Applications are available at guidance offices and the parish center office, or by emailing [stpatrick47@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpatrick47@sbcglobal.net). Applications are due April 29.



**Scarves of Hope...** A local mom recently donated hundreds of scarves to the community. Crocheting them relieved some of the stress and anxiety while her son battled his addiction for over 10 years. Her son eventually lost his battle with addiction five years ago. These scarves represent hope, whether you love an addict or you are suffering from the hold of addiction. On Saturday, March 30, from noon-4 p.m., all are invited to stop in and pick up one for free at the VFW Post 5095, 20 N. Maple St.

### Police News

2/19: Shawn Dean, 33, of Meriden was issued a summons for failure to obey a red light and operating a motor vehicle while suspended, East Hampton Police said.

substance, police said.

2/28: James Welch, 43, of Manchester, was arrested and charged with criminal impersonation, interfering with officers, and sixth-degree larceny, police said.

3/4: Ryan Gordon, 26, of Middletown, was arrested on two separate warrants, police said; he was charged with sixth-degree larceny stemming from a Jan. 2 incident, and improper use of registration plates, operating a motor vehicle under suspension and operating an unregistered motor vehicle in a Feb. 1 incident.

3/1: Angel Carlone, 50, of 48 Old West High St., was arrested and charged with driving under the influence and possession of a controlled

From Feb. 26-March 3, officers responded to 17 medical calls, one motor vehicle crash and six alarms, and made 16 traffic stops, police said.

## CHECK OUT OUR MONTHLY SPECIALS!

Sale Dates  
3/9/24  
through  
3/31/24

### L I Q U O R

**Grey Goose Vodka 80°**  
\$44<sup>99</sup> (1.75 L)

**Ketel One Vodka 80°**  
\$34<sup>99</sup> (1.75 L)

**Luksusowa Vodka 80°**  
\$26<sup>99</sup> (1.75 L)

**Bombay Sapphire Gin 94°**  
\$35<sup>99</sup> (1.75 L)

**Jim Beam Bourbon 80°**  
\$33<sup>99</sup> (1.75 L)

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

### W I N E

**Yellow Tail Wines**  
\$11<sup>99</sup> (1.5 L)

**Black Box Wines**  
\$19<sup>99</sup> (3 L)

**R. Mondavi Vint. Wines**  
\$16<sup>99</sup> (1.5 L)

**Our Daily Wines**  
\$17<sup>99</sup> (3 L box)

**Corbett Canyon Wines**  
\$16<sup>99</sup> (3 L box)

**Korbel Brut & Extra Dry**  
\$14<sup>99</sup> (750 mL)

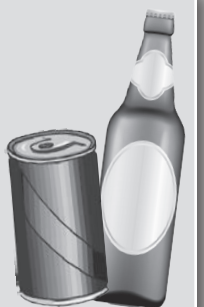
### B E E R

**Busch & Lt.**  
12 oz., 30-pack cans  
\$20<sup>99</sup>

**Natural Lt. & Ice**  
12 oz., 30-pack cans  
\$20<sup>99</sup>

**Miller Lite**  
12 oz., 30-pack cans  
\$27<sup>59</sup>

**Coors Lt.**  
12 oz., 30-pack cans  
\$27<sup>59</sup>



Not responsible for typographical errors.

**Fowler's Auto Wrecking - Belltown Recycling**  
CALL: 860-267-7140

Refurbished Batteries  
All Makes & Models  
6 Month Warranty

\$45.00 - \$55.00  
\$15.00 Core Charge

CALL US TODAY

March 10<sup>th</sup> is DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

**EAST HAMPTON CONN. FIRE DEPT.**

Volunteers Needed!  
Visit [facebook.com/EHVFDCT](http://facebook.com/EHVFDCT)

**Working SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES**  
Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery

"Dedicated To Life Safety"

**Center Package Store**

93 Main Street, East Hampton  
(860) 267-2833

OPEN:  
Mon. - Sat. 9am-8pm  
Sun. 10am-5pm



Diane Anelli

### Bethlehem Lutheran Church News

Sunday services at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at 1 East High St., are held Sundays at 10 a.m. Bible study precedes the services at 9 a.m., in the Church Hall. Church pastor is Jamie Stall-Ryan.

### Belltown Senior Golf League

Belltown Senior Golf League will begin its Tuesday morning Senior Mixed Golf League Tuesday mornings on April 23, at Portland Golf Course West, 105 Gospel Lane, Portland.

The nine-hole league is for ages 55 and up. Cost is \$28 with cart. For more information, contact Jack Anderson at jackande52@aol.com or 860-882-3752.

### Winter Harvest Farmers Market

There will be a Winter Harvest Farmers Market every Wednesday through March 27, from 5-8 p.m. each week, at Rule of 3 Brewing, 201 West High St.

There will be fresh local produce, dairy, eggs, and baked goods, all from a consistent lineup of local farmers and artisans. Check out the market's Facebook and Instagram pages (@WinterHarvestMarket) for more information.

### Rotary Club Scholarship

East Hampton Rotary Club Scholarship applications are available to high school seniors who reside in either East Hampton or Marlborough.

All students must be graduating/have graduated from a secondary school accredited by the State of Connecticut and use the scholarship for expenses at an accredited school. The school may be a 4- or 5-year college or university, a community college, a trade school or a commercial school. There are multiple single- and multi-year scholarships available.

Applications are due by April 8, and are available online at [tinyurl.com/EHRotaryScholarship2024](http://tinyurl.com/EHRotaryScholarship2024), or through the guidance department of the East Hampton, RHAM, Mercy, Xavier and Vinal high schools.

### Fish Frydays Held Weekly

The Knights of Columbus, St John Paul II Council 6190 is offering a variety of fish dinners on Fridays during Lent. The next dinner will be tonight, March 8.

This year's offerings include breaded cod, clams and shrimp, which will be served with French fries and coleslaw. Chowder will also be available. Coffee, tea, water and soda are also offered. Prices of the fish may vary from week to week.

Entertainment tonight, March 8, will be Diane Anelli, cantor from St. Patrick Church.

Meals are served from 4:30-7:15 p.m. in the St. Patrick Church Parish Center, 47 West High St. Take-out service also will be available; advance orders must be received by noon on Fridays, by calling 860-267-6644. Please do not leave orders on the answering machine.

### Upcoming Senior Trips

East Hampton Senior Center, located at 105 Main St., is offering a pair of coach bus trips for seniors in the coming months. To register or for more information, stop by the center or call 860-267-4426. Payment for trips is due at signing.

**Daffodil Days with Tea at Blithewold:** Wednesday, May 1. Located in Bristol, R.I., overlooking Narragansett Bay, Blithewold is a 33-acre garden estate. Its famous daffodil display features over 50,000 daffodils.

The visit will include a Tea Luncheon on the heated porch or patios with scones, finger sandwiches, mini quiches, desserts and tea; and a guided tour of the garden and 45-room mansion featuring vintage heirlooms.

Cost is \$139/person based on 35 to 50 participants. Depart at 9 a.m. from the senior center and return at 9 p.m.

**Lancaster, Pa., and Performance of Daniel:** July 17-19. Features a visit to the Old Windmill Farm, Quilt Shop, Dinner in an Amish Home, National Constitution Center and the Liberty Bell.

The trip will include two nights at Comfort Suites in Lancaster, Pa. The first night will feature dinner at a real Amish home. On Day 2, visit the Old Windmill Farm, an authentic 72-acre working Amish Farm owned by the Lapp Family. Visit the Lil' Country Store & Miniature Horse Farm, a quilt shop, Kitchen Kettle Village, with lunch on your own. Then, settle in reserved seats at the Sight & Sound Theater for a performance of *Daniel*, a story of exile, faith and trust. Have dinner at the Shady Maple Smorgasbord.

On Day 3, visit Philadelphia's Independence National Historical Park, visit the National Constitution Center featuring a multi-media "Freedom Rising" exhibit, and walk through Philly's historic district to the Liberty Bell.

Cost is \$645 double occupancy or \$779 for a single, based on 40 participants. Price includes two nights' hotel, two breakfasts, two dinners, sightseeing and admissions, tour escort, driver and tour director gratuity.

### East Hampton Library News & Notes

East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St, has announced the following. Registration required unless noted; to register, or for full program descriptions, call 860-267-6621 or visit us at [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org), or on Facebook at [facebook.com/EastHamptonLibrary](http://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.

**All Ages: Community Conversation:** Friday, March 15, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All are invited to share their hopes for East Hampton and what role the library can play in achieving these goals as part of the process to develop a new strategic plan. No registration required; all are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

**Children's Programs: Bubbles & Beats!** Mondays, 10:30 a.m., for ages 18 months to 5 years (drop-ins and siblings welcome.); **Toddler Time:** Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m., for children ages 18 months to 3 years; **Stories & Songs:** Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m., for ages 3-5 years; **Baby Rhyme Time:** Thursdays, 10:15 a.m., for ages birth to 24 months, and their caregivers.

**Family Storytime:** Saturday, March 9, 10:30 a.m., for ages 3-5; siblings welcome. There will be stories, songs and open-ended play. Participants will also have the chance to work on a craft to bring home. No registration required.

**DIY Days: Floam:** Saturday, March 16, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., for grades K-8. Activities are available while supplies last. No registration required.

**Teen Programs: Middle Grade Dungeons & Dragons One-Shot:** Wednesday, March 13, 4:30-6 p.m., for grades 5-7. No previous playing experience or past participation required. The library will provide basic, fifth-edition characters; all supplies included.

**Nintendo Switch Game Play:** Saturday,

March 16, 2-3:30 p.m., for grades 6-12. Pull up a beanless bag chair in the library community room for a big-screen Nintendo Switch hang-out. All skill levels welcome.

**Teen Advisory Board:** Tuesday, March 19, 5:30 p.m. Grades 6-12 are invited to come have a say in programming, collection development, and more. The TAB group meets monthly and always welcomes new members.

**Bored? Games!** Wednesday, March 20, 1-3 p.m. Drop in to the Library Community Room to enjoy a variety of board games. There will be snacks and prizes

**Adult Programs: Paranormal Hotspots with Ronny LeBlanc:** Tuesday, March 12, 6:30 p.m. Find out why some places exhibit more paranormal activity than others with Discovery+ and Travel Channel star Ronny LeBlanc. Learn about paranormal hotspots right here in New England.

**Belltown Book Brunch:** Friday, March 15, 11 a.m. Drop in for coffee or tea, a breakfast treat, and bookish banter. Register or drop in.

**Book Club:** Tuesday, Mar. 19, 6:30 p.m. Come together to read and discuss this month's selection, *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid. Copies of the book are available for checkout at the circulation desk.

**LibrarYoga with Amie Meacham:** Saturday, March 23, 10:15 a.m. Meacham will lead an hour of gentle yoga for adults in the Community Room. All levels welcome; bring your own mat if you have one and wear comfy clothes.

**Seed Start and Swap:** Saturday, March 23, 1 p.m. All are invited for seed-starting and gardening conversation. There will be seeds to choose from and light instruction. There will be dirt involved so dress accordingly. Extra seeds welcome for seed-swapping.

### President's List

Savannah Dumond of East Hampton made the fall 2023 President's List at Goodwin University.

East Hampton residents Josh Rudder and Jordan Murphy made the fall 2023 President's List at the University of Hartford.

**It's March Madness Here at Portland Automotive!**

**We make KEYS & FOBS for less than the dealer!**



**\$10.00 OFF**  
Offer Ends 3/31/2024

We also have replacement batteries.

**Newly Installed Public EV Charging Stations!**

**We Are An Emissions Test Station!**

**PORTLAND AUTOMOTIVE, INC.**  
PortlandAutomotive.com

AAA  
NEW Connecticut Emissions Program  
CHECK ENGINE  
Rte. 66, Portland  
860-342-0640

### KENNETH BARBER & ASSOCIATES, LLC



Kenneth Barber, Esq.



John H. Porter, Esq.



Joseph Cassidy, Esq.

YOUR ATTORNEYS

*"People who complain that they don't get all they deserve should congratulate themselves."*

— The Irish Times (October 1955)

Barber-Law-Firm.com  
P: 860-267-2263  
29 West High Street  
East Hampton, CT 06424

East Hampton • East Hampton • East H

**EHNS Trivia Night**

East Hampton Nursery School will hold a Trivia Night Friday, March 8, at 6:30 p.m., at Rule of 3 Brewing, 201 W. High St., Unit B1.

In addition to trivia by WhatTrivia, there will be a 50/50 raffle, raffle baskets, and the Feelin' Saucy food truck.

Tickets are \$20 per person. Register teams of two to four people, and find out more information, at [www.eventcreate.com/ehnstrievianight](http://www.eventcreate.com/ehnstrievianight). Questions can be emailed to [ehnsfundraisers@gmail.com](mailto:ehnsfundraisers@gmail.com).

**Online Farmers Market**

Healthy PlanEat is a local online farmers market where people can shop directly from local sustainable farms and food artisans. There is a pick-up location at HydroCat Microgreens, 47 Tartia Rd.

To place a pre-order, visit [bit.ly/healthyeasthampton](http://bit.ly/healthyeasthampton). The pre-order window for each week is Sundays at 5 a.m. through Thursdays at 9 p.m. Through the winter, pickups will be Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



**Maple BY MOONLIGHT**  
gala fundraiser

**INDEPENDENT LIVING** / **ASSISTED LIVING** / **MEMORY CARE**

55 John E Horton Blvd  
Hebron, Connecticut 06248

**860-801-1114**  
[colebrookvillage.com](http://colebrookvillage.com)

Join us for the Town Center Project's

**'Maple by Moonlight Gala'**  
Friday 3/15/24 at 6PM at Colebrook Village

FEATURING *The Sounds of Frank*, dancing, hors d'oeuvres, cocktails & mocktails, and great time!

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS, VISIT:  
[thetowncenterproject.org](http://thetowncenterproject.org)

**Colebrook Village**  
at Hebron

An Everbrook Senior Living Community



LOOKING FOR INSURANCE?

**WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED**

COMPARE & SAVE \$ WITH A FREE QUOTE!

AUTO • HOME • LIFE • COMMERCIAL

GET A FREE QUOTE TODAY!  
**CALL 860.228.8500**  
[hebroninsurance.com](http://hebroninsurance.com)

**Hebron Insurance**  
32 Main Street, Hebron, CT 06248

Let Our Family Take Care of Your Family  
— Family Owned & Operated Since 1994 —



**COUNTRYSIDE Realty LLC**

Loyal, Dependable Service and Top-Rated Agents...We Have It All!  
Ranked #1 for 2022 of SOLD in total for Hebron, Lebanon, Columbia, Colchester, Coventry and Andover

30 Main St., Hebron, CT 06248

**(860) 228-8512 • [www.countrysiderealtyct.com](http://www.countrysiderealtyct.com)**

Vaping is a *trap*



Don't get sucked in

Buying and using vapes under the age of 21 is **ILLEGAL**

**east hampton prevention partnership**

MAKE SURE YOU ARE

**UP TO DATE**

WITH COVID-19 VACCINES

**WHEN ARE YOU UP TO DATE?**


*Everyone aged 5 years and older*  
You are up to date when you get 1 updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine.


*Children aged 6 months-4 years*  
You are up to date when you get all recommended doses, including at least 1 dose of updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine.

**Does your 12 - 18 year old still need the updated COVID-19 vaccine?**  
Contact Vickie @ **860-214-0308** to schedule an appointment!

**2023 - 2024 UPDATED COVID-19 VACCINES**

In Fall 2023, the 2023-2024 updated COVID-19 vaccines were recommended by CDC for use in the US. This vaccine more closely targets the XBB lineage of the Omicron variant and could restore protection against severe COVID-19 that may have decreased over time.

For more information, please visit the CDC: 

Para ver en español: 

Please contact [info@chathamhealth.org](mailto:info@chathamhealth.org) with any questions!

**CHATHAM HEALTH DISTRICT**

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton

### Library Planning for the Future

East Hampton Public Library is planning for the future by developing a new Strategic Plan and is looking for input from the community to help guide services in the coming years.

The library will host a pair of Community Conversations later this month in order to gain a better understanding of people's aspirations for East Hampton and what role the library can play in achieving those goals.

Community Conversations will be held Fri-

day, March 15, from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, March 26, from 6:30-8 p.m. No registration is required and all are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

The library said it also hopes to conduct a community-wide survey during March to gather ideas and information, which would be available digitally on the library's website ([www.EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://www.EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org)) or as a paper version at the library.

### Antique Appraisal Day March 9

The Chatham Historical Society (CHS) will host its 28th annual Antique Appraisal Day Saturday, March 9, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Town Hall conference room, located at 1 Community Drive just off Route 66.

There will be three antique appraisers at the event – Lawrence Shapiro of Glastonbury; William (Bill) Barrows, a second-generation auctioneer at Thomas Barrows and Sons from Portland; and Michael B. Westman, an ap-

praiser from Rhode Island.

All are invited to come and have their items appraised. There is a suggested donation of \$6 per item, and no appointment is needed. This is a fundraiser for the continual maintenance of the society's two museum buildings and 1840 one-room schoolhouse.

Call Maggy Morales 860-539-0988 for more information or if there is any doubt of a storm related cancellation.

### Local Schools Offer Preschool Programs

The East Hampton Public Schools system is seeking 3- and 4-year-old residents interested in preschool programs for the 2024-25 school year. There will be two preschool programs offered – the Integrated preschool half-day program and full-day Smart Start program.

Memorial Elementary School's preschool Integration Program will be held three times a week for 3-year-old students and four times a week for 4-year-old students. Due to limited spaces, selection for peer models will be determined through a lottery process. If selected, peer models demonstrating age-appropriate skills will be assigned by age to either a three-day-a-week or four-day-a-week schedule (2.5 hours per day). Children must be toilet-trained and turn 3 prior to Sept. 1 to be eligible for the 3-year-old program and turn 4 by Sept. 1 for the 4-year-old program.

Memorial Elementary School's Smart Start Program will be held five full days per week (8:50 a.m.-2:50 p.m.), following the East Hampton Public Schools calendar. Priority will be given to 4-year-old children that meet income guidelines or have other factors for consideration. Other applicants, regardless of economic

or risk factors will then be selected. Children must turn 4 prior to Sept. 1 to be eligible for Smart Start.

Parents interested in proceeding through the selection process must pick up an application/information packet at either Memorial Elementary School or East Hampton Public Library. The completed parent interview form, immunization form and a proof of residency must be returned to Jodi Blyler at Memorial School office no later than March 15. Once all three forms are returned, parents will be contacted, no later than March 22, to schedule a time to bring their child for the screening and lottery/selection process.

Forms received after the March 15 date will not be accepted.

### Troop 57 Bottle Drive

Boy Scout Troop 57 will hold a bottle drive Saturday, March 16, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the American Distilling parking lot (31 East High St., Route 66).

All redeemable bottles are accepted. This now includes the larger juice bottles.

For more information, call Annette Kowalczyk at 860-267-2962. The next bottle drive is May 18. Future bottle drives and updates due to inclement weather are also listed online; go to [tmweb.troopmaster.com/Login/PickSite](http://tmweb.troopmaster.com/Login/PickSite), then choose CT and unit 57.

### Helping Hands Open Twice Monthly

Helping Hands is open the first and third Saturdays of each month, from 9-11 a.m. Helping Hands is a ministry of Cornerstone Bible Church and offers free clothing, household items, toys, books, etc., to anyone in need.

Donations to this ministry are accepted the Saturday before Helping Hands is open, as well as the Thursday before Helping Hands is open, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Helping Hands is located at 27 Skinner St.

For more information, contact Judy Holmquist at 860-918-0784 or [judyhlm49@yahoo.com](mailto:judyhlm49@yahoo.com).

### EHNS Open House

East Hampton Nursery School will hold an open house for prospective families on Saturday, March 9, from 9 a.m.-noon, for the 2024-25 school year. EHNS is located at 111 Main St.

All are invited to see the school, talk to current families, teachers and board members, and learn about the programs offered. The 3's programs meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from either 9-11:30 a.m. or 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The 4's programs meet either three days a week – Monday, Wednesday and Friday – from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., or five days a week from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Visit [www.easthamptonnurseryschool.com](http://www.easthamptonnurseryschool.com) for more information or email [e.h.n.s.enrollment@gmail.com](mailto:e.h.n.s.enrollment@gmail.com).



### Hebron Property Owners!!! Thinking of selling or buying?

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

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

Hebron's #1 Agent – Total Closed Market Volume  
\*\*2016 – 2017 – 2018 – 2019 – 2020 – 2021 – 2022\*\*  
\*\*Based on ranking of ALL agents as compiled by CT MLS.

### Want References and Recommendations?

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

[www.realsatisfied.com/Jim-Celio](http://www.realsatisfied.com/Jim-Celio)

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

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



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

## CAMPAGNA

Fine Italian Restaurant and Bar

Five Course Menu Offering on Sun, Mon, Tues and Thur  
Five Course Meal \$30.00 • \$15 plate charge for sharing

### APPETIZERS

Stuffed Mushrooms Mushroom caps stuffed with seafood stuffing

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

Fried Mozzarella Topped with marinara sauce

### PASTA COURSE

Penne Aglio Olio • Penne with garlic and oil • Penne Marinara

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

SOUP OR SALAD Cup of soup of the day or garden salad

### DINNER CHOICES

Chicken Parmigiana

Eggplant Rollatini Rolled eggplant

stuffed with ricotta, prosciutto and roasted peppers

Chicken Marsala Sauteed with

mushrooms, shallots in a marsala wine sauce

Balkan Meatballs Beef meatballs sauteed with scallions,

roasted red peppers, grape tomatoes in a marsala cream sauce

Stuffed Pork Chop Stuffed with

broccoli, gorgonzola cheese and ritz

crackers in a brown cognac sauce

Stuffed Sole Crab meat stuffing

served over spinach

DESSERTS – Ask your server for our selections

### WINE & DINE MENU

\$80 per couple / \$50 for single

Served Every Friday and Saturday

Wednesday is

Pasta Night!

Serving Prime Rib Every Friday Night!

151 Marlborough St. (Rt 66), Portland • (860) 398-5411  
OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH & DINNER

BRING A FRIEND, OR TWO, OR THREE!



### WOW! WHAT A WEEK!

It starts with weekday dinner savings and finishes with St. Patrick's Day savory specials. Come check it out!

