

News Bulletin

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

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Hall of Fame Hoopster... Kelly Coleman, a 2011 Portland High School graduate and currently the girls basketball coach of the Highlanders, was inducted into the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame last month. Coleman (right) is pictured with her mother/assistant coach Diane Coleman and longtime PHS girls basketball coach Nick Chaconis at the ceremony that took place at the Aqua Turf in Southington on April 28. More about Coleman's journey to the hall of fame on page 11.

Marlborough Budget Rejected

By Michael Sinkewicz

The combined 2024-25 Marlborough school and town budget proposal was resoundingly defeated at referendum this week.

According to the town clerk's office, residents rejected the \$28.07 million spending package — a \$971,700, or 3.59%, increase from current-year spending — by a 596-264 tally on Tuesday.

Leading up to the referendum, the Board of Finance set the proposed 2024-25 mill rate at 37.83 — a 3.10 increase that would've resulted in a 8.92% tax bump for the next fiscal year.

For a property assessed at \$250,000, the new tax bill would've increased by \$774; for a property assessed at \$650,000, the bill would've increased by \$2,013. Accordingly, properties assessed within that range would've seen a tax increase in-between those two amounts.

On Wednesday morning, Town Manager David Porter told the Rivereast the overall expenditure was "more than we can handle."

"I think that our voters sent all budgetary entities a clear message that we need to tighten our belts," he said. "I'm not taking this personally. I genuinely am grateful to everyone who voted."

Town expenditures included a \$6.3 million operational budget — a \$89,700, or 1.44% increase — along with a \$764,577 capital budget — an increase of \$542,628. Combined, the town earmark was \$7.07 million — a \$632,328, or 9.82%, increase over the 2023-24 fiscal year.

For the local elementary school budget, the Board of Education adopted a \$8.66 million operational budget — a \$229,396, or 2.72%, increase. The board's capital budget was \$75,000 — \$10,000 less than the 2023-24 fiscal year.

Residents also voted on the overall RHAM budget, which was \$31.79 million — a \$654,406,

or a 2.1%, increase over current-year spending. That figure is broken down between an operating budget of \$31.29 million and capital budget of \$499,777.

Marlborough rejected the operational budget by a 469-390 vote, according to the town clerk, and also shot down the capital budget by 470-387 tally. Still, the combined vote margin of the three member towns was enough for the both items to pass. Accordingly, Marlborough's RHAM levy is set at \$11.33 million — a \$69,979, or 0.62%, increase.

On Monday, local officials had one last chance to pitch their budgets to residents during a second public hearing before the subsequent referendum the next day.

Porter, along with Marlborough Elementary School Superintendent Holly Hageman and RHAM Superintendent Colin McNamara each presented budgetary information and responded to community questions.

Christopher Barella, an alternate on the Board of Finance, at one point appeared to admonish the town manager following his slideshow.

"You need to get your act together," he said. "You're wasting our time here."

Barella's comments came after another resident observed that much of the proposed tax hike was due to non-operational expenses. He described the increase as "relatively invisible" — a statement Porter agreed was fair.

During his interview, Porter said the alternate finance board member "behaved less than professionally," but added that most of the audience raised thoughtful questions. The town manager also defended the information he's publicly dis-

See Marlborough Budget, page 28

The Lake's "Little Treasure"

By London Brazal

Near the southeast corner of East Hampton's Lake Pocotopaug sits an old lighthouse and even though it is less than five feet tall, it has a rich history that may have gone unnoticed.

With their grandparents' house on the lake, Cole and Dalton Peszynski were used to the tiny lighthouse, which warns boaters about a rock formation that is visible only when the water level is low. During colder winters, when the lake froze over, they would walk out on the ice and hang out on the post. In the summer, they would do the same with kayaks or swimming.

Two years ago, the brothers witnessed the lighthouse in distress as it was notably crooked, and the blinking light stopped working. Dalton posted on a Facebook group asking who owned the rocky island property. Responses were mixed, with some people not knowing anything about a lighthouse while others shared personal

memories. Dalton and Cole's father Mark even went out when he was younger to repaint the wood that started to chip.

The thread soon revealed an extensive history dating back to 1913 when the land was originally purchased for \$50 in a state auction by J. Howell Conklin. The rocks, called Stoney Island, are under a warranty deed that puts the boundaries at the lowest watermark which can range, but generally is 150 ft by 70 ft. When Conklin passed, the property was handed over to his grandson, Harvey Hilton, in 1957.

Then, Hilton sold the island to Jimmy Barton who made two lighthouses in the center of town, one to put on his property on Meeks Point Rd. and the other on the lake. Cole said Barton was described as a "prankster" who said he won the island in a card game; which may or may not be true. Before the lighthouse was there, many

people wrecked their engines on the rocks. Around 2007, the battery was replaced, but the light ultimately failed in 2015. It was then "sort of" replaced with a solid-state light that drove Cole nuts, he said.

The current owner of the property, Barton's daughter Claudia Barton Dean, gave permission to the Peszynski brothers to fix up the lighthouse. "Once we got permission, it was game on," said Cole.

One rumor that circulated in town was that wires ran to someone's house to power the light; however, when the temperature was right and the water level was low, the boys quickly busted the myth. On Oct. 27, 2023, the two kayaked to the lighthouse. Upon their assessment, Cole and Dalton saw that the lighthouse sat on an angle iron base welded to a round pipe cemented onto

See "Little Treasure", page 32

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