TUESDAY take 20% Off your entire dinner bill

WEDNESDAY \$10 OFF \$50 or \$20 OFF \$100

THURSDAY take 20% Off your entire dinner bill

(Good March 12-14th, after 4pm) online use code PADDY24

### Friday, Saturday & Sunday Specials:

Corned Beef & Cabbage, Lamb Stew, Sheperd's Pie

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

EATATSADLERS.COM

## Short-Term Care • Post-Acute Rehabilitation • Respite Care



"I did my research before picking a rehab facility for my Dad. Marlborough Rehab got a 5/5 rating so I chose them. They are not disappointing. Every staff member is pleasant, hard working and kind. All staff are receptive to family members requests and concerns. They think of everything! The communication between staff and my family is outstanding. The facility is always being maintained and looks fabulous as well. We highly recommend Marlborough Health and Rehab!"

– Daughter of a rehab patient

Call us today to see what Marlborough Health & Rehabilitation Center can do for you!

860.295.9531



Health & Rehabilitation Center

MarlboroughHealthCare.com

85 Stage Harbor Rd | Marlborough, CT

An affiliate of National Health Care Associates, Inc.

Scan Now to Step Inside Marlborough



Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover

**A History of Huskies Hoops**

All are invited to “A History of Huskies Hoops” with author Marty Gitlin on Tuesday, March 12, at 6:30 p.m., at Andover Public Library, 355 Route 6.

This presentation will celebrate the history of the UConn basketball teams. Gitlin will talk about great Huskies players over the years, and

will include trivia questions and a Q&A at the end of the program. This is a rescheduled date for a program that was originally to be held in January.

RSVP is requested for planning purposes, by calling 860-742-7428.

**Collecting for Auction**

The Andover Friends of the Library Auction Committee is collecting donations for its 22nd annual Goods and Services Auction that will be held Friday, May 17.

The committee is looking for new items to create gift baskets. The following are examples of popular items: gift certificates, handmade items like jewelry, scarves, quilts, afghans, sports items, paintings and music/video games.

This auction is the Friends’ big fundraiser; proceeds help support library programs. Donations are tax-deductible.

**Info Meeting on March 12**

The Town of Andover is holding a public informational meeting on Tuesday, March 12, at 7 p.m., in the Community Room to discuss creating a multiuse connection for walking and cycling between the Town Hall and the Rail Trail along Route 316 and Cider Mill Road.

The town said it wants your input and feedback on this project. The town said it has

reached out to the homeowners most directly impacted, and now wants to bring the conversation back to the whole community to broaden the feedback.

There will be a presentation by the Town Planner John Guskowski, town administrator Eric Anderson and Kevin Grindle from the planning and engineering firm Barton & Loguidice.

**Easter Plant and Bake Sale**

The Andover Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual Easter Plant Sale and Bake Sale from Wednesday, March 27, through Easter Sunday, March 31, at the firehouse on School Road.

Hours are: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Wednesday-Saturday, and 10 a.m.-noon on Sunday.

There will be many plants to choose from including lilies, tulips, azaleas, mums, hyacinths, hydrangeas, daffodils, spring baskets, pansies and more, as well as treats.

**Congregational Church News**

Andover Congregational Church, UCC, located at 359 Route 6, invites all ages to worship, held 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](mailto:andoverctchurch@gmail.com) or visit [www.andoverctchurch.org](http://www.andoverctchurch.org).

**Food Pantry:** Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Bring your own bags. The **Foodshare Van** comes to the church every other Wednesday from 9-9:30

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

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

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

**Maundy Thursday Service:** Thursday, March 28, 7 p.m.

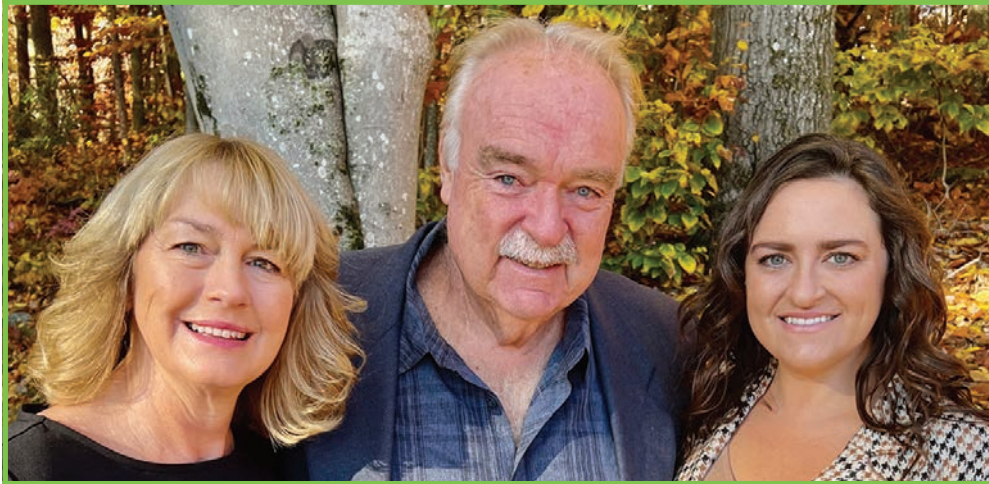
**Free Easter Family Portrait:** Sunday, March 31, 10 a.m. All are invited to the Easter morning service, and to have their picture taken before or after the service.

**Dean’s List**

Andover residents Lily Gross, Clarice Jayawickrema and Kyle Eckert made the fall 2023 Dean’s List at the University of Hartford.

**President’s List**

Clarice Jayawickrema of Andover made the fall 2023 President’s List at the University of Hartford.



**Your Local Medicare Specialists**

*Let Us Help You Navigate Medicare*

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



7 Dickinson Road  
Marlborough, CT  
860-295-9350

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. We are licensed with AARP, Aetna, Anthem BCBS, CarePartners, Cigna, ConnectiCare, Humana, Trinity, UnitedHealthCare, and Wellcare. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options.



**Andover Residents: Have Your Say!**

The Andover Planning & Zoning Commission is in the process of updating the Town’s 10-year Plan of Conservation & Development. Your thoughtful responses to our survey will greatly assist the Commission in determining priorities over the next decade. Please take a few moments and let your voice be heard!

**Scan the QR code to access the Survey!**

or go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/AndoverPoCD](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AndoverPoCD)  
(Hard copies also available at Town Hall)

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



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

**INSURANCE**  
*Business, Home, Auto & More!*

**Gerhardt**  
**INSURANCE AGENCY**

**EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST!**

[www.GerhardtInsurance.com](http://www.GerhardtInsurance.com)  
176 Norwich Avenue, Colchester  
(860) 537-4661

Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover

### St. Patrick's Pot Luck Dinner

All are invited to a St. Patrick's Day Pot Luck Dinner on Friday, March 15, at 6 p.m., at Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6. Bring a favorite dish to share. Leave a message at 860-742-7696 with any questions.

### Veterans Meeting Canceled

The Andover Veterans meeting scheduled for Saturday, March 16, has been canceled. Andover Veterans Affairs apologizes for canceling again. Watch for more information on a future meeting.

### 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. Transportation is available for all events. For all Young at Heart events, including movies, call Sue Schmidt at 860-604-1057, and call Town Clerk Carol Lee at 860-742-0188 ext. 2 for all trip information. For all senior events and information, visit the senior page of the town website, andoverct.org.

Note: Senior transportation calls are now only heard from 9 a.m.-noon, by calling Palazzi. If you call at any other time, leave your name, phone number, date, time and address of your appointment. A return call will be given within 24 hours. Medicals will no longer be available for Tuesdays. They are available for Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

**Shopping Dates:** Willimantic: 3/12, 3/26; Manchester: 3/19. Call Palazzi for transportation.

**Senior Luncheon:** Will be held at the Town Hall community room Wednesday, March 27 (note the change of date), with entertainment by the RHAM band. No walk-ins accepted. Call Palazzi for transportation.

**Upcoming Trips:** Tuesday, March 12, to Aquaturf; Friday, March 29, to Clinton Outlets with lunch at Log Cabin. Contact Carol Lee for more information.

**Rides to Food Pantry:** The bus is 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. Call Palazzi for a ride.

**Transportation Available:** Rides to all town events, town meetings, referendums, board meetings and medical appointments are available by calling Palazzi. All seniors, veterans, disabled are welcome. If you have a caregiver, they may come with you.



Want or Need to Sell? Call Now!!!



Call Today!

(860) 228-8512

30 Main St., Hebron, CT 06248



RE1-5-24

## Home & auto. Bundle & save.

Call me for a quote today



Catalano Ins And Fin Svcs  
Paul Catalano, Agent

87 Lebanon Ave  
Colchester, CT 06415-1293

Bus: 860-537-3338  
www.insurect.com



Availability and amount of discounts and savings vary by state.  
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL  
State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas, State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX  
State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL

RE1-26-24

## LAKESIDE



BAR & GRILL

Lakeside Bar & Grill is the place where the locals go to dine, drink, and socialize. Our menu features dishes assembled from the freshest ingredients, sure to bring bold and inspiring flavor into your life.

**NEW LUNCH MENU!**

81 N. Main Street  
East Hampton, CT 06424  
860-467-6891

www.lakesidebar-grill.com



ENJOY A SPECIAL MENU ON  
St. Patrick's Day Weekend  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday

RE3-1-24

## LOOKING FOR A NEW DENTIST?

Martin H. Zase, DMD, MAGD, AAACD  
Radhee Sheth, DMD, NEACD

Both dentists are members of  
the Academy of General Dentistry and  
the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry

\*Dr. Zase is Eastern CT's only dentist ACCREDITED in Cosmetics by the AACD and has served as their president.



Colchester Dental Group  
860.537.2351

Open Tuesday through Saturday  
Family and Cosmetic Dentistry

Personalized Financial Options Available.

Pre-pay and Senior Discounts or Low Monthly Payments through CareCredit.



79A Norwich Avenue, Colchester | www.ColchesterDentalGroup.com

RE11-24-23

## The Town Tavern

26 East High St., East Hampton, CT  
860-467-6026

### St. Patrick's Day Specials!

Thursday 3/14 through Monday 3/18

#### Appetizers

St. Patrick's Soup \$8 • Corned Beef Egg Rolls \$12

#### Entrées

**Corned Beef Reuben** Premium slow cooked & hand cut corned beef on toasted rye with swiss cheese & spicy mustard; served with french fries \$16

**Corned Beef & Cabbage** Our house cooked corned beef served with cabbage, carrots & red potatoes; served with Irish soda bread \$22

#### Homemade Shepherd's Pie

Seasoned ground beef, with carrots & peas, topped with our garlic butter mashed potatoes \$20

**Corned Beef Pizza** 1000 Island sauce base, topped with cheese & shredded corned beef  
small \$15 large \$26

NOW OPEN ON MONDAYS!!!

RE3-8-24

## City Fish Market

GOLDEN FISH HOOK



884 Silas Deane Highway  
Wethersfield, CT 06109

860.522.3129  
WWW.CFISHCT.COM

Lenten Season Has Begun

Join us for  
**FISH FRY FRIDAYS!**\*

\*We will suspend service on Fridays through Lent between 2:00-2:45pm.

#### RETAIL

Mon-Tue & Sat 9am-5pm  
Wed-Fri 9am-6pm  
Sun Closed

#### KITCHEN

Tue & Sat 10am-5pm  
Wed-Fri 10am-6pm  
Sun & Mon Closed

15% OFF

Retail Purchases Only

Valid for Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday.  
Advertised and unadvertised in-store specials excluded from discount. Exp. 3/7/24.



CIT2-22-24

Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover

### Preschool Openings

The Andover Elementary School Early Learning Center is accepting applications for preschool students for the 2024-25 school year. Andover's preschool program is full-day. Before- and after-school care is available. Children who will be age 3 on or before Dec. 31, 2024, are eligible to attend. The Andover Elementary School Early

Learning Center receives funding for reduced tuition rates from two state grants: The School Readiness grant and the Smart Start grant. Call Taylor Parker for more information or contact the school office at 860-742-7339 to obtain a registration packet, or download one at [www.andoverelementaryct.org](http://www.andoverelementaryct.org).

### Kindergarten Registration

Andover Elementary School is registering kindergarten students for the 2024-25 school year. Andover's kindergarten program is full-day. Parents of children who will be age 5 on or before Sept. 1, 2024, are asked to contact the school office at 860-742-7339 to obtain a regis-

tration packet or access it at [www.andoverelementaryct.org](http://www.andoverelementaryct.org). Parents choosing to have their child attend an alternative kindergarten or not attend school until the following year, and parents who will be home-schooling, are asked to inform the school of this decision.

### Adult Show & Tell

On Tuesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m., Andover Public Library will present an evening of Show & Tell for Adults. For this program, the library invites adults to bring to the library something they treasure. It could be a collection of vintage thimbles, travel posters, comic books, pottery, Steiff teddy bears, tea cups, baseball cards...whatever you want to

show off. Be prepared to tell us a little bit about your collection. Don't have a collection of stuff to share, but want to tell us about your experiences meeting Elvis or the Beatles? Stories are also welcome. The library is located at 355 Route 6. For more information, call 860-742-7428.

### Vendors Sought for Tag Sale

Vendors are needed for the senior tag and vendor sale, to be held Saturday, April 27, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at Andover Elementary School, 35 School Rd. For information, contact Cathy at 860-916-6122 or [nanasworld@comcast.net](mailto:nanasworld@comcast.net). All money received goes to support the senior program.

### PZC Alternate Sought

Any Andover elector who is interested in serving as an alternate on the Planning & Zoning Commission should send a letter of interest to: Town of Andover, P&Z Alternate, 17 School Rd., Andover, CT 06232 or email one to [townclerk@andoverct.org](mailto:townclerk@andoverct.org).

### Open Call to Apply for Grant Funds

Andover's Greater Together Community Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has released its open call for 2023 project proposals. Up to \$10,000 will be awarded in grant funds to one or more proposals. To date, \$22,261 has been awarded. All projects must benefit the residents of Andover. For further details on project guidelines and how to apply, visit [hfpg.org/Andoverctf](http://hfpg.org/Andoverctf). Project applications or grant proposals will be accepted until March 15.

### Learn CPR

All are invited to learn CPR Monday, March 18, from 7-9 p.m., at the Andover Volunteer Fire Department. Classes include use of training materials, CPR/AED/Choking for adults/child/infant, and a two-year certification from the American Heart Association. Cost is \$20 and registration is required; to do so, call Deputy Chief Mindy Hegener at 860-706-3074.

### Bingo & Baskets

Andover Congregational Church, located at 359 Route 6 in Andover, will hold a Bingo & Baskets night Friday, March 22, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. The game starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$12 and includes dinner, drink, dessert and bingo. No reservations required. Leave a message at the church at 860-742-7696 with questions.

### Collecting for Senior Tag Sale

The Andover Senior Lunch Fundraising Committee is in the process of collecting donations for its annual Tag Sale, which will be held Saturday, April 27. The tag sale is a fundraiser for the senior lunch program. The committee is looking for items to sell. If you have items to donate, they can be brought to the Town Office Building. Call Carol Lee at 860-742-0188 ext. 4218 for more information.

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

### From the State Senator's Desk

Happy March and happy spring! As the temperatures warm up and the weather gets nicer, my colleagues and I are working hard during the legislative session to benefit our state. I'd like to take a brief moment and share with you some of the most pressing issues Senate Democrats are focused on this year.

First, to counter the high cost of prescription drugs, we are focused on ways to reduce the strain they impose on consumers' wallets. Steps under development include allowing pharmacies to import prescription drugs from Canada at significantly reduced costs, which will bring down prices for those needing them; establishing an advisory board adopting prices and setting an upper limit for payments; and addressing the affordability of insulin. While we capped the out-of-pocket cost of insulin several years ago, this step would require all insurers to make the lowest-cost option available to consumers.

Second, we are focused on improving consumer protection in a number of ways through a wide-ranging bill benefiting residents. Its focuses will include making sure all residents, including rural communities and low-income households, have access to affordable and high-quality internet service; expanding limitations on "junk fees," costs not advertised in an advertisement; supporting the "right to repair," which prevents electronics and appliance manufacturers from monopolizing their products' repair markets and making phone, TV and home equipment much easier to repair; preventing smart speakers like Amazon Echo and Google Home devices from eavesdropping or collecting consumer data on residents; and pro-rating streaming service bills when a customer cancels their service.

A third focus is one where Connecticut is considered a national leader. While AI, or artificial intelligence, is growing rapidly in popularity and use, those uses aren't all beneficial for our society. Legislators are currently developing strategies to make AI's use transparent and accountable; training programs to make sure businesses can use it in functional and productive ways; and preventing its use to harm others, including identity theft and salacious, disturbing uses. We are also studying uses where AI can improve and push forward health care, including through cancer research, AI-enabled medical devices and improved diagnosis and treatment recommendations.

There's a lot to get done and just two months until the legislative session ends, with senators and representatives working around the clock to support their constituents and find positive steps forward for their communities. I'm looking forward to continuing to share updates with you.

State Rep. Norm Needleman  
D-33rd District

Note: The 12-town 33rd Senate District includes the Rivereast towns of Colchester, East Hampton and Portland.

## Standouts Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Here is a double dose of Rivereast Standout Athletes of the Week for the week of Feb. 26 - March. 3:

**Paige Cavalieri - RHAM High School (Cheerleading):** Cavalieri was named a 2024 CIAC Scholar-Athlete for her accomplishments in and out of competition. Cavalieri, a senior captain, is a three-time All-Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) honoree that helped lead the way as the Raptors have won CCC title in each of the last three seasons. She is also the Class of 2024 President, and a member of the National Honor Society, Future Problem Solving (FPS), Model UN and DECA.

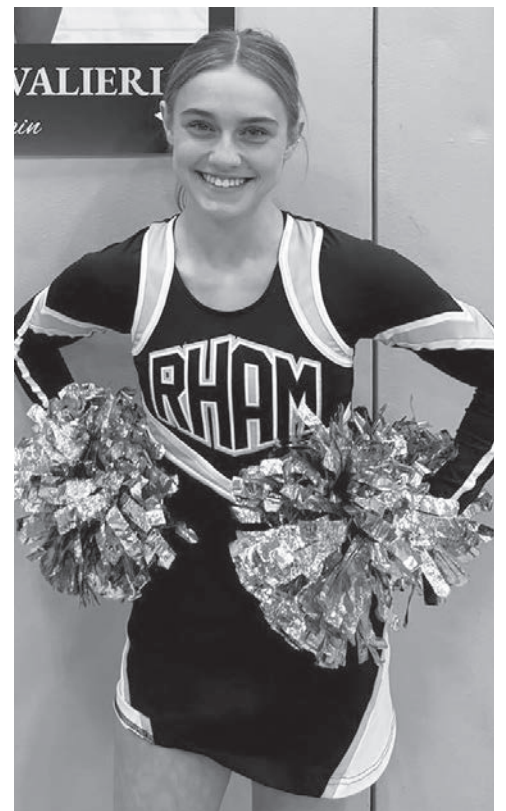
**Maddie Graves - RHAM High School (Basketball):** Graves scored a game-high 20 points as the No. 30-seeded Raptors pulled a second straight tourney upset, eliminating No. 19 Amistad 50-33 in the second round of the Class MM state tournament on March 1. The 17-point victory came on the heels of a shocking 55-42 victory over the No. 3 Kaynor Tech in the first round on Feb. 27.

**Brady Lynch - East Hampton High School (Basketball):** Lynch was named to the All-Shoreline Conference (SLC) First-Team for the second straight season. Lynch, a junior, netted 17 points and hauled down nine rebounds per game to help lead the Bellringers win 11 regular season games and earned a home state tournament game. During only his third season on the high school court, he also eclipsed the 1,000-career point mark in a win over Westbrook on Jan. 26.

**Samantha Yorker, Mikah Levenduski, Sydney Vicino, Madelyn Daniels and Marlee Alston - East Hampton High School (Cheerleading):** Yorker, Levenduski, Vicino, Daniels, and Alston all made the Class S All-State team. The five all-state recipients were instrumental in helping the Bellringers win their first Shoreline Conference (SLC) championship since 2020 before finishing fourth overall at the Class S state championship on March 2.

**Shawn Laverty - Portland High School/University of Vermont (Track):** Laverty, a 2022 PHS graduate, has continued to make a name for herself at the University of Vermont. In the Catamounts' final indoor track and field tune-up before the America East Conference Championship, Laverty was victorious in the mile with a time of 5:18.95. Following her record-breaking success in Portland, Laverty has continued to be a three-season runner in Vermont, competing for the cross-country team, along with both the indoor and outdoor track teams.

**Matt Gish - Cromwell-Portland High School (Wrestling):** Gish won a Class M state championship, defeating Lucas Theriaque of Woodstock in the 165-lbs. championship bout. Gish, a junior who attends Cromwell High



RHAM senior cheer captain Paige Cavalieri was named a 2024 CIAC Scholar Athlete.

School, then represented the Highlanders at the State Open where he placed fourth overall in his division, qualifying him for the New England Division Championships in Rhode Island.

**Katelyn Novak - Bacon Academy (Basketball):** Novak tied a career-high with 24 points as the Bobcats rallied to defeat Waterford, 65-44 in the opening round of the Class MM state tournament on Feb. 27. Novak, a junior, also posted eight steals, seven rebounds, and four assists to help Bacon Academy overcome an early 22-4 deficit by going on a 30-3 scoring run to take the lead and never look back. In round two, Kovak again led the team in scoring with 17 points as the Bobcats beat New Fairfield 38-31 on March 1.

**Natalia Vernali and Madison Peck - Bacon Academy (Cheerleading):** Vernali and Peck were selected as Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) First-Team All-Stars. The pair helped the Bobcats place as the runners-up at the ECC Division II Cheerleading Championships. Teammates Fiona Lin and Eve Svata were also honored with Lin receiving a Scholar-Athlete Award and Svata taking home a Sportsmanship Award.

To nominate an athlete as a Standout of the Week or to offer sports-related comments, email [joshhowardsports@gmail.com](mailto:joshhowardsports@gmail.com).

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



Portland High School junior Morganne Pineda made all-conference after leading the Highlanders in scoring this winter. Pineda is pictured with head coach Kelly Coleman.

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

# Promoting Pickleball in Colchester

By Michael Sinkewicz

Pickleball is exploding across America. In its 2023 annual report, the Sports & Fitness Industry Association said participation in the sport increased by over 85% year-over-year and more than 150% over the past three years, boasting nearly nine million total participants in 2022.

Everyone is getting in on the fun, including Tom Brady, who joined an ownership group in purchasing an expansion team for last year's Major League Pickleball (MLP) season.

Although pickleball — a sport that appears visually similar to tennis that's played on a badminton-sized court with a plastic ball, and paddles roughly twice the size of those used for ping-pong — has been taught in school physical education programs, local communities have been catching up with its popularity.

In Colchester, that effort has largely been led by resident Dave Koji. In 2022, he was chairman of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) ad-hoc committee that recommended the construction of three new pickleball courts at the town's park and recreation complex. But, Koji wasn't necessarily itching to play.

"I didn't even know what pickleball was," he recalled.

It wasn't until his son came home from school and endorsed the sport — that was invented in 1965 outside of Seattle — after playing it during his P.E class that Koji actually decided the sport held merit. His aunt-in-law in West Hartford sent them a starter kit with basic pickleball supplies that allowed them to dip their toes into competition.

"I was immediately hooked," Koji expressed. Now after last year's "great success," he's ushering Colchester Pickleball League into its second season this spring, offering local residents — and those from neighboring communities — more chances to lace-up and hit the courts.

Koji recently earned his coaching certification through Pickleball Coaching International, and he'll be booking personal lessons for anyone looking for additional instruction. Details can be found on his website, [www.pickleball-withdave.com](http://www.pickleball-withdave.com).

As the beginning of the league's next season approaches, Koji chatted with the *RiverEast* to discuss the physical and mental health benefits of the sport, and explore the potential revenue streams the town could tap into with a booming sport.

## League Details

Koji identified a few upgrades that will hopefully make the league more enjoyable this year.

One of the most significant changes moving forward is that participants will be split into two separate leagues — one for beginners and another for intermediate and advanced skill players.

Last year, 32 individuals participated, which was the maximum registration limit. This time, Koji is aiming for 48 people who will be split evenly between both leagues; registration on the town's website will likely open in the middle of April with the six-week league possibly starting around May 9, he said. Sessions would take place once a week at the recreation complex.

The cost hasn't been finalized, but Koji provided a potential range of \$20-30 per person. The league is open to anyone above the age of 16, which he said was town policy.

This time, there will likely be more games too.

Previously during each two hour session, teams would play two games; now, at least for the advanced league, they're aiming to play up to four games.

Each league will feature doubles matches, meaning two participants from each team face off against two opponents. In the beginners league, players will rotate through a round-robin format, earning individual points based on their results of their games. At the end of the league, the top earners will win medals.

For the advanced league, there will be six teams of four people that will strictly adhere to MLP rules, and the top teams will be determined after playing each other.

While the overall league is technically a town program, Koji said he facilitates everything with the blessing of the recreation department.

"It's still a growing sport in Colchester," he said. "But there are die-hards."

Koji added that most participants are still in the beginning stages, but the ultimate goal is to develop those players' skills to the intermediate level. Meanwhile, the separation of the different talent levels will benefit the culture of the league, according to Koji, with everyone having more fun.

Last season, Koji's squad finished in third place out of eight teams, despite his own expertise, which spoke to the league's parity.

"We tried to make the teams as fair as possible," he explained.

But the success of a season can be measured in many ways, conveyed Koji, who highlighted his efforts to ensure that everything ran smoothly on a weekly basis. Communication was "pivotal," and he distributed schedules in advance, so if a participant was unavailable, a replacement could be found and no games were forfeited.

"People are busy," Koji said. "I have to be a good leader of the league."

He embraced data and kept track of the standings — all of which made the experience more enjoyable.

"People loved that," Koji expressed, adding that he created names and logos for the teams, giving each one a unique identity. Fans, comprised mainly of spouses and family members, enthusiastically cheered from the sidelines. Chants like, "Go Sharks!" would echo throughout he confines.

## Why Pickleball?

Why are people drawn to this game and what are the benefits?

First, it's exercise. Koji said the rules are easy to learn and it's a great way to move around and advance a healthy lifestyle. And if you're into the "thrill of competition," like he is, the sport is another way to challenge yourself.

Maybe the strongest attraction, though, is the pickleball community.

"They're the most friendly people on the planet," Koji said. "Pickleball gives a sense of camaraderie."

Since forming the league, he said his social sphere has increased "10 fold." As an adult, he said it's "not very easy to make friends." But after joining the league, you're instantly connecting with new people and forming meaningful relationships.

Social isolation is a "real thing," Koji asserted, and pickleball is just one way to combat it.

While Colchester earmarked nearly \$45,000 for the construction of the three courts, Koji said he'd recommend developing more in the



Dave Koji has been pushing pickleball in town the last two years – and in fact is about to start up the second season of the Colchester pickleball league.

future. Because the tennis courts at the complex are not playable, the pickleball league cannot access that space for larger events, such as tournaments.

If Colchester had the capacity to host tournaments — which Koji speculated could draw 100 out of town participants charged at roughly \$40-\$60 per person — upwards of \$6,000 could be generated before expenses through just one event.

"It could be bringing in a good amount of money for the town," he said. "The margin is extremely high."

The upfront cost of investing in additional courts may seem lofty, Koji added, "but if you build it, they will come."

Those individuals would then likely visit Colchester businesses, stimulating the local economy, he said.

## 'I Love This Game'

Koji spent hours completing his coaching certification, which included teaching drills to a mock class.

Technically, he didn't need the new credential to teach and coach the sport, but he wanted it to gain further credibility.

"I felt it was important," he explained, adding that somebody who's going to spend money on an instructor wants to know that person is legitimate and qualified.

Along with private lessons, Koji is trying to organize new forms of entertainment. For example, later this month he's hosting a "date night" at the Federated Church with two couples (perhaps a double date).

From a pickleball perspective, you'd be getting a "hands-on, intimate setting" for a lesson, he explained. And it's also "not your typical dinner and a movie" idea.

"It's something fun," he expressed.

Residents can reach out to Koji via his email [PickleballwithDave@gmail.com](mailto:PickleballwithDave@gmail.com), or find him on Instagram and Facebook. There's free content on his site that provides newcomers with introductory information and background on the sport.

## CCO to Hold Winter Concert

The Colchester Choir and Orchestra (CCO) will hold its Winter Concert Sunday, March 10, at 3 p.m., at Bacon Academy, 611 Norwich Ave.

The orchestra will feature classical music and the choir will feature modern classic favorites. A reception will follow the concert.

The concert is free, but donations are wel-

comed to support CCO. Check CCO's website ([www.colchesterchoirorchestra.org](http://www.colchesterchoirorchestra.org)) or Facebook page for more details about the group, or for information about joining the choir or orchestra.

CCO is a program under the Town of Colchester, Parks and Recreation Department.

## 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](http://AbundantL.com).

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

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

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

## CYSS News & Notes

Colchester Youth and Social Services has announced the following programs. Unless noted, registration is required for all programs, at [www.colchesterct.gov/yss](http://www.colchesterct.gov/yss). For more information, contact CYSS at 860-537-7255 or [youth-services@colchesterct.gov](mailto:youth-services@colchesterct.gov).

**Colchester Boys Council:** This new group for fifth grade boys will meet Mondays from 3:15-4:30 p.m., starting March 11. CYSS prevention coordinator Marquis Lawson will lead the group. Boys will connect with others in their age group and share their experiences, questions and concerns. Space is limited.

**Meeting Childhood Challenges:** In this program, a continuation of "Supporting Your Anxious Child," parents of children ages 8-12 can come together for a discussion on supportive ways to respond as a parent and to learn methods to navigate childhood challenges. There will be time for questions as well. The program will meet March 27, April 24 and May 22, from 6:30-8 p.m. each night, at Cragin Library – Norton Room A. Registration is required for each date.

**Makin' Moves: Thursdays, 3-4:30 p.m., from April 18-June 13.** Fifth-graders will get ready

for their upcoming move to middle school. Their time together will include a private middle school tour, some talk about lockers, team-building activities and leadership games. There will be a few meetings in September to check in after the school year begins. This group is expected to fill quickly, CYSS said.

**After 2:** This afterschool program for middle school-aged students meets Tuesdays from 2-4:30 p.m. throughout the school year. This program provides time for kids to have homework help, or just some quiet time to complete their work, small social-emotional learning group time, as well as a safe place to hang out. Registration is required in advance.

**Drop In @ the Youth Center:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 2-4 p.m., for grades 6-8. In this program, kids can drop in to the youth center for a snack and play some games. You do not need to pre-register to attend the Youth Center. However, students will receive instructions for online registration at their first visit, as they must be registered online to attend again. Call CYSS for more information.

Edward Jones®

> [edwardjones.com](http://edwardjones.com) | Member SIPC

## Compare our CD Rates

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

<b>3-Month</b> <b>5.35</b> % APY*	<b>6-Month</b> <b>5.20</b> % APY*	<b>1-Year</b> <b>5.15</b> % APY*
---	---	--

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.

Mark H Rogozinski

Financial Advisor

179 Linwood Ave Bldg C

Suite 6

Colchester, CT 06415

860-603-2474

\*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 03/06/24. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit [www.fdic.gov](http://www.fdic.gov) or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

FDI-1867M-A AECSPAD 21524777

RE3-8-24



### Taste of Italian New York

Colchester Senior Center, located at 95 Norwich Ave., is offering a “Taste of Italian New York” trip on Saturday, April 20, departing St. Andrew Church at 7 a.m. -- and reservations are due soon.

This is a trip to three New York food “hot spots” Eat, shop and bring home some Italian food items. Visit Zabar’s gourmet market in the Upper West Side. The market is known for their selection of meats, smoked fish, cooking gadgets, and New York bagels. Then have a family-style lunch at Carmine’s Italian Restaurant, where the menu will include such items as rigatoni, broccoli and sausage in marinara, chicken in lemon butter, ravioli, and chocolate

cannoli with pistachios. You will then continue to Arthur Avenue in the Bronx and explore the Arthur Avenue Retail Market, a covered Italian market bringing together under one roof various Italian food specialties.

Coolers are encouraged on this trip. Cost is \$151/person. Space is limited; register by coming into the senior center to reserve your spot before March 20. Trips are available to Colchester Senior Center members and their adult guests over the age of 18. Membership is free for Colchester residents aged 55 and older. There is an annual fee of \$15 for seniors residing outside of Colchester.

### Absentee Ballots Available for Primaries

Absentee ballots for both the Democratic and Republican presidential preference primaries will be available in the town clerk’s office from Tuesday, March 12, through Monday, April 1. (Primary Day is Tuesday, April 2.)

In Connecticut, in order to vote in the primary you must be a member of the party to which the primary pertains.

Absentee ballot instructions: Fill out an application for an absentee ballot. You may obtain an application in the town clerk’s office, or visit [oabr-sots.ct.gov](http://oabr-sots.ct.gov) where you can fill out an application. You must be a current Colchester voter at the time of the application.

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

ply online the ballot will be mailed to you.

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

If delivered in person, it must be delivered to the town clerk no later than Monday, April 1, at 4:30 p.m.;

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

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

If put in the Absentee Ballot box located in front of Town Hall, it must be placed by the 8 p.m. close of polls on Primary Day.

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

### 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](mailto:csc@colchesterct.gov), or for a full list of activities, visit [www.colchesterct.gov/senior-center](http://www.colchesterct.gov/senior-center).

**Monday, March 11:** 9 a.m., CoA Meeting (Town Hall), Making Memories, Exercise w/ Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize; 10:30 a.m., Irish Potato Cake Food Demo; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg, Bridge; 12:45 p.m., Set-back.

**Tuesday, March 12:** 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10 a.m., Regional LTC Ombudsman Meeting; 11:30 a.m., Food for Thought Presentation; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle, CHOICES Counseling; 1:30 p.m., Bingo; 7 p.m., SCBC Meeting (via Zoom).

**Wednesday, March 13:** 9 a.m., Making Mem-

ories Program, Walking Group meet-up at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 9-11 a.m., Tech Time with Harry, by appointment; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., AARP Smart Driver Course; 1:30 p.m., Cardio Drumming; 2:30 p.m., CSC Staff Meeting.

**Thursday, March 14:** 9 a.m., Exercise w/ Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling, Card-Making; 10:30 a.m., Shopping Trip; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; noon-3 p.m., Senior Benefits Counseling; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

**Friday, March 15:** 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:15 a.m., Across the Ages; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 10:45 a.m., Blood Pressure Clinic; 11 a.m., Yoga; 1:30 p.m., Bingo; 2 p.m., Ham Radio.

**Waffle Day Breakfast:** Monday, March 25, 9 a.m. March 25 is International Waffle Day, so have a special breakfast consisting of two waffles with various toppings from the waffle bar, breakfast sausage, fruit cup and assorted beverages. Also, learn about waffles from various countries, and expand your waffle knowledge. Cost is \$5 per person. Space is limited.

### From the State Representative’s Desk

“As we begin March, Public Hearings and Committee Meetings are in full swing at the State Capitol.

On February 27th, I had the opportunity to testify in front of the Veteran’s & Military Affairs Committee in strong support of S.B. No. 237, An Act Establishing a Personal Income Tax Deduction for Military Funeral Honor Guard Detail Compensation. There are 12 Military Honor Guard Squads in Connecticut that provide “Military Honors” to departed veterans across the state. One of these squads resides in Colchester and responds to some 250 funerals in a calendar year.

The purpose of S.B. 237 is to establish a personal income tax deduction for compensation received for performing Honor Guard Squad duties as authorized by CGS Section 27-76 and will have a minimal budgetary impact. The equipment and maintenance list are extensive and passing this legislation will enable these fine Honor Guard Squads to continue to provide this good service and minimize the amount of expenses each member contributes. For more on this bill, including my audio and written testimony, please visit [www.RepDeCaprio.com](http://www.RepDeCaprio.com).

On March 1st, I had the opportunity to read to several first-grade classes at Colchester Elementary School, in celebration of Read Across America! The book I chose to read was “Bear’s Loose Tooth”, and the students were very excited and engaged. I stressed to them how important it was to read and the children all agreed. To go along with the book, I asked if any of them were like Bear with a loose tooth? Many of them raised their hand, some saying - I have three loose teeth right now! I want to thank all Colchester Elementary School students and school staff for their warm welcome and indulgence.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at [mark.decaprio@house-gop.ct.gov](mailto:mark.decaprio@house-gop.ct.gov).

State Rep. Mark DeCaprio  
R-48th District

Note: The 48th House District covers Colchester, Bozrah, Franklin and Lebanon.

### Land Trust Hike

The Colchester Land Trust (CLT) is offering two trail hikes in one on St. Patrick’s Day, Sunday, March 17, at 9 a.m.

The hike is free for CLT members and kids under 18, and \$5 for non-members. Leashed dogs are welcome; must bring waste bags.

CLT board member Scott Sivek will lead a three-mile hike through Bulkeley Hill Preserve, then one mile up the paved road and into the two-mile Hayward Reserve of East Haddam and back to the Bulkeley Hill Preserve parking lot. Total miles are roughly 6-7. This is a moderate difficulty, moderate elevation hike, featuring non-groomed dirt trails with rocks and roots. Please dress for weather and wear appropriate

boots or sneakers. Bring bottled water and sunscreen. Tick and bug protection strongly suggested.

From Route 2, take left on Route 16W to Bulkeley Hill Road on the left; follow for 1.5 miles to the preserve’s graveled parking lot on the right, directly across from the mailbox at 243 Bulkeley Hill Rd. The entry has a wooden hanging sign. For more information, email [scottsivek@gmail.com](mailto:scottsivek@gmail.com).

Visit [www.colchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.colchesterlandtrust.org) to register/ pay in advance. CLT is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that works to permanently protect open space in Colchester. Visit the aforementioned website to join or donate.

### ARPA Funding Available for Residents

The town recently launched a new process for residents to apply for financial assistance in a program funded through the town’s allocation of funds under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The Board of Selectmen has committed up to \$100,000 of ARPA funds to support resident households who are living at or below 300% of the federal poverty level and struggling with expenses.

Any household still trying to recover from the impacts of the pandemic can apply for funds to assist with the following:

Rental/mortgage assistance; utilities; home

repairs that address health and/or safety hazards; car repairs for transportation to work, school or job training; heating; and other categories that may include: medical co-pays, eyeglasses, work uniforms, training programs, and other unforeseen expenses.

Residents are asked to fill out an application for financial assistance available at [ColchesterCT.Gov/ARPAHelp](http://ColchesterCT.Gov/ARPAHelp) and provide required supporting documentation.

For additional information on the program, residents can call Colchester Social Services at 860-537-7255.

### CSC Board, Coach Positions Open

Several Colchester Soccer Club (CSC) board positions are available for the 2024 soccer season. For more information on open board positions, email Tim Daniels at [president@colchestersoccer.org](mailto:president@colchestersoccer.org).

There are also Travel Coach Positions open for the 2024 season. Interested candidates should contact Lee Elliott by April 7 by emailing [lee.elliott@colchestersoccer.org](mailto:lee.elliott@colchestersoccer.org).

### Fish Fry Fridays

The Colchester Fish and Game Club is holding its annual Fish Fry dinners every Friday during Lent, continuing through and including Good Friday, March 29.

Meal choices include traditional fish and chips, baked fish with baked potato, the club’s breaded clam strip dinner, as well as chicken nuggets for the kids. All meals include coleslaw, coffee and dessert. Cost is \$16 for adults and \$9 for kids.

Meals will be served from 6-8 p.m. Takeout is available by calling the club at 860-537-2593 after 5:30 p.m. on Fridays.

### Lions Club Accepting Grant Applications

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

Organizations should be prepared to demonstrate how the funds would be used to benefit the community. Applications can be found on the club’s website, [colchesterlions.org](http://colchesterlions.org), or may be obtained in writing: Colchester Lions Club, P.O. Box 423, Colchester, CT, 06415.

Completed applications must be submitted by March 15.



**GET THE WINTER SALT OFF NOW!!**

**Everyday Low Price \$10.00 Basic Wash**

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

**860-228-WASH OPEN 24/7**



**860-365-5514**

744 Middletown Road  
Colchester, CT

**WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU**

- Vestibular Rehabilitation Therapy
- Vestibular Certified Therapist through the American Institute of Balance
- Orthopedic Therapy
- Sports Medicine
- Geriatric Therapy
- Certified Concussion Therapy
- Aquatic Therapy in free standing heated Hydroworx water tank with treadmill

**TELEHEALTH NOW AVAILABLE!!!**

SPACIOUS OFFICE FOR COVID CONSCIENTIOUS CARE

[www.riverrockpt.com](http://www.riverrockpt.com)



**LIST WITH US... SEE WHY BELOW!!**

232 S. Main St., Colchester  
860-537-9559

<p><b>RARELY AVAILABLE PAR 3 HOME</b></p>  <p><b>COLCHESTER \$349,900</b></p> <p>41 Fairway Dr. This beautiful 1-2 bedroom ranch is meticulously cared for and “move in” ready. Thoughtfully designed, the detached single-family home includes a walkout, lower level ready to finish, hardwood silent floors, a large deep I car garage, deck, and patio. Ready to move right in!</p> <p>Call Scott for details 860-608-0769</p>	<p><b>AWESOME LOCATION</b></p>  <p><b>COLCHESTER \$284,900</b></p> <p>165 Pine Brook Rd. New roof, new water heater and a gorgeous cathedral vaulted family room off the rear of the home. Priced to sell in this \$400,000 neighborhood but does need cosmetics. Bring your tool belt and build equity!</p> <p>Call Scott for details 860-608-0769</p>
<p><b>METICULOUS TOWNHOME</b></p>  <p><b>SOLD \$45,000 ABOVE LIST PRICE</b></p> <p><b>COLCHESTER \$264,900</b></p> <p>5 Vicki Lane Come visit Ridgeview, a petite townhome community featuring 2 bed, 2.5 bath 1450 sf townhome complete w/ 1 car garage. Partially finished lower level, central air and fireplace. Move right in!</p> <p>Call Scott for details 860-608-0769</p>	<p><b>NEW TO MARKET</b></p>  <p><b>SOLD \$35,000 ABOVE LIST PRICE</b></p> <p><b>COLCHESTER \$299,900</b></p> <p>88 Mill Hill Road Open floor plan, solid bones and mechanicals, quiet private 1.5+ acres. 2 hours to NY and Boston, close to amenities.</p> <p>Call/Text Nick Long 860-334-2868</p>

**We Pay To Prep Your Home For Sale!**

Boyden Real Estate will invest up to \$1000 to assist in repairs and staging your home for sale. Some restrictions apply.

# \$45.73M Schools Budget Proposed

By Michael Sinkewicz

Colchester Superintendent of Schools Daniel Sullivan III requested \$45.73 million to run the district for the upcoming 2024-25 fiscal year — a \$1.75 million, or 3.97%, increase over current-year spending.

Sullivan, along with Assistant Superintendent of Schools Jessica Kuckel, presented the budget to the Board of Education (BOE) last week on Feb. 27. The BOE will be hosting a follow-up budget workshop tomorrow, Saturday, March 9, at 9 a.m., at the Colchester Elementary School cafeteria.

“We’ve worked really hard to have good opportunities for kids at the most responsible cost possible,” Sullivan said, adding that they were “asking for a ‘maintain status quo’ budget.”

Salaries and benefits represent the largest piece of the spending plan — totaling over \$28 million — followed by special education costs at nearly \$10.5 million. Included in those categories are certified staff salaries, which increased by \$1.44 million, and classified salaries, which spiked by around \$180,000.

The district is requesting funding for two registered behavioral technicians at \$79,332, that both currently being funded through an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant, to address special education needs.

Sullivan highlighted net current expenditures (NCE) — which includes all current public elementary and secondary expenditures, excluding reimbursable regular education transportation, tuition revenue, capital expenditures for land, buildings and equipment and debt service — in comparison to the towns in Colchester’s district reference group (DRG), a collection of state schools with similar socioeconomic conditions.

Essentially, NCE indicates how much each school district is spending per student. Out of 24 schools in its DRG, Colchester ranked 17th at \$18,792, putting it towards the bottom of student spending. But Sullivan added that districts such as Waterford, East Hampton and East Lyme that are perhaps most geographically and operationally similar to Colchester, are spending more per student. And Cromwell, another closely aligned district, is spending slightly less.

Overall, he conveyed the district was getting “really good bang for our buck,” especially when considering student academic performance. For example, Kuckel explained that around 80% of students in grades 11 and 12 met the college and career readiness benchmark through SAT or ACT scores, AP or IB exam scores or by accumulating three or more dual enrollment credits.

Following the presentation, the school board’s initial reaction was largely reserved. Additional budget documents were posted on the school district’s website during the meeting that the members had not had time to fully examine either.

“I know I’ll have questions for you all next time,” said BOE chairman Alexander Oliphant. “I just need to look at the information first.”

This is Sullivan’s second budget cycle since taking over the school district in January 2023. He underscored his spending pitch as being a continuation of quality services being offered throughout the local public school system, following a fairly contentious and prolonged process the prior year.

“Last year I think we all know was a difficult budget year,” he told the board, recalling a months-long slog that ultimately ended in August when the 2023-24 budget was passed at townwide referendum. “I could not be more grateful for the support of the community through the budget process last year.”

Sullivan said that during the previous budget cycle, people questioned whether his lofty request would be the new norm, and if substantial year-over-year increases should be expected. He recalled telling the school board at the time that the current operational 2023-24 budget would be a “market adjustment.”

“If we get the market adjustment we need, we’re going to be able to move in a good direction,” Sullivan expressed. “Tonight, I stand before you and I ask you to please help us keep a good thing going.”

The BOE last year had originally adopted a \$46.15 million budget — a \$4.13 million, or 9.83%, increase in spending — before the Board of Finance (BOF) modified the bottom line to \$43.68 million, which was a \$1.65 million, or 3.9%, increase. After failing at referendum, \$300,000 was restored to the school budget proposal, bringing the total to \$43.98 million, or around \$1.95 million above the 2022-23 fiscal year budget. That was number was the one voters ultimately passed.

To complete that process, the finance board got creative by finding ways to shave the bottom-line and save school district money, at least in the short term. A Honeywell payment was reclassified, saving the school \$212,236, along with \$600,000 for an out of district tuition expense. Together, those two items removed over \$800,000 from the 2023-24 proposal.

Last week, Sullivan explained that moving forward, the out of district special education cost would need to return to the 2024-25 budget in the amount of \$429,423; the figure is less than last year’s allotment because the placement became eligible for excess cost reimbursement, according to Sullivan.

While the unique actions from last year helped contain the budget’s year-over-year increase, the district had to digest part of its prior savings this time around. Had it not employed that strategy last year, the overall spending increase would have instead been 3% instead of 3.97% this year, Sullivan said, but last year’s budget consequently would’ve expanded.

Heading into this cycle, the district attempted to get ahead of lingering questions and concerns regarding the new spending plan. In December, school leaders held a community meeting to flesh out the substantial undertaking of crafting

a district-wide budget.

“The reason we did this tonight quite simply is that we’re trying to be as upfront as possible about how this happens,” Sullivan told the *Rivereast* following the December meeting. “I think last year in the budget process, I got the impression that some people thought the process was top down, and two or three people sit in a room and decide what we need.”

## Capital Improvement Plan

At a prior meeting on Feb. 22, the BOE received a presentation from the Pride and Purpose Facilities Committee, which includes volunteers from the school board, administration and community, that recommended the BOE adopt a long-term plan to address the district’s capital needs.

The school board did not take any action on a capital plan during either meeting last month, but may explore the idea during tomorrow’s workshop.

The committee’s co-chairman — Colchester Elementary School Principal Judy O’Meara and Bacon Academy Math Specialist Matthew Parsons — provided a detailed breakdown of numerous projects at the district’s four schools that are either approaching or surpassed their life expectancy.

Among its highest priorities were replacing the Bacon Academy roof, estimated to cost \$4 million; upgrading the Bacon Academy athletic complex, earmarked at \$7.5 million; and Bacon Academy theatre improvements at \$250,000.

Other top priorities include playground maintenance at Jack Jacker Intermediate School costing roughly \$50,000, along with tree removal and concrete work allotted for \$80,000.

The committee suggested the BOE commit to a funding cycle that begins tackling some of the projects across the district. In recent years, the BOE has not supported an ongoing capital plan as part of its overall budget. The co-chairman explained that by identifying longterm projects and allocating funding accordingly, the impact on any specific budget will be limited,

and it would allow the district to address significant undertakings that otherwise could not be included in a normal operating budget while avoiding potential fiscal cliffs.

Although the committee provided an overview of different short and long-term needs, and their associated price tags, it did not provide a specific blueprint for how the BOE should move forward. Those decisions, including which projects to fund and when, should be determined by the board itself, the co-chairs conveyed.

BOE vice chairman Christopher Rivers suggested that the board’s official facilities subcommittee should take the findings and look into the subject further. However, Sullivan indicated that the BOE should aim to have an adopted capital plan before the 2024-25 budget is formally sent to the BOF in April.

Historically, Sullivan asserted, the BOE has dedicated funding to capital projects only to eliminate it in order to reduce the overall taxpayer request. Maintenance, he continued, should be essential; William J. Johnston Middle School — the district’s most recently renovated building — will require steady financing at the risk of falling into disrepair in the future.

Meanwhile, Bacon Academy, which is 30 years old, is “really approaching a crossroads,” Sullivan said. He said there are two choices: “immediate intervention” or “are we going to just wait for it to fall down and then build a new building?”

“Ultimately, money needs to go into capital projects and it needs to be a priority, which means either that we fund it or we have to make other difficult decisions,” Sullivan said, adding that perhaps the district would eventually have to cut a teacher or school program. “Something has to give.”

Sullivan emphasized that in addition to the projects the district and town know have to be addressed at some point, unforeseen incidents can occur that suddenly change and impact the financial dynamic.

“Life still happens,” he said.

## Trip to Newport Playhouse

The Colchester Senior Center, located at 95 Norwich Ave., will offer a trip to the Newport Playhouse to see *The Foresome* on Thursday, May 16, at 9:30 a.m.

In the play, four old school chums get together for a friendly round of golf during their fifteenth college reunion. Old rivalries, romances and bragging rights are won and lost in 18 holes. Enjoy a homemade lunch buffet before the show

and a cabaret after the show.

Cost is \$152/person. Register by coming into the senior center before April 16. Trips are available to Colchester Senior Center members and their adult guests over the age of 18. Membership is free for Colchester residents aged 55 and older. There is an annual fee of \$15 for seniors residing outside of Colchester.

## Athletic Director’s Club

Loudon Chupas of Colchester was recently inducted into the Athletic Director’s 3.0 Club for the fall 2023 semester, at American International College in Springfield, Mass.

Chupas was honored as one of more than 300 student-athletes who have achieved a commendable cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher during their tenure at AIC.

Chupas is majoring in criminal justice.

## Trip to Sight & Sound Theater

The St. Andrew Ladies Guild in Colchester, is sponsoring a trip to Amish country in Pennsylvania May 29-31, to see *Daniel* at the Sight & Sound Theater.

The trip will include a dinner with an Amish family, a bus tour of the Amish community visiting local shops, and a stop in Philadelphia to visit a museum and the Liberty Bell. The trip is \$645 per person, double. \$779 for a single. The bus will leave from the St. Andrew Church parking lot in Colchester.

For more information, contact Barbara Gozzo at [barbgozzo@gmail.com](mailto:barbgozzo@gmail.com) or 860-208-4121.

## Rotary Scholarships

Upcoming 2024 Colchester graduates who will be pursuing either a traditional college program or a trade school can apply for a chance to be awarded one of two \$1,000 scholarships from Honor Rotary! A Foundation for Colchester, Inc. For applications, contact the Bacon Academy counseling office.

Also, Colchester Rotary asks that people consider donating to its scholarship fund when visiting any of the following businesses: Westchester Market, Noel’s IGA, Toyo Hibachi & Asian Fusion, and Broadway Wine & Spirits.

People can also donate by mailing a check to: Honor Rotary! P.O. Box 775, Colchester, CT 06415.

## Monthly Veterans’ Coffee Meet-Up

The Town of Colchester is inviting former military members to the first “Veteran Coffee House” on Saturday, March 16. Unless otherwise announced, the meetings will be held on the third Saturday of each month, from 10:15 a.m.-noon, at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave. (April’s meet-up will actually be on Friday, April 19.)

This monthly gathering is being organized

to connect those who served their country in the armed forces with other veterans, and guest speakers will provide information about beneficial veteran programs and services as well as health and well-being.

Coffee and light snacks will be provided.

For more information, call Mary Emerling at 860-537-2921.

## Colchester Federated Church News

Colchester Federated Church is an Open and Affirming church located at 60 Main St. Pastor is the Rev. Lauren Ostrout. The church office is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The office can be reached at 860-537-5189 or [cfc06415@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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 located just off the sanctuary. Visit the church website for more information and to register for Sunday School.

**Holy Week Schedule: Palm Sunday, March 24:** 9 a.m., Worship Service w/ Palm Sunday Processional; 10 a.m., Pancake Breakfast.

**Mundy Thursday, March 28:** 7 p.m., Worship Service: The Last Supper. The church will contemplate the last night Jesus spent with his disciples. Communion will be served. **Good Friday, March 29: Noon,** Worship Service: Stations of the Cross. Walk throughout the Sanctuary from station to station and contemplate the seven last words Jesus spoke from the cross. **Eastert Sunday, March 31:** 6:15 a.m., Sunrise Service at Lake Hayward; 9 a.m., Worship Service w/ Communion. Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ together; Communion will be served at our service in the sanctuary.

**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.

## Westchester Church News

Westchester Congregational Church, 98 Cemetery Rd., holds worship Sundays at 10 a.m. The services are also available on Zoom; visit [westchesterconchurch.org](http://westchesterconchurch.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 [westconchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westconchurch@gmail.com) or call 860-267-6711.

## Kindergarten Registration

Colchester Elementary School has announced kindergarten registration is now open for the 2024-25 school year.

To register, go to [colchesterct.org](http://colchesterct.org) and follow the link to Registration then Pre-Register. Be sure to select the 2024-25 school year.

For more information, call 860-537-7628.

## Ukrainian Church Making Pierogies

St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church will be selling homemade pierogies to support the church on Saturday, March 23. If you need some, place an order by calling Brenda at 860-365-0281.

There will be 165 dozen available for sale.

## Pancake Breakfast and Door Prizes

Scouts BSA Troop and Pack 109 will hold a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser Saturday, March 9, from 8-11 a.m., at Westchester Congregational Church, located at 98 Cemetery Rd. in Colchester.

The menu will offer pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, fruit, and breakfast beverages. Door prizes will also be available. Fee is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and younger and seniors 65 and older.

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

**Giving Garden Meets March 14**

The Colchester Giving Garden will have an information evening Thursday, March 14, at 5:30 p.m., in Norton Room B at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave.

This will be an informational night to let folks know about the garden. All are welcome to attend. There is no gardening experience necessary to participate and all ages can join in.

This spring and summer will be the garden's 12th year of operation. The garden is a fully

volunteer-run vegetable garden; all of the produce grown is donated to the town food bank and area soup kitchens to help feed the food insecure in the community. The Giving Garden has yielded over 14,500 lbs. of food since starting in 2013.

Also at the meeting, garden organizers will welcome new ideas on how to improve the garden.

For more information, email [colchester-givinggarden@gmail.com](mailto:colchester-givinggarden@gmail.com).

**Bacon to Host 'Tree-Plenish'**

Bacon Academy environmental science students are hosting a native tree sale and planting event. Tree-Plenish is a nonprofit organization run exclusively by college students to promote the planting of native tree species.

Residents may choose to have volunteers deliver and plant saplings in their yards, or they can pick them up at Bacon. This year's event will take place Saturday, April 20. Sapling sales will be available online only, from now through

March 20. Saplings are \$5 each.

There are three tree species from which to choose: American Sycamore, Red Maple, and Eastern Redbud. All saplings are bare root (not potted) and will range in size based on the species ordered.

The link to this year's event is [tpevents.org/school/4019](https://tpevents.org/school/4019). Information regarding how to purchase saplings, volunteer, or sponsor this event can be found at the website.

**Incoming Kindergarten Story Time**

Colchester Elementary School will host the Incoming Kindergarten Story Time program Thursdays, March 14 and April 18, for 4- and 5-year-old Colchester children who will be entering kindergarten during the 2024-25 school year.

During each session, children will listen to books read by kindergarten teachers, while parents learn about the registration process, the

kindergarten curriculum, readiness expectations, the school day, school policies and transportation. A question-and-answer period will be available at each session.

The program will be held each month from 11-11:30 a.m., in the CES media center. Parents and children are invited to attend multiple story times. Topics for parent information change each month. No pre-registration is required.

**DTC to Celebrate Two**

On the evening of Friday, March 15, the Colchester DTC will honor two people for their service to Colchester: Goldie Liverant and Mary Tomasi.

The celebration will take place at the Polish Club at 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and there will be a cash bar.

All are invited. While tickets will be avail-

able at the door, for the purposes of planning, an RSVP is requested. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online at [secure.anedot.com/colchesterdemocrats/donate](https://secure.anedot.com/colchesterdemocrats/donate), or by sending a check to Colchester DTC, 89 Shadbush Drive, Colchester, CT 06415.

Contact Monica Swyden at 860-465-7909 or [monicacswyden@gmail.com](mailto:monicacswyden@gmail.com) for more information.

**Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner**

The St. Joseph's Polish Society, located at 395 South Main St., is hosting its annual corned beef and cabbage dinner Sunday, March 10, from 1-3 p.m.

Dinner is available for takeout or dine-in and includes corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, rye bread and butter. Tickets are \$15 per person.

There is a limited number of tickets this year, and the society recommends purchasing them in advance during regular business hours: Monday through Friday, 4-10 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, noon-10 p.m.

For more information, call 860-537-2550.

**Ahavath Achim News**

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

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

**Shabbat Schedule:** Friday at 6:30 p.m., live and on Zoom with Cantor Tami Cherdack Sherman; Saturday morning, 10 a.m., live and on Zoom.

There are daily Facebook Live classes on Ken Alter's Facebook page, on "Ask the Rabbi - Bible Portion."

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

**Christian Life Chapel News**

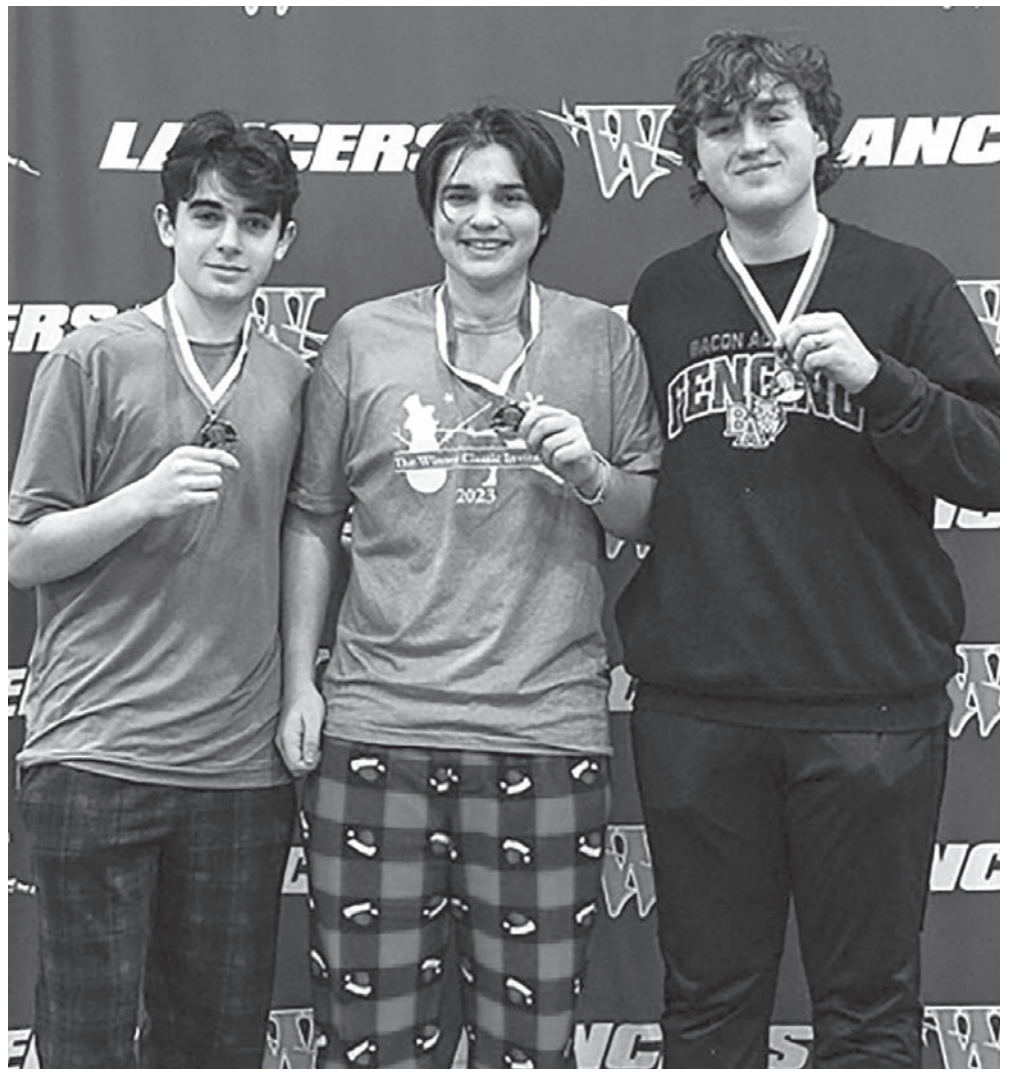
Christian Life Chapel, located at 392 S. Main St., holds worship in person at 10 a.m. Sundays. Follow the church on Facebook for the livestream. For more information, call Pastor Don Rivers - the church's bi-vocational pastor, who also serves as president for "Racing with Jesus, Inc." - at 860-398-9119 or visit [christian-lifechapel.org](http://christian-lifechapel.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.



**Fab Fencers...** The Bacon Academy men's epee team placed second in the ECC Team Relay fencing tournament held at Waterford High School on Feb. 11. Pictured from left are Oliver Melmed, Bennett Hollway (captain) and Colton Waterman.

**Classifieds Pay**

The Glastonbury Citizen & The Rivereast News Bulletin

Email your Classified Line Ad to [admin@glicitizen.com](mailto:admin@glicitizen.com) and call with your credit card number.

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

**Enrolled at Eastern**

The following Colchester residents are among the students newly enrolled at Eastern Connecticut State University this spring 2024 semester:

Melanie Martin, a graduate student majoring in non-degree; Luke Banning, a first-year student majoring in exploratory - undecided; Neely Hart, a first-year student majoring in business administration; Matthew Rapuano, a junior majoring in mathematics; and Ella Walsh is a first-year student majoring in business administration.

**Skyview REALTY**

Jack Faski Owner/Broker  
Matt Faski Sales Associate

**Spring Forward!**

**And let Skyview help you SPRING into a New Home!**

860-214-1147 • [www.skyview-realty.com](http://www.skyview-realty.com)  
35 Hayward Ave., Colchester, CT 06415

**30 Years in the Travel Business**

Excellent Service! Inventive Solutions!  
Personal Touches! Magical Memories!

Call Hebron Travel Today and Get Out of Town!

**Hebron Travel** SINCE 1994  
61-B Main Street, Hebron, CT 06248  
860.228.8221  
Toll Free 888.881.3545 • [hebrontravel@cs.com](mailto:hebrontravel@cs.com)

Members of the public are invited to

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

State Project No. 0028-0208, Rehabilitation of Bridge Nos. 03395 & 03396, Route 2 WB & EB over Route 85

Town of Colchester

March 19, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Register: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOTColchester28-208>

YouTube Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/@ctdotofficial/streams>

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 extend the service life of Bridge Nos. 03395 and 03396 by addressing the structural deficiencies, areas of advanced deterioration, and ultimately bringing the bridges up to a state of good repair while also considering impacts to Route 2 traffic above and Route 85 traffic below the bridges.

Right-of-way impacts associated with the proposed project are not anticipated.

Construction is anticipated to begin spring 2026 based on the availability of funding. The estimated construction cost for this project is approximately \$14,500,000. This project is anticipated to be undertaken with 80 percent Federal funds and 20 percent State funds.

Please register for the virtual public information meeting at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOTColchester28-208>. Registration is required to participate. 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 April 2, 2024 to: [DOTProject28-208@ct.gov](mailto:DOTProject28-208@ct.gov) and 860-594-2020 or Lesgie Ruiz, Transportation Engineer, at [Lesgie.Ruiz@ct.gov](mailto:Lesgie.Ruiz@ct.gov) or at (860) 594-3351.

**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: [portal.ct.gov/ctdotvpiarchive](https://portal.ct.gov/ctdotvpiarchive)

Persons with limited internet access, use the call-in number 877-853-5257 and enter Meeting ID 813 9968 4957. Persons with limited internet access may also request that project information be mailed to them within one week by contacting Lesgie Ruiz.

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.

Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron

# Town Manager Makes Spending Pitch

By Michael Sinkewicz

Hebron Town Manager Andrew Tierney presented his proposed budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year, requesting \$41.38 million – an increase of \$2.27 million, or 5.8%, over the current year.

The overall budget includes expenditures for municipal spending, the Hebron Board of Education, and the town's levy for the RHAM Board of Education budget.

Tierney recommended a capital improvement plan (CIP) of \$1.38 million, which includes a general government contribution of \$1.2 million along with additional revenue sources, such as LOCIP funding.

With proposed budget and the October 2023 grand list – which decreased by \$1.17 million – the mill rate for real estate and personal property would be 35.47, which represents a 2.28 mill spike.

Based on the figures relayed by Tierney, a household with the median property assessment of \$248,360 would see a tax bill of \$8,809 next fiscal year – an increase of \$566.

Following his presentation at the Douglas Library on Tuesday evening in front of the boards of selectmen and finance, the town manager told the *Rivereast* that the budget was "too high" to receive widespread community support, signaling that it would "absolutely not" pass a referendum.

Tierney conveyed that he'll be working collaboratively with the other two entities – the

two school boards – to trim the overall spending plan.

"They could carve a little bit, I could carve a little bit," he said.

While Tierney asserted that there wasn't a lot of "fluff" in the budget – he'd already reduced the department head's combined request by over \$400,000 – he said it would be advantageous to make reductions before the community officially weighed in.

"If it goes into the booth and it doesn't pass, then they're going to cut it anyways," he said.

Hebron's general government budget \$12.07 million – a \$1.44 million, or 10.47% increase. Some of the "budget drivers" identified by the town manager include contractual salary increases, payroll accrual – a one-time request following an audit finding – medical insurance, waste disposal fees and state trooper services.

Both the local school district and RHAM budget proposals had already been distributed publicly by the their school boards.

The Hebron Board of Education proposed \$13.74 million – a \$943,313, or 7.37% increase.

Tierney noted that the town did not aboard the cost of an additional school resource officer for the district – a request submitted by the school board. The boards of selectmen and finance could decide to add it, however, at roughly \$100,000.

Hebron is responsible for 50% of the RHAM

budget proposal, equating to \$15.57 million – an increase of \$180,857.

The town's proposed capital project budget is slated to increase by nearly \$800,000 next year. They include a variety of initiatives, such as road resurfacing and improvements at roughly \$330,000, replacing a plow truck for around \$275,000, a culvert replacement on Jones Road for \$44,500, senior center parking drainage, repaving and expansion at \$75,000 and Horton House improvements at \$50,000.

The largest capital items, though were roof replacements at both Hebron Elementary and Gilead Hill schools, as requested by the local school board. Together, the funding allocation this year would \$600,000. According to Mal Leichter, a finance board and public building committee member, that amount may only represent roughly 50-60% of the total project cost.

However, Tierney explained that they're both eligible for state reimbursement for up to 54%, and the projects need to be funded upfront.

Peter Kasper, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, expressed during the joint-meeting that the CIP request was an "alarming number," and while the projects were important, that amount would likely be untenable to the public.

Facing a substantial budget request, much of the boards' initial deliberations centered around creative funding alternatives. They pointed to the town's unassigned fund balance which is currently sitting around 25% of the operating town budget – well above the state recommen-

ation of 10-15%.

That money could be used to offset financial burdens on the town, Tierney said during his post-meeting interview. But he warned that officials have to be careful with how they tap into that money.

"It's not a good rule to grab money to offset taxes," he said, adding that it creates "a false sense of revenue."

Ideally that funding should be used for a one-time expenditure or something that's not going to be a reoccurring expense in the budget. For example, Tierney said the town removed a new fire-truck from the CIP budget, and is seeking a grant to assist with the cost. It's a project that could be identified for unassigned dollars, as well.

Another avenue could be open space. Brian O'Connell, chairman of the Open Space Land Acquisition Committee, highlighted the importance of funding future purchases. At the moment, Tierney budgeted \$125,000 in the 2024-25 proposal – up \$100,000 from the current year. O'Connell indicated that he had originally requested \$200,000.

All three of the slideshow presentations for upcoming fiscal year have been posted on the town's website, along with additional documentation: [hebronct.com/budget-information/](http://hebronct.com/budget-information/)

Overall, tax revenue accounts for \$32.37 million of the total \$41.38 million budget. The bottom-line is broken down by percentage: RHAM BOE budget represents 38%; the Hebron BOE represents 33%; the town budget represents 29%.

## Christ Lutheran News & Notes

All are invited to worship at Christ Lutheran Church (LCMS), located at 330 Church St., Amston, on Sundays at 9 a.m. People who are unable to attend in person can join online at [www.facebook.com/clchebron/live](http://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.

**Lent Season Services:** Wednesdays, March 6-20, starting with a soup supper at 6 p.m. followed by a service at 7 p.m.

**Hebron Maple Fest:** March 16 and 17. All are invited to stop by the church's booth and have some of its maple cookies.

**Early Childhood Center (Daycare):** The center offers childcare, preschool and before/after school in a Christian environment. The center is open to all children regardless of faith. Immediate openings are available for children. For more information, call Jennifer Johnson at 860-228-5134. Application forms are available at [www.clecchebron.org](http://www.clecchebron.org).

**Caring Shepherds Social Ministry Group:** Holds regular food pantry days to distribute food staples, household and hygiene items as well as Bibles and prayers. For more information about donating or participating in food pantry days, call 860-228-1152.

## Maple Fest Returns March 16 & 17

All are invited to Hebron's 32nd annual Maple Festival, which will take place Saturday and Sunday, March 16 and 17, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. each day.

Folks can visit sugar houses, run in the 5k Sap Run, stop by Artist Open Studios and Donifer's Eeyore and Donkey Museum, watch the sled dog teams race and the UConn Woodsmen Team – then head downtown for activities for all ages. On Sunday, events will

also include the famous Tractor Parade along Route 66.

Local musicians, artisans, food trucks and maple treats round out the festival. This festival is free to the public. Parking and shuttle bus service is available at RHAM High School. Follow The Town Center Project, Inc. on Facebook for the most up-to-date information.

## 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](http://holyfamilyhebron.org) for more information. The church office can be reached at 860-228-0096. Church of the Holy Family is a member of the Catholic Community of the Good Shepherd, and is yoked with St. Columba Church in Columbia.

**Lenten Bible Study:** "No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion," a video and discussion series filmed in the Holy Land, takes place Friday mornings from 9:15-10:45 a.m., at St. Columba Church. Edward Sri, who is joined by other lecturers, will guide participants through the last hours of Christ's life. To register, contact Janet or Jed Larson at 860-742-6344 or email [jjlarson278@gmail.com](mailto:jjlarson278@gmail.com). Good Shepherd pastor the Rev. Michael Phillipino will join the group as time permits.

**Church Collecting for Homeless Shelter:**

Church of the Holy Family collects items for the Windham Region No Freeze Hospitality Center, which provides assistance to homeless adults. Due to limited storage space, only the following items can be accepted: men's & women's wool or wool-blend socks; men's boxer briefs & women's "Boy Shorts" briefs (M,L,XL,2XL); 55- and 13-gallon trash bags; four-gallon plastic wastebaskets and trash bags to fit; inexpensive ear buds for cell phones; laundry pods; TP & paper towels; disinfectant wipes, Lysol spray, and bathroom and floor cleaners; men's & women's deodorant; new or gently used bath towels; \$15 Stop & Shop gift cards for gas; \$25 Walmart gift cards for client emergencies; and donations by check. Call to arrange the pick-up of gift cards and to obtain mailing instructions for cash donations. 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.

## Dean's List

Amston residents Josh Susman and Patrick Emmons made the fall 2023 Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, N.Y.

Susman is in the cybersecurity program, and Emmons is in the game design and development program.

**HunterDouglas** **Comfortex** **& more** **all about blinds**

**Custom Window Treatments**

- BLINDS • SHADES • SHUTTERS •
- DRAPERIES and MORE •

89 Main St. East Hampton, CT  
**860-267-8330**  
[AllAboutBlindsCT.com](http://AllAboutBlindsCT.com)  
*Keeping Sven's Legacy Alive*

REG-16-23

**Discovery Zone learning Center**



<b>45 Pendleton Dr.</b> Hebron <b>860-228-3952</b>	<b>152 Hebron Rd.</b> Marlborough <b>860-295-8003</b>	<b>2 Orlando Dr.</b> Columbia <b>860-228-8885</b>
--	---	---

**Infant, Toddler, Preschool, School Age Programs**  
**Monday-Friday 7am-6pm Year Round**  
**Ask about our curriculum & special programs!**

REG-16-21

**Braces Made Me Smile!**

Personalized Care for Children, Teenagers, and Adults



Peyton

- Invisalign
- Clear Braces
- Digital X-rays
- Free Consultation
- Flexible Financing
- Cutting Edge Technology

**JASON T. RANEY, D.M.D., LLC**  
Board-Certified Orthodontist



**10 Wall Street, Hebron, CT 06248**  
**(860) 228-9800 • www.raneyortho.com**

REG-8-24

**Gilead Church Craft Fair**

Gilead Congregational Church (672 Gilead St.) will host a Craft Fair Saturday, March 16, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., during Hebron's Maple Festival.

Some of the crafts that will be available for sale are handmade jewelry, local photography, handcrafted pet accessories, artwork, crochet and knit products, handmade soaps, and more. There will also be the famous Maple Cakes made by Women's Fellowship, to munch on as you window shop throughout the Fellowship Hall.

**Maple by Moonlight**

As a kickoff to 2024 Hebron Maple Festival weekend, The Town Center Project is sponsoring the inaugural Maple by Moonlight Gala Fundraiser. This adult-focused event will be held at Colebrook Village at Hebron on Friday, Mach 15, from 6-9 p.m.

All are invited to come dance the evening away to The Sounds of Frank. More information and tickets are available by visiting [givebutter.com/c/4B5E8](http://givebutter.com/c/4B5E8) or by visiting [thetowncenterproject.org](http://thetowncenterproject.org).





Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron

# School District Holds Invention Convention

By Michael Sinkewicz

Dozens of students participated in the school district's annual Hebron Invention Convention last week, showcasing their "ingenious" projects for the community.

In total, 43 inventors split between the Hebron Elementary and Gilead Hill schools participated in the seventh annual convention, which has become one of the highlights of the year for both students and faculty.

Third-grader Owen Bernier was one of eight inventors to be selected for the state convention's semi-finals — a familiar honor for him. Last year, he not only reached the state competition, but also took part in the National Inventors Challenge.

His project this year: "Super Pencil Buddy." Bernier tackled the all too familiar problem of losing pencils, and his invention solved that by gluing together two hair brushes with a small case, slashing the likelihood of utensils escaping. "It was a fun process," he conveyed. "I was just excited to show the world my invention."

Bernier added that he was "proud" of his achievement and is excited for future conventions.

### Part of School Culture

This year, both the amount of students and judges — 17 individuals comprised of teachers, administrators, industry leaders and community members — were records.

The convention was open to every student, grades K-6, as part of the district's school-wide enrichment program. Beginning in November, students who expressed interest in the event identified a problem and started brainstorming possible solutions.

Their hard work culminated during two school days last week when their peers viewed the projects, followed by a day of exploration by the judges and an evening ceremony on Feb. 28 attended by families and community members to recognize the students' efforts.

Overseeing the convention were coordinators Adam Parks, the challenge and enrichment teacher at HES; Katie Finlan, the library media specialist; and Susie Adams, a Spanish and STEAM teacher at GHS.

"It's become part of the culture of our schools," Parks said, adding that everyone throughout the district looks forward to convention-week on the calendar.

Along with a working prototype, students are tasked with creating a display board and an investor's log, which includes details of the stu-

dent's unique thought process as they embarked on their venture.

"Just completing this project is a huge celebration," Parks expressed. "To be able to preserve — that's amazing."

The students selected to represent Hebron at the semi-final event will produce a virtual pitch of their project, similar to what entrepreneurs do on the show Shark Tank. The state judges then determine which students will attend the main event at Gampel Pavilion at UConn.

One of the common themes with all the inventions, Parks recalled, was that they addressed everyday problems, making each observer wonder, "Why didn't I think of that?"

One student designed the "Spill-Less," a contraption that cracked down on milk or juice cartons from spilling. She engineered a rubber thimble that fit over the neck of the container that limited any excess liquid from leaking while being poured.

"The judges loved its simplicity and effectiveness," Parks said.

### 'A Unique View on the World'

Finlan conveyed that everyone goes through live experiencing "little annoyances" and for the most part, "we brush them off."

Elementary-aged students are able to approach issues from a fresh perspective, often leading to "ingenious solutions."

"They have a unique view on the world," she explained. "These kids are coming up with thoughts adults don't think about."

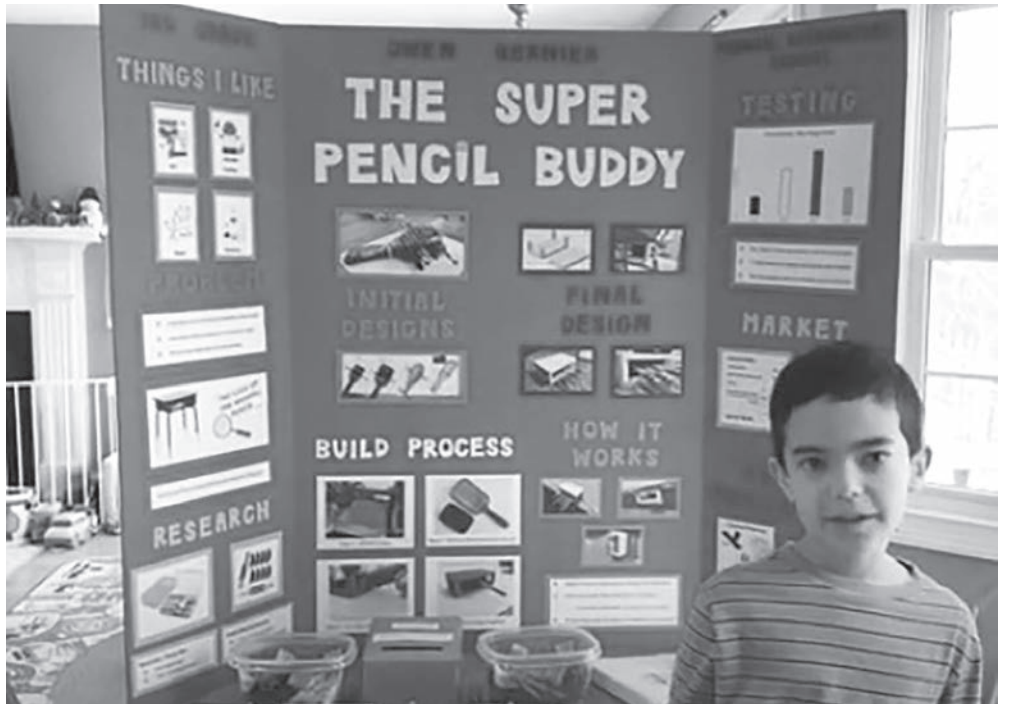
After completing their projects for the convention, students' confidence levels "skyrocket."

Parks, who is also on the Connecticut Invention Convention Board of Directors, said it's hard to quantify the impact of the convention on children, but "they tend to develop the creativeness and willingness to take risks."

Those traits develop in young students who then blossom as they continue to progress through the school system. Both Parks and Finlan have served as judges for high school conversions, where inventors are constantly generating original ideas.

Hosting conventions and establishing it as part of the district's academic and social culture will continue to benefit the community. Parks indicated that in a post-pandemic environment, supporting students is essential.

"Creativity needs to be nurtured," he said, adding that as students get older, the overall



Dozens of local students took part the annual Hebron Invention Convention. Among them was Owen Bernier, above, one of eight inventors to be selected for the state convention's semifinals. Owen won for his project "Super Pencil Buddy."

emphasis shifts away from innovation or imagination and towards soaking up as much knowledge as possible.

The convention, Parks continued, is a great opportunity for students to "put themselves out there" and "take risks" — which doesn't come easy.

"I would've found that challenging," Finlan added.

As coordinators — or perhaps coaches is the more accurate title — they nudge students along by removing barriers. While it's their responsi-

bility to advise whether something is entirely impossible, their general approach is to support students and allow them to pursue their visions.

Instead of saying, "That's not possible," they deploy, "You can do this."

Most of the work itself is done at home and while faculty monitor progress, parents played a vital role in helping their kids complete their journeys, highlighting the community's overall commitment to a proud Hebron tradition.



The Hebron Lion and a Bunny will be available for pictures at the Lions' upcoming Pancake Breakfast, to be held Saturday, March 16.

### Hebron Lions Pancake Breakfast

The Hebron Lions will hold their annual Pancake Breakfast during the Maple Festival on Saturday, March 16, from 8-11:30 a.m., at the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds.

This year, the breakfast will support the Hebron Lions Charities. The Hebron Lions said they could not decide on one named charity this year, so instead they decided to raise funds for the Hebron Lions Charities, which is the source of the donations to all the nonprofit organizations the Lions give to. These beneficiaries include AHM Youth and Family Services, Hebron Interfaith Human Services, Douglas Library, RHAM Youth Sports, and more.

The Lions will serve up a hot breakfast including fresh scrambled eggs donated by Hillandale Farms, pancakes donated by BJs of Williman-

tic, sausages donated by the Hartford Provision Company (HPC), and hash browns donated by McDonald's of Colchester. Also included will be orange juice, coffee, and pure maple syrup donated from Hebron's own Wenzel's Sugarhouse.

The RHAM Leos Club will also be present, offering raffle baskets to help raise funds for charities. The Leos will perform free child eye screenings as well. Families can also have an opportunity to have their photo taken with the Hebron Lion and a Bunny.

Tickets are available online at [www.hebronlions.org/pancakes-breakfast](http://www.hebronlions.org/pancakes-breakfast) or at the door. Breakfast costs \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors, and \$8 for children 10 and younger.

For more information, email Dawn Swagger at [Dawn.Swagger@hebronharvestfair.org](mailto:Dawn.Swagger@hebronharvestfair.org).

# Spring Home & Garden

**2024 GUIDE**

Published: **Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**  
 Deadline: **Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

Delivered inside that week's Special Edition of *The Glastonbury Citizen* which will be mailed to 17,000 HOMES!

**100% Market Coverage**

To take advantage of this great opportunity to promote your business in *The Glastonbury Citizen's* Spring Home & Garden Guide call Lisa at 860-937-7391 or email [lisa@glcitizen.com](mailto:lisa@glcitizen.com)

Rivereast News Bulletin advertisers can call Jason at 860-633-4691 x231 or email [jason@glcitizen.com](mailto:jason@glcitizen.com)

Obituaries

Portland

Janice Lacaillade

Janice “Jan” Blanche Lacaillade (nee Manchester), a humble servant of her community and a devout member of St. Mary Catholic Church in Portland, was called to her eternal rest Monday, March 4, at the age of 81. Born Dec. 30, 1942, in Middletown, Jan’s life was a testament to her unwavering faith and love for her family.



Jan was a cherished wife, mother and sister. She is survived by her devoted husband of 60 years, Edward J. Lacaillade; her daughter, Michelle Condon and son-in-law Sean Condon; her son, Brian Lacaillade and his former wife Kelly Lacaillade; her loving sister, Linda Manchester; and her sister-in-law, Linda Saraceno. Jan was a proud and loving grandmother to Anthony Armetta, April Armetta, Noah Lacaillade, and Nicole Lacaillade. She now joins in Heaven her father, Arthur Manchester, and her mother, Blanche Manchester.

In her gracious manner, Jan touched the lives of many through her work as a paraeducator for over 30 years with the Portland Board of Education, shaping young minds with patience and kindness. Janice was also a CCD teacher for the First Communion class for over 18 years. A Portland High School alumna, she carried the light of knowledge and understanding that she had been blessed with into every classroom.

Janice was a lifelong member of St. Mary Catholic Church in Portland and an active member of the Ladies’ Guild having served as secretary and chairperson for bake sales.

She and her husband were avid campers and Janice was a past oresident her camping organization, Mattabassett Chapter 86. Besides camping Jan and Ed traveled extensively to destinations throughout North America, the Caribbean and Europe.

Jan’s life was a living example of gratitude and joy. She expressed herself through her love of entertaining, decorating, crafting, gardening, and dancing. She loved Christmas and decorated every room in her house for the holiday and hosted Christmas dinner for her family for many years.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held today, Friday, March 8, at 10 a.m., in St. Mary Church, Portland. Burial will be in St. Mary Cemetery, Portland.

The Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, is in charge of arrangements.

Colchester

Mark A. Burdick

Mark A. Burdick, 60, of Lisbon, devoted and loving partner of Joyce Brown, passed away Thursday, Feb. 8, in Miami, Fla. Born June 10, 1963, in Norwich, he was the son of the late David and Dolores (Patsky) Burdick of Uncasville.



Mark graduated from Montville High School and went on to proudly serve his country in the Air Force as a mechanic stationed at Nellis AFB in Nevada and Shaw AFB in South Carolina. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, AF training ribbons, and his unit was honored with the Outstanding Unit Award. Mark continued his career in construction, cement and masonry throughout the region until his retirement. He was a member of the International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, the American Legion Post 112 in Montville, the Silver Star Athletic Club in Occum, and most recently the Key Colony Beach community in Florida.

Mark loved the outdoors, warm weather, and the water; he spent his childhood playing, fishing, and exploring the fields, forest, and shoreline along the Thames River. He had a kind and gentle spirit and a love for cooking. He mastered old school recipes for kielbasa and developed his own secret recipes for the best jerky, smoked meats, BBQ, and grilled seafood. Delicious! Mark and Joyce traveled the East Coast down to Florida during the last several years, with various adventures along the way – including gem rock mining, car racing, camping, and watching the release of turtles from the Turtle Rescue Hospital in Marathon, Fla. They spent their fall/winter months together in the Florida Keys.

Mark will be missed by Joyce, her son David, and his family; his sister, Audrey (Burdick) Zaccaro of Colchester, her children Christopher, Daniel and Chelsea, and their families; his sister-in-law, Beth Shepard Burdick of Farmington, her children Joshua and Laura, and their families; his sister, Patricia (Burdick) Cirillo (deceased) of Niantic, her children Andrea, Melissa and Rachel, and their families. In addition, he leaves many good friends from Connecticut and Key Colony Beach, Fla. Mark will be dearly missed by his favorite dandelion and great-niece, Madelynn Zaccaro, and his best friend from childhood Jeff Keefe, with whom he had very special relationships.

Mark was predeceased by his parents David and Dolores, his sister Patricia, and his brother-

in-law David Zaccaro.

Funeral arrangements are private; there will be a planned Celebration of Life for Mark in late spring.

Donations may be made in c/o the American Diabetes Association [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org), the Turtle Rescue Hospital in Marathon, Fla. ([www.turtlehospital.org](http://www.turtlehospital.org)), or a charity of the donor’s choice.

Colchester

Brian Martin Malicki

Brian Martin Malicki, 66, of Colchester, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 28. Born Nov. 26, 1957, in New Britain, he was a son of Leon Malicki and Geraldine (Chudzik) Malicki.



Growing up, Brian spent countless hours helping at his father’s Western Auto Parts store, where he learned to become mechanically inclined. His grandfather would take him and his brother to various car dealerships, where Brian would study brochures and become proficient in his knowledge of automobiles. This led to him becoming an avid reader of car magazines and an attendee of local car shows. He later went on to attend Hartford State Technical College where he obtained his associate degree in engineering. He then went on to work at Grosite, OZ Gedney, Dunham Bush, Turbo Products, and GKN Aerospace.

In 1981 Brian had an instant connection with the woman he would spend the rest of his life with, Holly Scarr, at a dance hall in Hartford. In addition to dancing, Holly and Brian would spend many of their early years together riding bicycles all over the Farmington Valley. On Oct. 1, 1983, Brian and Holly were married and moved to Middletown, where they shared many memories with his brother & sister-in-law, niece, and nephews who lived nearby. Ultimately Brian and Holly found a home in Colchester on Heatherwood Drive in 1988 where they raised their two boys Kevin and Peter. Their neighborhood offered a close-knit community, including early membership in the Buckley Hill Gourmet Club.

Brian maintained a passion for cars and motorcycles throughout his life. He found peace and fulfillment by exploring many areas of New England with his various automobiles and motorcycles. He was known by family and friends to test the limits of the roadways while enjoying a variety of classic rock.

Brian was introduced to the world of boating by his wife Holly, where they shared outings on the Connecticut River and many lakes including Gardner Lake in Connecticut, Big Alum Lake in Massachusetts, and Sebago Lake in Maine. This joy was shared by his family, many friends, and beloved dogs. His family vacationed at Bear Spring Camps on the Belgrade Lakes in Maine where he reeled in his famous Northern Pike and his boys learned the thrill of tubing, water skiing, and wakeboarding. Over the 10 years of summers at Bear Spring Camps, Brian also developed an appreciation for nature photography.

Brian’s attention to detail complemented his career and hobbies. He expressed a talent for drawing which translated to a draftsman by trade in his early career. Throughout years of drawing blueprints and schematics he developed his skills and would come to enjoy sketching cars in his free time. He continued to be well known for his talents as a tool designer and manufacturing engineer across Connecticut’s aerospace and gas turbine industry.

He is survived by his wife, Holly Malicki; sons, Kevin Malicki and partner Jessica Tynan

and Peter Malicki and wife Caitlin Malicki; granddaughter, Emeline Malicki; mother, Geraldine Malicki; brother, Bruce Malicki and wife Sylvia Malicki; sister-in-law, Candy Webb and her husband Tracy Webb; nieces and nephews, Stephanie Malicki, Eric Malicki, James Webb, Matthew Webb, Holly Webb; and numerous other extended family and friends.

Visitation will take place Saturday, March 9, from 11 a.m.-noon, directly at Colchester Federated Church, located at 60 Main St., Colchester, followed by a memorial service. Burial will be private at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made in memory of Brian to Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main Street Colchester, CT 06415.

The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home has been entrusted with Brian’s funeral services. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit [www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com](http://www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com).

Colchester

Sean Henry Cooper

Sean Henry Cooper, 53, of Wethersfield, passed away Friday, Feb. 16. Born March 23, 1970, in Springfield, Mass., Sean was a son of Nelson and Jane Cooper.



Sean had an infectious smile that would light up a room with a heart of gold to go with it. He most enjoyed spending time with his friends and family and talking about the old times. Sean truly was young at heart and a free spirit. He could always make you laugh by telling an old story or busting out a dance move. While Sean left us far too soon, the love and laughter he brought us will live on in our hearts for eternity.

Sean will forever be profoundly missed, by all that knew him, especially by his beloved family. He is survived by his son, Sean Cooper; granddaughter, Alessondra; daughter, Mariah Cooper; sister, Melissa Ellsworth; brother, Nelson Cooper; and former wife, Bianca.

Sean is predeceased by his brother, Richard Cooper.

Sean’s family will receive friends from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, CT 06415. A Celebration of Life service will be held following the visitation at 1 p.m. Guests are welcome to share a story or thoughts honoring Sean’s memory.

To share a condolence message with Sean’s family, please visit [www.auroramccarthy.com](http://www.auroramccarthy.com).

Like us on Facebook  RivereastNewsBulletin



**GUARNACCIA, CONNORS, KALOM & ZORN, LLC**  
*To Our Clients and Friends:*  
 It is with heavy hearts that we mourn the sudden passing of our friend and colleague Giacomo “Jack” Guarnaccia, Jr. As we grieve his loss in the days and weeks ahead, we are committed to meeting our professional obligations to Jack’s clients. We ask for your patience and understanding as we do so while coping with this devastating loss.  
 Please keep Jack’s family in your thoughts and prayers and respect their wishes for privacy at this difficult time.  
 Attorney Kevin C. Connors, Attorney Jonathan S. Zorn,  
 Mary J. Shutt – Office Manager, Michelle C. Collins – Paralegal

**DOMINICK & SONS MONUMENT WORKS, INC.**  
 Monuments & Marker Sales & Service Since 1982  
 • Cleaning • Repairing  
 • Cemetery Lettering  
 • Custom Sandblast  
 • Pet Markers • Garden Stones  
 215 Lebanon Ave., Colchester located w/ Colchester Florist  
**860-537-3289**  
 For immediate service, call 860-917-7871  
*“A monument should cost no more than a family can afford.”*

**ADVERTISERS**  
 The Glastonbury Citizen and Rivereast News Bulletin will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for “blind” box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. The Citizen will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone’s requests. The Citizen cannot guarantee specific placement.

**Stuart L. Jablon, D.P.M.**  
 “BOARD CERTIFIED” Podiatrist – Foot Specialist  
 Our Office Is Now A ConnectiCare, United Healthcare, Aetna, Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare, Blue Cross / Blue Shield, Cigna Participating Provider.  
 “MEDICARE ASSIGNMENT ACCEPTED”  
 Complete Medical & Surgical Treatment of the Foot  
 • Sports Medicine • Geriatric Foot Care • Diabetic Foot Care • Arthritic Feet  
 • Skin Conditions • Flat Feet • Heel Pain • Fractures/Dislocations • Sprains/Strains  
 • Bunions • Hammertoes • Infections • Fungus Nails • Plantar Warts  
 By Appointment Only: (860) 295-8791  
 9-B South Main Street, Marlborough, CT  
[www.stuartjablondpm.com](http://www.stuartjablondpm.com)



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

★ *'It's Not an Ideal Place to Be' cont. from page 1*

including repairs to the Youth Center, that may ultimately be reclassified out of the operating budget — lessening the impact on the Public Works spending plan, for example.

But he conveyed that departments including the Cragin Library and Youth Services have been largely operating on donations and grants due to budget restraints inflicted by the spending pause.

"That's not a way to ruin a municipality," Dennler said.

The budget freeze, which was initially described as "soft," has become more strict, he added. Accordingly, the town has continued to crack down on overall spending, and the freeze will remain in place indefinitely.

At the moment, there isn't a need for an emergency appropriation to fund any department, but Dennler didn't rule out a possible budget transfer as the fiscal year draws to a close in order to cover potential overages.

Meanwhile, the finance department faces serious pressure to complete the 2022-23 financial audit report, which was originally due Dec. 31, but the town was granted a six-month extension. Failure to meet that deadline may result in state oversight, according to a warning issued by the Office of Policy and Management.

To help with that situation, the Board of Selectmen was expected to approve spending up to \$38,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

money to enter a contract with UHY Advisors. The contract — which Dennler said was expected to be authorized by the Board of Selectmen last night, after press time — at will go towards overseeing the town's ARPA business grant program, and to complete bank reconciliations.

Dennler stated that reconciliations have not been done since January 2023. Six of those months specially pertain to the 2022-23 audit — work he said must be performed in order for the audit process to be finalized.

In April, Dennler will present his municipal budget proposal for the upcoming 2024-25 fiscal year. The town, through all of its ongoing undertakings, is weaving between three different fiscal years simultaneously; the prior year, the current year and the upcoming year.

"It's quite a lot to manage," Dennler said. "I remain confident in the team at the finance office and that the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance will be able to collaborate in a bipartisan way and we'll get through these challenges."

**BOF Discussion**

During her presentation to the board, Marceau provided examples of the work being done to rectify the department. At times, the members asked her to simplify her explanations, specifically her comments about journey entries being made.

Marceau stated that bills were being paid, "but the money wasn't booked on our books."

"The money was coming into our bank account, yes, but it wasn't being reflected in MUNIS," she said.

Later, Marceau added, "Stuff wasn't done that should've been being done and there was stuff that was done incorrectly."

Tim Vaillancourt, a Republican on the finance board, expressed that over the past year, the finance department wasn't at full-strength. Any assertion that finance director Mary Williamson had acted incorrectly, he said, needs the proper context.

"I think we put that person in a very tough position," he said.

Williamson was placed on paid administrative leave at the end of December. Subsequently, Marceau, an accountant for Colchester Public Schools, was appointed as deputy director of town finance, a new position, and then took over as acting director of finance as well.

Vaillancourt's remarks referenced a transition period between the town finance department and school district. In fall 2022, two staff members left the town department to work exclusively for the school finance department. Former first selectman Andreas Bisbikos told the Rivereast at the time that turnover would be an issue.

"I would not say that it was handled improperly but rather that it came as a complete surprise because the town side had an agreement with the [Board of Education] that those two employees will be shared, at least, until June 30, 2023," Bisbikos said. "The surprise was magnified because the office was already short staffed, and they took two out of the three remaining employees."

As the board began discussing the actions that may have led to the accounting issues in the finance department, Dennler advised the members to limit their dialog.

"I just don't want this to become part of the personnel conversation that should not happen in public session," he said.

Marceau said during the meeting that the department's efforts were largely "reactive," and that it was deploying a "find-and-fix" strategy.

Vaillancourt stated that while a lot of work had been done, he wasn't content that the overall problem was resolved.

"I'm not anymore confident then I was when we started," he said, adding, "What if we find a 'holy cow?'"

Dennler responded that the risk of that type of discovery had "gone down considerably."

# LEGALS

## LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

The Marlborough Zoning Board of Appeals will hold the following public hearing on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. in the Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Drive. APPLICATION #ZBA-01-24 - Peggy Sue Smigel (Applicant/Property Owner) 133 Saner Road - is seeking variance of Article Three A.1, Minimum Requirements, Article Three A.3 Conformity of Buildings & Land, Article Three A.5 Reduction of Lot Areas or Minimum Required Yards, Article Three A.9 Minimum Required Yards, Article Six D. 2 a Front Yard Setback, in order to construct a 24' x 24' garage with a Front Yard Setback of 33 feet where 50 feet is required. Interested parties can review the application materials in the Land Use/Building Department during normal Town Hall hours. Written testimony should be sent at least 24 hours ahead of the public hearing date to [building@marlboroughct.net](mailto:building@marlboroughct.net), and oral testimony may be given during the public hearing. 2TB 3/1, 3/8

## LEGAL NOTICE of PUBLIC HEARING BOARD OF SELECTMEN Town of Portland, CT

Notice is hereby given that there will be a public hearing on the proposed Budget for 2024-2025 to be held, by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Section 1201.3 of the Town of Portland Charter, at the following place and time:  
**Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
7:00 P.M.**  
**Buck-Foreman Community Room  
265 Main Street, Portland CT**  
**In-person and live streamed on Zoom A**  
SUBJECT: General Government, Board of Education Budget; and all other Special Revenue Funds  
At this hearing, any resident or taxpayer may be heard concerning the proposed budgets. Copies of the proposed budget are available for inspection in the Town Clerk's Office, Public Library and online at [www.portlandct.org](http://www.portlandct.org). Dated this 1st day of March 2024  
Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman 1TB 3/8

## LEGAL NOTICE

Town of East Hampton  
Board of Finance Public Hearing  
Monday, March 18, 2024  
East Hampton Town Hall Town Council Chambers #107  
and Virtual via Zoom  
6:30 p.m.  
The East Hampton Board of Finance will hold a Public Hearing at the above date and time to discuss the fiscal year 2024 – 2025 Town Budget.  
At this hearing, interested persons may be heard and written communications received. A copy of the proposed budget will be on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, East Hampton, CT and on the town website at [www.easthamptonct.gov](http://www.easthamptonct.gov) by March 15, 2024. Information to log into the meeting will be available on the Public Hearing agenda on the town website at [www.easthamptonct.gov](http://www.easthamptonct.gov). Written comments on the budget will be accepted via email at [budget@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:budget@easthamptonct.gov) or by mail to the East Hampton Town Hall, Attn: Town Manager's Office, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. 1TB 3/8

## LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at a Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, on the following:  
1. **Petition 2024-03** – Petition of John A. Bond, Jr. for a Special Permit to install a temporary storage structure in accordance with 2.D.11.3 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations on premise located at Parcel #35-15 East Street, Residence-1 District  
2. **Petition 2023-10** – Petition of Roderic A. McCarrison to create a five (5) lot subdivision of a 26.98-acre split lot owned by David G. Ellenberg, Parcel #12-18 Church Street Neighborhood Commercial and Residence-1 Districts  
3. **Petition 2024-01** and 2024-02 – Petitions of Town of Hebron (Special Permit & Site Plan) to construct a pedestrian bridge and sidewalk connection between the Douglas Library of Hebron and Pendleton Drive. Application is filed pursuant to Sections 3.A.3.4.1 and 3.B.2.5.1 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, Hebron Green and Main Street Districts  
**Planning and Zoning Commission**  
Mar 12, 2024, 7:00–10:00 PM (America/New\_York)  
**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**  
<https://meet.gotomeeting.com/719054749>  
You can also dial in using your phone.  
Access Code: 719-054-749  
United States: +1 (312) 757-3121  
Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:  
<https://meet.gotomeeting.com/install>  
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 27th day of February 2024.  
Frank Zitkus, Chair 2TB 3/1, 3/8

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

★ *Portland Schools Plan cont. from page 33*

and having all 1,200 of our students on essentially one large campus is an increased risk for all of our students," said Graves.

Since the creation of the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), the median age of residents has decreased, showing that younger families have moved to Portland. With the redevelopment of the Main Street area, including the upcoming Brainard Place apartments, there is the potential for more children. Graves said if there is a significant increase in enrollment, she's not sure one school with seven grades would be enough to handle it.

Another issue that was brought up was the state of the roof at Valley View. According to Graves, there have been leaks at the school since her oldest son attended almost a decade ago. Hernandez was concerned about the roof

and other improvements that needed to be addressed before the construction process.

Currently, Valley View is located on High Street, a two-lane road. Selectman Robert Hetrick said he was concerned about how the additional traffic would be managed with the buses and more kids potentially being dropped off by their parents. The school serves Pre-K through grade 1 now, and traffic already overflows from the school to High Street, Hetrick said.

Even though one school should help save costs, funding from Connecticut is not guaranteed. According to the state, general construction for schools has a reimbursement rate between 20% to 80%. With pros and cons for any option the town chooses, concerns about logistics and costs will continue to be at the forefront of discussions.

# "PET OF THE WEEK"



Three-year-old **Zeppelin** is an energetic, sweet hound mix that would love a new spot to call home. He already knows "sit" and "paw" and is working on new cues daily.

Meet one-year-old **Murphy**, the purr-fect gentleman looking for his forever home! Yes, he still looks a little rough around the edges. That is because Murphy first came to Protectors of Animals as part of our TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) program. But Murphy turned on the charm once he was trapped and quickly convinced our TNR team that he was meant for a spoiled indoor life. In fact, with his irresistibly friendly nature, Murphy easily captures the hearts of everyone he meets.



**FOR MORE INFO ON ADOPTING CATS OR DOGS, CALL 860-569-0722  
VOLUNTEERS & FOSTER HOMES NEEDED – CALL: 860-569-0722**



**Protectors of Animals, Inc. 144 Main St., Unit O, E. Hartford, CT 06118**

A non-profit, all volunteer animal rescue organization, rescuing abandoned, abused and impounded cats and dogs.

**WWW.POAINC.ORG**

RE3-8-24

**Like us on Facebook**   
RivereastNewsBulletin

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

The Colchester Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on March 20, 2024, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Colchester Town Hall Meeting Room at 127 Norwich Ave, Colchester, CT to hear and consider the following application(s):

**PZC 2023-002** of Hop Culture Farms & Brew Co., LLC (Owner/Applicant) – Modification of existing Special Permit to allow fee-based outdoor recreation in the form of semi-primitive overnight camping as an accessory use to the existing farm brewery on 37.28± acres located at 144 Cato Corner Road (Assessor's ID 05-12-024-000) Zoning District: Rural Use (RU)

**PZC 2023-015** of the Town of Colchester Planning & Zoning Commission (Applicant) – Proposed amendments to the Colchester Land Development (Zoning) Regulations for the following: Part A: Amendments to Sections 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 4.3, 5.3.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.3, 8.4, 8.8.9, 8.8.15, 8.10.4, 10.1, 10.5, 14.1, and 20.4 to achieve consistency with PA21-1, PA21-29, PA21-34, PA21-163, PA22-25 & PA23-142; Part B: Amendments to Sec. 8.2.1 the Standard Affordable Housing Requirement (10%), to create Sec. 8.2.2 Multi-Family Affordable Housing Incentive (30%) and Sec. 20.4 to create a definition of "Affordable Housing Unit"; and Part C: Amendments to Sections 3.3, 4.3, 13.6, 20.4 and to create Sec. 8.13 Manufactured Home Park (MHP).

At this hearing, interested persons may be heard and written communications received. A copy of these applications are located in the Land Use Department and Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:30 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday). Planning & Zoning Commission Joseph Mathieu, Chair

2TB 3/8, 3/15

**TOWN OF PORTLAND  
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION  
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Buck Foreman Room (2nd Floor), 265 Main Street, Portland, CT.

**PZC Application #24-11:** 1561 Portland Cobalt Road. Request for Special Permit Renewal of Sand and Gravel Excavation Permit to excavate and remove 193,323 cubic yards of earth material which includes onsite crushing and screening. Application and property of Riverside Equities LLC. Map 6, Lot 21-1. Zone B-2.

**PZC Application #24-12:** 220 Isinglass Hill Road. Request for Special Permit for construction of an 8-bedroom residential care home. Application of Oroville Place, LLC and property of Sean McGrail Revocable Trust. Map 129, Lot 9. Zone RR. (Public hearing date needs to be set but not to be heard until at least April 18th)

**PZC Application #24-13:** Proposed Amendment to the Portland Zoning Regulations. Change to section 9.17.1 to increase the allowable MUD residential units to 350 from the current 240 and to increase the ration of allowable apartments from 16 to 21 per 5,000 square feet of commercial space. Change to section 9.17.5.E to allow the sum of the total commercial area to include any single upper floor to the total commercial area where only the ground floor counts currently. Application of BRT DiMarco PTP, LLC.

**PZC Application #24-14:** 69 Marlborough Street. Request for Special Permit Modification. Application and Property of BRT DiMarco PTP, LLC. Map 19, Lot 68. Zone B-2, B-3 and TCVD. Dated at Portland, CT this 5th day of March 2024  
Robert Ellsworth, Chairman  
Planning & Zoning Commission

2TB 3/8, 3/15

**LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON  
IWWA ACTIONS**

Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency held a Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on February 28, 2024 at the East Hampton Town Hall and via ZOOM to consider the following:

Application IW-24-001: West High Enterprises, 195 West High Street, Construction of a Commercial Building in Upland Review Area. Map 12/ Block 36/ Lot 3. – Approved with Modifications

Application IW-24-002: Paul Catalano, 33 Spellman Point Rd., Landscaping and install swim spa in Upland Review Area. Map 09A/ Block 70A/ Lot 25. – Approved with Modifications  
Chairman Joshua Wilson

1TB 3/8

**Volunteer. The Benefits  
Are Extraordinary!**

**Extraordinary Benefits:**

- You'll feel really, really good!
- You'll meet delightful dogs, fabulous felines, and some pretty special humans too!

**PROTECTORS  
OF ANIMALS**

Scan for more info

**Volunteer Positions Available —  
Day & Evening Hours:**

- East Hampton & Wethersfield facilities  
Dogs: walking, clean & feed; socialization
- East Hartford facility – Cats: clean & feed; socialization; medical & placement teams

Please call 860-569-0722 or visit [www.poinc.org](http://www.poinc.org)

**REAL ESTATE**

**FOR SALE**  
FOR SALE: 2BR, 1BA condo at Okemo, VT. End unit looks out window to double quad chair lift at base. Private ski locker, deck with views up the mtn, new electric FP, breakfast bar, sleeps up to 7. Enjoy mtn biking, golf, lake region, summer concerts - a 4 season resort. \$495K. 860-978-2534.

**RENTALS**  
GLASTONBURY OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT: Individual offices or space up to 1000-2400 square feet suites. Use of conference room included. Call 860-633-3545.

**RENTAL WANTED**  
WANTED TO RENT: 1 or 2 bedroom. Reasonable, will consider rental with other person. 860-987-3546.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PETS**

**DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES:** starting soon. Offering Puppy Kindergarten, Basic Manners/What Rescue Dogs Need and Want; CCG/Therapy; Scent Work. Over 25 years experience. Michelle Larson, Paws-N-Heel DTC, 860-267-6040. [paws-n-heel-dog-training.com](http://paws-n-heel-dog-training.com).

**WANTED TO BUY**

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

**CASH PAID for any Toyota**  
Other makes, running or not, crashed ok. Will take other makes and models.  
Free pickup. Call any time:  
203-600-4431

**Like us on Facebook**  
RivereastNewsBulletin

*Your local friend in Real Estate*

Nobody thinks less of the penguin because it cannot fly.  
It's simply a different kind of bird.  
Different — not less!

**ANGELA ARESKO**

Better Service | Better Marketing | Better Results  
Better Real Estate

860.883.9005  
[angelaaresko@sbcglobal.net](mailto:angelaaresko@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.angelaaresko.com](http://www.angelaaresko.com)

RE3-8-24

**EMPLOYMENT**

**CONSTRUCTION/ CONCRETE FINISHER:** Full-time, competitive pay, PTO. Experience and references required. Call Nick, 860-268-7308.

**PART-TIME POSITION:** Available in a team oriented Family Dental Office in Portland, CT. This position offers approx. 22 hours per week. The office is open Mon, Tues, Thurs and some Fri. The position's workdays and hours are flexible. No dental experience needed. No specific qualifications are needed. Applicant must be willing to learn new skills. On the job training & support for Dental Assisting, X-Ray certification and Office work will be provided. Fax your resume to 860-760-8080 or email [dentalinsight@yahoo.com](mailto:dentalinsight@yahoo.com) or call 860-510-3956.

**SECRETARY / RECEPTIONIST:** Part-time position with small professional office in Glastonbury. Duties include typing, creating and maintaining files, answering multi-line phones, ordering and maintaining office supplies, Word and Excel experience necessary. 8:30am-2pm. Please send qualifications or resume TO: **ADMINISTRATOR@CFMCONSTRUCTIONCT.COM**.

**Colebrook Village at Hebron:  
NOW HIRING!  
Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)**

We are seeking family oriented, fun, and dedicated people to join our team! Shifts available for hire: 3p-11p & 11p-7a! Colebrook Village is a proud community and home to Independent, Assisted Living, and Memory Care Residents. 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!

Medical, Dental, Vision, 401k, Meals...

Call Cheyenne Baker at 860-801-1114 or email [cbaker@colebrookvillage.com](mailto:cbaker@colebrookvillage.com)

CIT1-18-24

**Classifieds Pay**

The Glastonbury Citizen & The Rivereast News Bulletin

Email your Classified Line Ad to [admin@gcitizen.com](mailto:admin@gcitizen.com) and call with your credit card number.  
(We regret we cannot take ads over the phone)

**Colebrook Village at Hebron:  
NOW HIRING!  
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)**

We are seeking family oriented, fun, and dedicated people to join our team! Shifts: 7a-3p. 3p-11p. 11p-7a. Colebrook Village is a proud community and home to Independent, Assisted Living, and Memory Care Residents. 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!

Medical, Dental, Vision, 401k, Meals...

Call Maryla Underwood at 860-801-1114 or email [munderwood@colebrookvillage.com](mailto:munderwood@colebrookvillage.com)

CIT11-23-23

**Westside Manor is searching for an Attendant to fill our 1st and 3rd shift.  
7AM-3PM and 11PM-7AM**

**Attendant Responsibilities:** Housekeeping, Meal Prep and medication administration required for the position. Medication Certification Course is mandatory and offered with paid training.

Please call us at 860-267-4401 to schedule an interview today! Interviews are done by appointment only Monday thru Friday.

**9 West High Street, East Hampton**  
Job Type: Part-time with potential to full-time  
Salary: Discussed upon interview

RE3-8-24

**Century 21 Allpoints Realty**

Whether you're considering selling your home, or beginning the quest to find your first/next home, let me partner with you to accomplish your goals! As a team member of Century 21 Allpoints, we have the experience, resources, relationships and proven track record to guide you through this volatile Market.

**Mark Kehrhahn,  
for all Your real estate needs!**

**860-638-9485**  
[Markk.realestate@gmail.com](mailto:Markk.realestate@gmail.com)

**#1 CENTURY 21 Firm** in Connecticut Since 2000.  
We have been Family Owned & Operated since opening in 1989.  
With 11 offices in CT.  
**Awarded the prestigious Centurion Award**

RE3-8-24

**SEEKING AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC:** for immediate hire at fast growing shop in Middletown. Strong mechanical aptitude and troubleshooting skills. Must be able to diagnose and repair mechanical issues and be deadline and detail oriented. Ability to thrive in a fast-paced environment. 2-3 years automotive experience preferred. Diesel experience is a plus! Must have your own tools. Call George 860-346-5551.

**Parks Maintainer (Seasonal)**

The Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for the position of Seasonal Parks Maintainer for the Parks and Recreation Department. This is a skilled position performing manual labor, in the operation and maintenance of municipal parks, facilities, grounds and athletic complexes. Applicants must have knowledge and experience in the safe operation of equipment including but not limited to manual shift trucks, towing trailers with equipment, hand and riding mowers, hand and power tools, trimmers, paint machines and other equipment used in maintenance of municipal facilities, turf, athletic fields, recreational areas, etc. Custodial duties include cleaning restrooms, refuse removal, and general housekeeping. This is a seasonal position, May-August. \$16.50 per hour, 40-hour work week.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume and an employment application by April 5, 2024, or until filled, to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or by email to [lseymour@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:lseymour@easthamptonct.gov). EOE/AA/M-F.

1TB 3/8

**Department of Recreation (Seasonal Openings)**

The Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for the following seasonal positions:

- Assistant Camp Director: Monday-Friday between the hours of 7:30 am-4:00 pm. (35-40 hours/week) \$17.69-\$19.76 per hour.
- Camp Counselors: Monday-Friday between the hours of 7:30 am-4:00 pm. (30-35 hours/week) \$16.19 per hour.
- Lifeguards: Sunday-Saturday daytime and early evening hours (25-40 hours/week) \$16.50 per hour. Must have lifeguard certification.
- Park Gate Attendants: Sunday-Saturday between the hours of 6:30 am – 8:30 pm. (8-15 hours/week) \$15.69 per hour.

Job descriptions and an employment application may be found at [www.easthamptonct.gov](http://www.easthamptonct.gov). Please submit your application to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or by email to [lseymour@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:lseymour@easthamptonct.gov) by, or until filled. EOE/AA/M-F.  
Posted: 2/28/2024  
Closing: 3/23/2024 (or until filled)

1TB 3/8

**TOWN OF HEBRON  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR**

The Town of Hebron is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Financial Administrator. Under the direction of the Finance Director the Financial Administrator performs research and analysis concerning the general operating, capital projects and special revenue budgets of the Town and maintenance of the general ledgers associated with all Town funds. Provides assistance with cash management, financial reporting and with accounts payable and payroll functions.

The successful candidate should have proficiency with the use of financial accounting software and Office 365. The successful candidate should have an associate degree in accounting or a related field or comparable experience and training and at least three years of experience and be familiar with the principles and practices of municipal accounting. Starting salary range will be \$60,000 to \$65,000 depending on experience.

Resumes and a Town of Hebron employment application should be sent to Andrew J. Tierney, Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248. The deadline is Friday, March 29, 2024. The Town of Hebron is an equal opportunity employer.

1TB 3/8

**WANTED:  
AUTO TECH**

**NORTHEAST  
Auto & Truck Inc.**

**394 North Main Street  
Marlborough, CT 06447  
860-295-9517**

**APPLY WITHIN**

RE3-24-23

# EMPLOYMENT

**HELP MOM!** Medicine Reminders, Meals, Transportation, Housekeeping, Companions. All of our caregivers are aged 50+, with many years of experience. Bonded, insured, background checked. We truly are **YOUR EXTENDED FAMILY LLC** COLCHESTER 860-967-0831

## Seasonal Summer Camp Counselors

Parks & Recreation Department  
Town of Portland, CT (EOE)  
Deadline: April 5, 2024  
Send completed Seasonal Application to: First Selectman's Office, P.O. Box 71, Portland, CT 06480-0071 [Email: [mceppaglia@portlandct.org](mailto:mceppaglia@portlandct.org)]  
Temporary/Seasonal, non-union positions. Wages start at \$15.69 per hour. Applicants must be available from June 24 through August 2024. Program runs from June 24-Aug 9, 2024; M-F 7:15 AM to 6:00 PM. Training in June. Approximate work schedule 40 hours weekly/flexible hours based upon department needs. See job description for details. Qualifications: Prior experience, First Aid & CPR certification preferred; Adult staff must possess high school diploma or GED equivalent; Junior Staff (High School age 15 to 18) must be age 15 upon employment. Subject to criminal background check. All qualified applicants will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

## Preschool Director/Head Teacher Wanted

We are looking for a passionate and dedicated **Preschool Director/Head Teacher** to lead our program. Our program runs ten months for children aged three to five.  
**PROGRAM DETAILS:**  
• Hours of Operation: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Tuesday/Thursday 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.  
• Length of the Program: September- June\*  
• Number of Children: 3 day program up to 20 children, 2 day program up to 12 children  
Salary to start is \$26,312 payable in 20 payments bi weekly from September 15- June 30. Preparation for the school year is required two weeks prior to the first day of school.  
*To apply for the position, please send resume, certification(s), letter of intent, and three letters of recommendations:*  
[1stchurchnurseryschool@gmail.com](mailto:1stchurchnurseryschool@gmail.com)

First Church Nursery School, 554 Main St., Portland, CT 06480



# FREELANCE REPORTERS

We are looking for skilled freelance writers to report on local government, meetings and community events in the towns we serve – Cromwell, Newington, Rocky Hill and Wethersfield. Must be able to report news clearly and meet important weekly deadlines. Please send cover letter, resume and any writing clips or samples to: [greg@rarereminder.com](mailto:greg@rarereminder.com)

# TREE & LANDSCAPING

**THOMPSON LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENT:** Winter discount rates. Tree work, stump grinding, land clearing & excavating. Backhoe, bulldozer & bobcat work. Call 860-659-1438. [www.thompsonlandscapet.com](http://www.thompsonlandscapet.com).

**TREE CARE BY LICENSED ARBORIST:** Pruning, disease treatment, consulting, planting and removals. Professional quality service and expertise. LaPila Arborists, LLC at [lapilaarborists.com](http://lapilaarborists.com) or 860-965-5546.

**DeLeo Fence**  
Custom Fences: Wood, Vinyl, Aluminum & Chain Link  
**FENCE REPAIR**  
Quality Work at a Competitive Price  
OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
**860-930-5492**  
FULLY INSURED • HIC #0657705  
**WE WORK YEAR ROUND!**

**MUDDY DRIVEWAY?**  
Call Us For All Of Your Stone & Drainage Needs  
Quality Work... *...from Start to Finish*  
**SPECIALIZING IN Driveway Repair**  
Call Rich Baldi at Baldi Stone & Gravel  
**(860) 537-4093** Fully Licensed Insured

Like us on Facebook RivereastNewsBulletin

**Spring Clean Up**  
**Lawn Mowing**  
**Topsoil - Mulch - Stone**  
★ FREE ESTIMATES ★  
**Dondero Lawn Care**  
**860-228-2003**

**TSMINOR ENTERPRISES, LLC**  
FULLY INSURED HIC# 0653158 RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL  
• Lawn Mowing & Clean Ups  
• Boulder Walls  
• Lawn Installation & Expansion  
• Planting & Mulching  
• Drainage & Excavation  
• Tree Removal & Brush Mowing  
• Dump Runs & Debris Removal  
860-716-0661 • [tsminorenterprises.com](http://tsminorenterprises.com)

**Certified Arborists of Marlborough LLC**  
CT Licensed Arborist #S-6236  
LOCALLY OWNED  
**FULL SERVICE TREE EXPERTS**  
**Remove your high-risk trees BEFORE the storm season arrives!**  
860.573.0428 Veteran Owned & Operated  
[toddrcohen@hotmail.com](mailto:toddrcohen@hotmail.com)  
Senior, Veteran, & First Responder Discounts  
FULLY LICENSED & INSURED

**Shorts Landscaping LLC** FULLY INSURED FREE ESTIMATES  
CT HIC Lic #0635384  
Weekly & Bi-Weekly Mowing  
Walks • Patios • Retaining Walls  
Light Excavation & Drainage  
COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL  
— CALL STEVE —  
**(860) 917-5459** Serving Colchester & Surrounding Towns

**Peter's Landscaping, LLC**  
**Landscaping Maintenance, Design & Installation — COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL —**  
• Weekly Mowing • Walls/Walks • Pruning  
• Clean-ups • Sod Work • Lighting/Sprinklers  
• Aerating & Dethatching • Trees Installed • Pond Installation  
• Overseeding • Mulch, Compost, Topsoil, Woodchips, Stone, Firewood, Boulders  
• Hydroseeding  
• Bobcat Work  
• Excavating Work  
• Mulching  
• Demo Work  
• Bark Blowing  
**SPRING CLEANUP 10% OFF**  
NEW CUSTOMERS ONLY  
860-646-1169 • cell 860-209-5510  
[peterslandscape@sbcglobal.net](mailto:peterslandscape@sbcglobal.net)  
806 Hillstown Road  
Manchester, CT 06040  
Serving all of Connecticut since 1981  
CT Licensed Contractor • Fully Insured  
Workers' Compensation  
Demo License  
**FREE Estimates**  
[www.PeterMarraLandscape.com](http://www.PeterMarraLandscape.com)

**NOW IS THE TIME TO SCHEDULE YOUR NEW BACKYARD OASIS.**  
**PATIOS • FIREPITS • WALKWAYS**  
**CALL US TO DISCUSS EXPANDING YOUR YARD AND POSSIBILITIES!**  
**860-295-9692**  
Marlborough, CT

**LAWNS-N-STUFF**  
"WE DO MORE THAN CUT THE GRASS"  
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • FULLY INSURED  
**NOW SCHEDULING SPRING CLEAN-UPS**  
• MULCHING • WALLS/WALKWAYS  
• SHRUB TRIMMING • DUMP RUNS/HAULING  
• TREE WORK/PLANTING • MINI-EXCAVATING  
• FERTILIZING • DRAINAGE  
• GARDEN INSTALLS • PLOW DAMAGE REPAIR  
**860-295-9692**  
Marlborough, CT

# TREE & LANDSCAPING

**TREE REMOVAL** *We Climb Licensed Arborist on Staff*

YARD EXPANSIONS  
FIREWOOD FOR SALE

We Now Accept All Major Credit Cards • Fully Insured  
C & C Lawncare – East Hampton  
(203) 435-5355

RE10-13-23

**CALL JACK TODAY**

Tree Removal & Tree Trimming

Property Maintenance • Weekly Lawn Care  
Landscaping • Spring & Fall Cleanups  
Walkways, Patios, Retaining Walls  
Bobcat & Excavation Services • Lot Cleaning  
— COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL —  
Call Jack for FREE ESTIMATE  
(860) 818-2773

RE11-26-21

**HOWES Landscaping & Tree Service LLC**

860-608-1480

Specializing in  
**TREE REMOVAL** and all  
your **LANDSCAPING NEEDS!**

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL  
Free Estimates • Fully Insured  
Howes your yard?

RE6-2-23

**AMV LANDSCAPING**  
Commercial - Residential  
Locally in East Hampton, CT

COMPLETE LAWN MAINTENANCE  
Plowing / Salting / Dump Runs  
Scheduled Mowings  
Mulching / Garden Installs  
Irrigation Services  
Water Features  
Spring / Fall Cleanups  
Lawn Renovations / Clearing

Now Scheduling: Spring Cleanups  
Scheduled Mowings

Fully Licensed & Insured – HIC # 0661818  
**860.913.6203**

RE29-2-23

**Lawn TECS SR LLC.**  
Yard Grooming / Lawn Maintenance  
H (860) 295-1479 • C (860) 214-9923  
RLFrancks@comcast.net

Spring Is Near!

Start Scheduling Spring Cleanups & Mowing Today

Now is the time to start thinking about your yard's mulching needs and trimming back overgrowth with the smell of spring in the air. Reseeding and fresh topsoil is beckoning your yard, so let's get started.

SERVICES INCLUDE: Weekly/Bi-Weekly Mowing • Brush Removal  
Downed Tree & Debris Removal • Mulch Installation  
Light Moving • Light Hauling • Spring & Fall Cleanups  
— CT LICENSED & FULLY INSURED —

86 JONES HOLLOW ROAD, MARLBOROUGH, CT

RE31-2-21

**RYANS TREE SERVICE**

**Hazardous Tree Removal** *We Climb or Bucket Truck Service*

CALL NOW FOR WINTER SAVINGS while the ground is frozen!  
Hard to reach areas and septic areas are now reachable for tree removal.

- Lot Clearing & Yard Expansions
- Stumpgrinding & Grading (including muddy driveways)

Accepting Most Major Credit Cards

FULLY INSURED State Lic. #SFPH000902 FREE ESTIMATES

**Call 860-228-5009**

CIT1-18-24

**Dorsey Construction**

Spring Cleanups — Call Today!!!  
Gutter & Leader Cleaning • Painting  
Powerwashing • Waterproofing • Landscaping

Concrete Work – sidewalks, stairs, patios, colored concrete & stamped concrete

Roof Repair – rubber roof, torchdown, metal roofs, and slate roof repair

— Looking For New Mowing Accounts —  
**John Dorsey • 860-890-9884**

RE3-3-23

# HOME IMPROVEMENT

**STARKEY HOME REMODELLING:** Call today for a free estimate on all your Interior and Exterior needs. Roofing, decks, sheds, windows/doors, gutters, landscape services, porches, patios, framing, carpentry, siding, kitchens/baths, basements, flooring (tile, hardwood, laminate & vinyl), painting/staining, insulation, trim, etc. Locally owned. Licensed/Insured. James 860-573-3597.

**ALL SEASONS STONEMASONRY:** repairs, resetting, and new work welcome. Over 35 years experience and free estimates offered. Call with confidence, Cory 860-215-5685.

**D&A TILE:** Free estimates. Licensed and insured. All types of tile work, kitchens, baths. All work guaranteed. 16 years experience. Call 860-508-0893.

**FROM ADDITIONS, DECKS, ROOFS & DOORS:** to finished basements, siding, & floors. Licensed/insured. Give us a call for free estimate. Starr Builders, LLC. See us on Facebook. B.B.B. 860-267-1496.

**GENERAL HOME REPAIRS:** Handyman, painting, rotted wood, junk and debris removal, excavator, dump truck, septic. Screened top soil available. Fully licensed and insured. Ben Egri 860-712-6257.

**HANDYMAN SERVICES:** Have home maintenance or general home repairs? Don't stress! We can help. Let us take care of them. Free quotes. Licensed and insured. Call Dan to book a free appointment today. 860-917-3154.

**HARDWOOD FLOORING:** Installation, repairs, sanding, staining, dustless refinishing. Carpet and vinyl, LVT and ceramic, all flooring. Finish carpentry and decks. HIC#0624266. Fully insured. Free estimates. BROTHERS HOME IMPROVEMENT & FLOORING, LLC. Locally owned/operated info@brothershomeimprovementct.com, www.BrothersHomeimprovementCT.com 860-432-5716, 860-882-7672.

**J & S MASONRY:** Design patio, pool patio, Chimney repair. Stone walls, brick walls, retaining walls, steps. Roofs done, veneers done, walkways. Cement, tiles, paving and building maintenance. All kinds of masonry and home repairs. Call John, 860-796-0006.

**RENE'S INTERIOR TRIM:** Water Damage Repair - Interior & Exterior. We find the source of the leak and fix all damages. Drywall, Plaster, Wood, Painting and more. Licensed and Insured. Call Rene 860-716-2678.

**RENE'S INTERIOR TRIM: 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE.** Crown Mouldings, Chair Rails, Window & Door replacements, including pocket doors. Mantles, Bookcases, Attic Stairs, Kitchen & Bath remodeling, Cedar Closets, new Hatchways, Wood Decking to Trex. Painting for all projects. We also combat the entry of mice! Call Rene 860-716-2678.

**HOME DESIGNS BY BRUNO**  
See Me Before You Build!  
3D Plans \* Permit Plans  
Budgets  
**860-537-5345**

RES-13-20

**KKS Construction**  
Property Maintenance Residential / Commercial

**Carpentry – Roofing** o – 860.633.6015  
**Windows – Doors** c – 860.550.0932

Lic 0570333 / Ins - Est. 1995 kimsadlon@cox.net

CIT5-5-20

**UNITED POWERWASH & PAINTING**

Interior / Exterior Painting  
• Commercial • Residential • Full Service Preparation  
• Minor Drywall & Ceiling Repairs  
— FULLY LICENSED & INSURED —  
Call Now For A Free NO OBLIGATION ESTIMATE  
**(860) 608-8376**

CIT3-12-20

**E.L. CONTRACTING**  
— NO JOB TOO SMALL —

Ed Loveland  
860-680-1832 (C)  
EDL7@comcast.net

License #609553  
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL • FULLY INSURED

Roofing  
Siding & Windows  
Small Jobs  
Green Remodeling  
Kitchens & Baths  
Hardi Board Installer  
Decks

RES-18-22

**FOUR SEASONS PAINTERS LLC**  
INTERIOR

- All Phases of Interior Painting, Staining, Textured Ceilings, Texture Removal
- WP Removal, Rep. Windows
- Home Improvements & Carpentry

Kevin Greer 860-646-7760 Lic. # 574298  
www.FOURSEASONSPAINTERS.net

FREE ESTIMATES INSURED

CIT9-5-23

Reliable Quality Workmanship

**KC MASONRY**

Stonewalls • Brick Walls • Bluestone • Steps  
Fireplaces • Chimneys • Patios • Sidewalks  
We can also do all Masonry Repairs!  
Free Estimates  
Lic. No. 0604514 **KEN (203) 558-4951**

CIT9-5-20

**PAQUETTE ROOFING LLC**

Specializing in  
Residential & Commercial Roofing  
for over 20 years

- No Salesman – No Subcontractors
- Free Competitive Estimates
- Financing Options Available

Hebron, CT Fully Insured LIC# 0615769  
**860.748.8410**

CIT11-16-23

**SM WELCH**  
REMODELING SPECIALIST  
860.295.1295

- ADDITIONS • BASEMENTS • DECKS
- DORMERS • BATHROOMS • SIDING
- GARAGES • KITCHENS • ROOFING

Certified Green Professional  
Certified Aging in Place Specialist  
smwelch.com • Insured • CT 607510

CIT3-6-20

**BENGSTON HANDYMAN & PAINTING SERVICE**

Carpentry / Windows / Doors / Painting  
Texture Ceilings Repair/Drywall & Taping  
Power Washing / Plumbing & Electrical Repairs

**860-729-9387** East Hampton, CT  
CT#0633081

RE12-4-20

**GLASTONBURY PAINT & DESIGN LLC**  
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL  
LICENSED & INSURED HIC.0671637

Interior & Exterior Painting  
Drywall Repair / Installation  
Carpentry, Accent Walls & more  
Interior Design & Home Staging  
Modernization / Remodeling

Power Washing FREE ESTIMATES

Call / Text **(860) 328-8032**  
GlastonburyPaintDesign@gmail.com

CIT12-25-24

**Swanson PAINTING**

Michael Swanson, owner

Powerwashing, Light Carpentry,  
Laminate Flooring

OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
MAKING HOMES BEAUTIFUL!

**CALL: 219-575-0370**

RE12-29-23

**FORTRESS FENCE COMPANY**

Experience — Professionalism — Integrity

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

All Types of Fence  
(vinyl, ornamental, wood, chainlink)  
Installation & Repairs

Serving CT and Western MA  
**860-629-0335**  
www.fortressfenceCT.com

LICENSED & INSURED  
CT HIC 0671859

CIT2-29-24

# HOME IMPROVEMENT

**Elliott Construction, Inc.**  
 new construction, home improvements,  
 roofs, decks, additions, renovations,  
 interior painting  
**860.303.8265** [elliottfom27@gmail.com](mailto:elliottfom27@gmail.com)  
 in business since 1977 • licensed & insured

**R.J. Swider Contracting, L.L.C.**  
 Specializing in Additions & Remodeling  
**860-228-3912**  
[www.rjswidercontracting.com](http://www.rjswidercontracting.com) Ct. Lic. #541663

**ADMasonry**  
 ALL TYPES OF MASONRY  
 Patios • Walls • Paver Driveways  
 Stone for Pools, Patios, Decks  
 Stone & Bluestone Brick & Pavers  
 Free Estimates • CT Lic. #602717 • Insured  
 — GLASTONBURY BASED —  
**860.657.9185** 29 Years Experience

**SHAW DRYWALL**  
**HANGING & TAPING**  
 First Class Service & Quality Work  
**860-228-0680**  
 CT. LIC. #0623063 FULLY INSURED

**PARKER PAINTING**  
 Interior/Exterior • Powerwashing  
 Light Carpentry  
 Ceiling & Sheetrock Repair  
 Water Damage Repair  
 — FREE ESTIMATES —  
 LICENSED & INSURED **860-338-0156**

**Bud Stula Home Improvement**  
 Kitchen & Bath Remodels  
 Ceramic • Hardwood • Vinyl Floors  
 Carpet Restretching • Trimwork & Painting  
 No Job Too Small — HIC # 0632650 • Insured  
 Call 860.377.0380

**Alan Soucy** Home Improvement  
**860-657-6462** [www.alansoucy.com](http://www.alansoucy.com)  
 We Specialize In Creating  
**New Kitchens & Baths**  
 From design to finish you'll love our work!  
 If it's time to upgrade your kitchen or bath,  
 visit us online for virtual tours of our projects.  
 — Call Us Today for a FREE Consultation —

**Sharp Eye HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
 OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
 • Replacement Windows & Doors  
 • Finish Trim  
 • Structural Repair (rot)  
 • To Do Lists  
**860-604-3411 Marc Viccaro**  
 HIC # 0650133 • CT Licensed & Insured

**MR. HANDYMAN**  
 Home Improvement Professionals  
 • Residential & Commercial  
 • Prompt, Safe & Reliable  
 • All Household Jobs, Large or Small  
 • Professional, Insured & Bonded  
 Decks & Bathrooms • Small Jobs as well  
 Mr. Handyman of Glastonbury, Norwich & New London  
[norwich@mrhandyman.com](mailto:norwich@mrhandyman.com)  
**860-359-1776 • www.mrhandyman.com**

**Alan Soucy** ROOF REPAIRS  
**ROOFING**  
 Full Roofing Systems  
 Leaks • Rec Rooms • Bathrooms  
 Decks • Windows • Doors  
**860.657.6462** Lic# 0622777

**CHARTER PAINTING & RESTORATION** 53<sup>rd</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
 Family Operated  
**PAINTING / CARPENTRY**  
 INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PAINTING  
 "WITH ATTENTION TO DETAIL"  
 • Home/Church/Historic Restoration - Int & Ext  
 • Preparation Specialist - Menu Format Proposals  
 • Since 1973 Over 2300 Aluminum Sided Homes Repainted  
 • Textured Ceilings/Removal of Popcorn & Paper/Drywall & Crack Repair  
 • Carpentry Services  
 • Hardwood Floor Finishing  
 • Water Damage  
 • Powerwashing  
 Our loyal tradesmen have rejuvenated 1000's of Connecticut homes. LET YOUR HOME BE NEXT!  
 Call Christian Charter  
**860-646-7668**  
[www.charterpainting.com](http://www.charterpainting.com)  
 Email: [chinchart4u@hotmail.com](mailto:chinchart4u@hotmail.com) Insured #HIC.0619547

**A BEST GUTTERS**  
 Seamless Gutter Installation  
 White or Custom Colors  
 Leaf Relief Gutter Protection  
 Fascia Replacement  
 New Roofing  
 FOR A FREE ESTIMATE, CALL  
**(860) 537-0819**  
 Visit us at [www.abestgutters.com](http://www.abestgutters.com)  
 Fully Insured • CT Lic# 0646855

**FRANKLIN PAINTING LLC** 877-646-7774  
 Book your appointment at:  
[franklinpainting.com](http://franklinpainting.com)  
 Your Neighborhood Painters Bonded & Insured - HIC#570442  
 Call NOW for a quote on:  
 • Interior • Cabinet Refinishing  
 • Exterior Painting & Staining • Light Carpentry  
 • Powerwashing • Light Commercial  
 • Textured Ceiling Repair & Repainting • Color Assistance



**Mobile Welding**  
 Repairs & Maintenance  
 Custom Fabrication  
 — COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL —  
**(860) 918-3750**  
 twelchwelding@gmail.com  
 188 Hale Road, Glastonbury, CT  
<https://twelchweldingllc.com>

**Rogers Home Services**  
 Bathroom Remodels, Trim, Home Repairs  
 Carpentry, Interior Painting  
 Quality Craftsmanship at Reasonable Rates  
[jamie@rogershomeservices.com](mailto:jamie@rogershomeservices.com)  
[www.rogershomeservices.com](http://www.rogershomeservices.com)  
 FULLY INSURED - CT #574467  
**860-983-9537**

**CT Framing & Drywall, LLC**  
 — 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE —  
**860-781-0797**  
 LICENSED & INSURED  
 HIC #0671467  
**Residential & Commercial Drywall & Carpentry**  
 Water Damage Repairs - Insurance Claims  
 Drywall New & Repairs • Wood Framing  
 Metal Stud Framing Remodels • Additions  
**\$100 OFF For New Customers**

**Premier Painting CT**  
 INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PAINTING  
 Deck & Fence Staining  
 Carpentry / Power Washing  
 Experienced, Professional, Exceptional Service  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
 CALL / TEXT  
**860-944-5614**  
[www.premierpaintingct.com](http://www.premierpaintingct.com)  
[premierpaintingct@gmail.com](mailto:premierpaintingct@gmail.com)  
 Licensed & Insured HIC# 0670230

**CASELLA CONSTRUCTION, LLC**  
 FULLY INSURED - HIC #0647145  
**Remodels • Bathrooms**  
 Repairs/Handyman • Windows • Doors  
 Flooring • Concrete • Walls  
 Patios • Sidewalks  
 Painting • Power Washing  
**860-685-1266 Dean Casella**

**RESIDENTIAL HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC**  
 Roofing • Siding • Skylights • Windows • Gutters  
 Leaf Guards • Chimneys • Ridge Vents • Repairs  
**2022 GAF Roofing & CertainTeed Siding Specials!**  
 Ask about our **Master Elite** "25 Year Workmanship Warranty!"  
 Velux 5 Star Skylight Specialist/Installer  
 "Bringing Light to Life"  
 Ask about our "NO LEAK" Warranty!  
**Call (860) 334-9979**  
[www.skylightspecialist.com/connecticut-skylights](http://www.skylightspecialist.com/connecticut-skylights)  
 Licensed & Insured CT Lic. #569972

**SERVICES**  
**JOHN LACY PAINTING**  
 INTERIOR & EXTERIOR  
 Quality Craftsmanship  
 Insured Free Estimates  
 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
**Walls - \$159**  
 18' x 16' avg. room  
**860-416-8354**

**L&A MASONRY HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC.**  
 33 Cooper St., Manchester, CT 06040  
**860-378-9843** Obispo  
**860-477-7432** Alfonso  
 Kitchen/Bathroom Remodeling,  
 Walkways, Pavers, Stonework,  
 Painting, Decks, Fireplaces, Fire Pit  
 FREE ESTIMATES • LICENSED & INSURED

**YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE!**  
 Call: **860-633-4691**

**AAA Electrician Services**  
 FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL NEEDS  
 Residential & Commercial Wiring  
 Don't Pay the Big Company Prices!  
 Service Upgrades, New Construction, Remodels Additions,  
 Outlets & Lights Added, Generators, Kitchens  
 Installation of Automatic or Portable Generator Systems  
 LICENSED - No Job Too Big or Too Small - INSURED  
**Call Shawn 860-759-6652**  
[aaaelectricianservices.com](http://aaaelectricianservices.com)  
 ELC. 0193730.E1

# SERVICES

**BLACK GOOSE CHIMNEY SWEEP:** Dirty chimneys can burn! Having your chimney cleaned yearly ensures peace of mind. Dust-free professional cleaning. Fully insured. Dave 860-267-8422.

**CHIMNEY MAINTENANCE:** Cleaning, caps, dampers, flashing, furnace liners and more. No nonsense, no sales pitch, just the work you want done. 35 yrs. actual experience as the owner of Glastonbury's local chimney service. William Allen 860-633-1033.

**DUMP RUNS/LIGHT HAULING:** Same day appointments available. Cleanouts, basements, garages. Even junk in the backyard. We can take as much or as little as you want. Mark 860-295-9692 or 860-916-9577.

**FLOOR SANDING AND REFINISHING:** Custom staining and finishing. Repairing and laying of all wood floors. Free estimates. James Gorman 860-647-9261.

**IS YOUR RETAINING WALL:** leaning or bulging? But your material still good? We can rebuild, save \$\$\$.



lecting water? But material still good? We can re-base, re-use your old material and save \$\$\$! Dondero Lawn Care 860-228-2003.

**J & S PAINTING & HOME IMPROVEMENT:** Interior/exterior painting, window/door installation. Pool patio & deck patio. Stucco, finish basement, ceramic tiles, bathroom, remodeling. Building maintenance, fence installation. House and office cleaning. Call John, 860-796-0006.

**JOSH'S JUNK REMOVAL:** All items removed at a reasonable rate. Call for estimate. We also remove sheds and hot tubs. Insured. Josh Langdon 48hrs. Cleaning Service. 860-922-4621.

**MY PURPOSE IN LIFE IS HELPING OTHERS: I AM A PHENOMENAL COOK. BAKING IS A HOBBY OF MINE. ORGANIZER, LAUNDRY, ERRANDS, WALK THE DOG, DRIVE TO ACTIVITIES/ APPOINTMENTS, EVEN DO OFFICE WORK. I LIVE IN GLASTONBURY. CALL CAROLYN 860-328-5256.**

**PET WASTE REMOVAL:** weekly or monthly rates. Homes, small farms. Horse manure delivered and spread. Free estimates. Call 203-443-3417.

**DCT, LLC**  
**Light Excavation & Grading**  
**Bush Hogging • Walkways & Patios**  
**Drainage Work** Curtain & Yard Drains, Gutter Tie Ins  
**Stone & Gravel Driveways**  
**Flat Concrete Work**  
**860-228-0556**  
**860-604-6477** CT Lic. 0566119 & Insured

Check us out on Facebook  
 contact@waytogowashing.com  
**WAY TO GO WASHING**  
**Roof Wash • House Wash • Window Clean**  
**Gutter Clean • Surface Clean / Pressure Wash**  
**860-508-1161**  
 waytogowashing.com

**Brilliant Basement Waterproofing, LLC**  
 Egress Windows, Foundation Repair, Crawl Spaces  
 Sump Pumps, Pumps Eliminated in Most Homes.  
 Deal Direct With Owner - No Middle Man, Yard Drainage  
 HIC. 0653192 • CALL US  
**860-598-8091**  
 www.brilliantbasementwaterproofing.com

**Caso's HVAC, LLC**  
 Heating • Cooling • Installation • Service  
 Natural Gas Conversions  
 We Install High Efficiency Heating & Cooling Equipment  
 (HIGH EFFICIENCY BURNS LESS FUEL)  
 Specializing in Boiler Repair, Central Air,  
 Hydro Systems, and Sheetmetal for new and existing homes.  
**We Offer Maintenance Contracts**  
 Residential & Commercial • Over 20 Years Experience  
 CT Lic# 51 394141 **(860) 267-5851** Insured

**Asphalt Solutions**  
**Sealcoating Crack Filling Paving**  
**Free Estimates**  
**SPRING SPECIAL!**  
**\$100 OFF**  
**Call Tyler 860-333-0070**  
 Major Credit Cards Accepted - Licensed & Insured HIC 0657488

**AIR & FLO MECHANICAL LLC**  
**Installation & Service Available**  
 Specializing in Natural Gas & Propane  
 Oil to Gas Conversions  
 Central & Ductless AC • Furnace • Boilers  
 Pool Heaters • Water Heaters • Sheet Metal  
 — FINANCING AVAILABLE —  
 CT Lic #393394 **860-989-5079**  
 BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS  
 MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC COOLING & HEATING  
 DIAMOND CONTRACTOR

**STREAMLINE GENERATOR**  
 www.thepowerisout.com  
**860.467.6466**  
 SALES - SERVICE - INSTALLATION  
**KOHLER GENERATORS**  
 PLATINUM DEALER  
**IN STOCK!**  
 There is a better option than the brand you hear so much about. Ask us WHY!

Like us on Facebook  
 RivereastNewsBulletin

**DIRTY HOUSE? WE CAN HELP!**  
**House washing and roof cleaning.**  
 • Walkways  
 • Patios  
 • Driveways  
 • Decks  
 Call for a FREE quote!  
**860-933-2659**  
 ctwashpros.com

**WARRIOR ABATEMENT SERVICES LLC**  
**MOLD TESTING** **ASBESTOS TESTING & REMOVAL** **LEAD REMOVAL**  
 PROVIDING THE BEST SERVICE IN CONNECTICUT  
**RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL**  
**FULLY LICENSED & INSURED**  
**ASK ABOUT OUR DISCOUNTS FOR BOTH HOME OWNERS & VETERANS**  
**860-846-0771**  
 office@warriorabatement.com  
 PORTLAND • PLAINVILLE

**TAYLOR PAVING LLC**  
 "Original Owners Since 1985"  
**DRIVEWAY PROBLEMS?**  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
 On Your Asphalt Paving Work, Permanent Base Stonedust Products, Processed Gravel, Compaction, Excavation & Drainage Work  
**CALL NOW:**  
**(860) 537-1379**  
**(860) 334-5135**  
**Cash & Senior Discounts**  
**Owner Pricing**  
**All Work Guaranteed**  
**Local & State Specs**  
 Alan & Chase Taylor, Father & Son owned — CT Lic. #562442

"All Work Guaranteed"  
 By Owner/Operator, Tony Lee "2nd Generation Paving"  
**Free Estimates** **ALL PURPOSE PAVING** **State of the Art Equipment**  
**IMMEDIATE RESPONSE**  
**Reasonable Rates Senior Discounts Church Discount**  
**Driveways • Parking Lots Gas Station • Private Roads Sidewalks/Curbing Seal Coating • Asphalt Repair Parking Lot Sweeping Gravel Work • Hot Crack Fill**  
**FULLY INSURED**  
**860-827-3090 • 860-883-3314**  
 Let our crew give your driveway a quality makeover.

**ADVERTISERS**  
 The Glastonbury Citizen and Rivereast News Bulletin will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. The Citizen will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. The Citizen cannot guarantee specific placement.

REG-14-21 REG-13-20 REG-13-20 CIT-17-22 CIT-2-24

# SERVICES

**HYDROPURE**  
Water Treatment, LLC  
SALES • SERVICE • REPAIRS  
**WATER SOFTENERS • FILTERS  
REVERSE OSMOSIS • UV UNITS**

Treat For: Iron, Manganese, Bacteria  
Hardness, Low pH, Sulfur, Nitrates  
Sediment, Taste & Odor Removal  
www.hydro-pure.com  
info@hydro-pure.com  
Lic #PLM280191

860-537-1949

**FULLER**  
PAVING & GRADING

- Reclaiming • Residential • Commercial

Save \$ on in place recycling of your old pavement creating a great base to pave on.  
FREE ESTIMATES  
See us on the web [www.fullerpavingct.com](http://www.fullerpavingct.com)  
195 Jones Hollow Rd., Marlborough, CT  
860-295-9566  
Established 1990 - Proud of Our Great Service Record  
FULLY INSURED • CT LIC. # 0537749

**COLUMBIA GRAVEL**  
Driveway  
Repair & Regrade  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
— LICENSED & INSURED —  
860-228-7171

**Columbia Sealcoat Co.**  
COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL  
Protect & Renew  
Your Pavement  
Crack & Patch Repair  
FREE ESTIMATES  
860-228-7171 LIC/INS

**TUTHILL ELECTRIC**

Family Owned Local Electricians specializing in service changes, generators, remodels, outlets, lighting and more!  
www.Tuthillelectric.com 860-395-7638  
FREE ESTIMATES • Fully Licensed & Insured E1 #0197601

**Wellis Painting**  
Where Quality Still Counts  
EST. 1986 - Lic# 568591

**Ceiling Repair Specialists**  
(860) 652-9259

SPECIALIZING IN:  
All phases of Painting  
Custom  
Textured Ceilings  
Sheetrock/Taping  
Water Damage

**NEED A PLUMBER?**  
Call/Text Phil: **203-506-7371**

East Hampton, Portland, Middletown, Glastonbury, Colchester

**MECHANICAL SYSTEMS, L.L.C.**  
PLUMBING | HEATING | KITCHEN & BATH

- Water Heaters • Disposals • Additions
- Sump Pumps • Water Filtration • Well Pumps
- Toilets • New Construction • Gas Lines
- Faucets • Bathroom Remodels • And more....!!!

— COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL —  
Fully Licensed & Insured — P1. 0289420 | HIC. 0650960

**PLUMBING & HEATING**  
from dripping faucets to all  
your major plumbing/heating needs

Water Heaters • Zoned Heat  
Boiler Replacement  
Bathroom Remodeling  
Call Leo at 860-267-2354  
Lic. # P204015H389727 Insured

**Snow Septic Repair, LLC**  
— FREE ESTIMATES —  
A fully licensed & insured specialist of sub surface waste water disposal systems for residential & commercial properties.  
New Installations • Real Estate Inspections  
Repairs • System Diagnostic Services  
Soil Testing • Video Camera Pipe Inspections  
Guaranteed Pricing & Warranties Available  
SnowSepticRepair.com • 860-221-8735

**CLEAR BLUE WATER SYSTEMS**  
Residential & Commercial

860.342.0432  
clearbluews@yahoo.com  
www.clearbluewater.com

Complete Service & Installation of  
Well Pumps & Tanks  
Water Softening Filtration  
Drinking Water Systems

Lic.# W1-357 • PLM-0284625 • HIC-0627753

- ◆ Well Pumps & Holding Tanks
- ◆ Water Softeners & Filtration
- ◆ Rust & Iron Removal
- ◆ PH Correction
- ◆ Odors Eliminated
- ◆ Radon & Uranium Mitigation
- ◆ Reverse Osmosis Drinking Water Systems

**OH DEER! IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN!**

CALL M.J. EMONDS FOR ALL YOUR HVAC NEEDS THIS WINTER!

**860-657-4554**

With 25 years of service, you can trust the M.J. Emonds family with all your HVAC needs.

M.J. Emonds MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS  
LIC. #392776

TRANSIT COMFORT SPECIALIST

VISA mastercard

Serving Central CT & Middlesex County

# Heating & AC Solutions You Can Count On!

Sales, Installation, Service, Maintenance & Repairs of:

**MARCH IN FOR SAVINGS**

- Furnaces
- Heat pumps
- Boilers
- Air Conditioners
- Ductless Mini-Splits
- Indoor Air Quality

Special Discounts, 0% Financing, Rebates, & Tax Credits On A New Mitsubishi Electric Heating and Cooling System. Call Now to Schedule a Free In Home Consultation Or Visit Our Showroom in Portland CT For More Info.

**MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

**Call Now!**  
**860-613-5230**

1116 Portland Cobalt Rd. (Rt. 66), Portland  
Hours: Mon - Fri 8 AM - 4 PM  
Heating & Cooling Installation and Service

absoluteairservices.com HTG.0393975-S1

# CLEANING

**BRAZILIAN CLEANING SERVICE:** Responsible, Brazilian woman seeking house cleaning clients. Very professional and punctual. Also good with pets. Call Ana Paula 860-212-4586.

**DO YOU NEED YOUR HOUSE CLEANED?** I have good prices and references. Free estimates. Please call Priscila at 860-680-0777.

**EUROPEAN SUPER CLEANING:** Responsible Polish woman seeking cleaning work. For more information call Halina at 860-305-8131.

**HOUSE CLEANING:** Polish/English speaking woman can clean your house with care. 3rd cleaning 30% off. Satisfaction guaranteed. Insured and bonded. Call 860-268-2301.

**WOOD FLOORS:** Questions whether your wood floors really need sanding? Have existing surface finish deep cleaned, revitalized, with a durable acrylic/urethane floor finish. The best alternative to the mess, expense of sanding. Carpets safely dry cleaned. Experienced, references, insured. William Agostinelli 860-704-8486 Calls Only

**HOUSE CLEANING:** Need some help to get your home clean? I'd be happy to help. I have 10+ years of experience, I offer reliable service, reasonable rates and I do an amazing job. References upon request. Please call or text for free estimates. ARIANE'S CLEANING, 860-331-5309.

**CHRISTINE'S CLEANING**  
COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL  
Building Maintenance Services. Economical Rates & Prof. Skills. New Customer Discount Available.  
**860-798-7961**

# FOR SALE

**2003 TOYOTA HIGHLAND:** AWD, V6, 200K miles. Many new parts. \$3,400. Call Tom 860-368-8121.

**END ROLLS OF NEWSPRINT:** Great for art projects, wrapping and packing, table coverings for public dinners, etc. **THE GLASTONBURY CITIZEN.** 87 Nutmeg Lane (off Oak Street) 860-633-4691.



**FIREWOOD FOR SALE:** cut, split, delivered locally \$290/CORD. Can custom cut to size. Multiple cord discount. Discounted outdoor firepit wood available. Call/text 860-202-8950.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD:** One year old male, vetted. Needs good home. Serious inquires only. 860-965-1172.

**HAY FOR SALE:** Square bales, Alfalfa mix, 2nd crop. Call 860-267-2194.

**QUALITY SEASONED HARDWOOD:** Fireplace length. \$260 per CORD, Delivered within Glastonbury. Small delivery fee for surrounding areas. Call 860-659-1438.

**TAG SALES**  
**180 PENNYWISE, GLASTONBURY:** March 9th, 10am-4pm. Glassware, plates, china, lamps, tables, chairs, couches, artwork, games, parents attic, fishing poles, table saws, cordless tools.

*Buy or sell with me... Use my truck for free!*

**3 LOCAL OFFICES**  
**90+ REAL ESTATE AGENTS**  
**INVESTED IN THE COMMUNITY**

**www.carlguild.com**  
**(860) 474-3500**

REALTOR EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

## Suburban Sanitation Service

Looks like spring is almost here.  
Time to clean your septic tank when you're cleaning up the yard.  
**CALL 860-267-6102 TODAY!**

**WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CLEANED THE SEPTIC TANK?**

**LOCAL • TRUSTED • EXPERIENCED**

**Yola Feery**  
860-306-6553

**Bryan Feery**  
860-508-3898

AT BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES NEW ENGLAND PROPERTIES

**Top half of 1% of the network**  
*Setting the standards of excellence for over 45 years.*

**Bfeery@bhhsNE.com**

<p><b>NEW LISTING</b> <b>\$474,900</b> 273 William Street, Portland <i>Lisa</i></p>	<p><b>QUIET CUL-DE-SAC</b> <b>\$399,000</b> 114 Harvest Lane, East Hartford <i>Lisa</i></p>	<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b> <b>\$239,900</b> 23 Latimer Street, East Hartford <i>Lisa</i></p>
<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b> <b>\$159,900</b> 39 Saddle Ridge Rd, Glastonbury <i>Lea</i></p>	<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b> <b>\$184,900</b> 0 Chapman Rd, Marlborough <i>Marielle</i></p>	<p><b>SOLD</b> <b>\$319,000</b> 48 Carolyn Drive, Hebron <i>Sheila</i></p>

Standing, left to right: Melissa Fox, Lea O'Leary, Bryan Feery, Vincent Carbone, Lisa Hutt  
Sitting, left to right: Yola Feery, Sheri Asklar, Marielle Bilodeau, Sheila Young

**LUXURY HOMES • RESIDENTIAL • NEW CONSTRUCTION EXPERTS**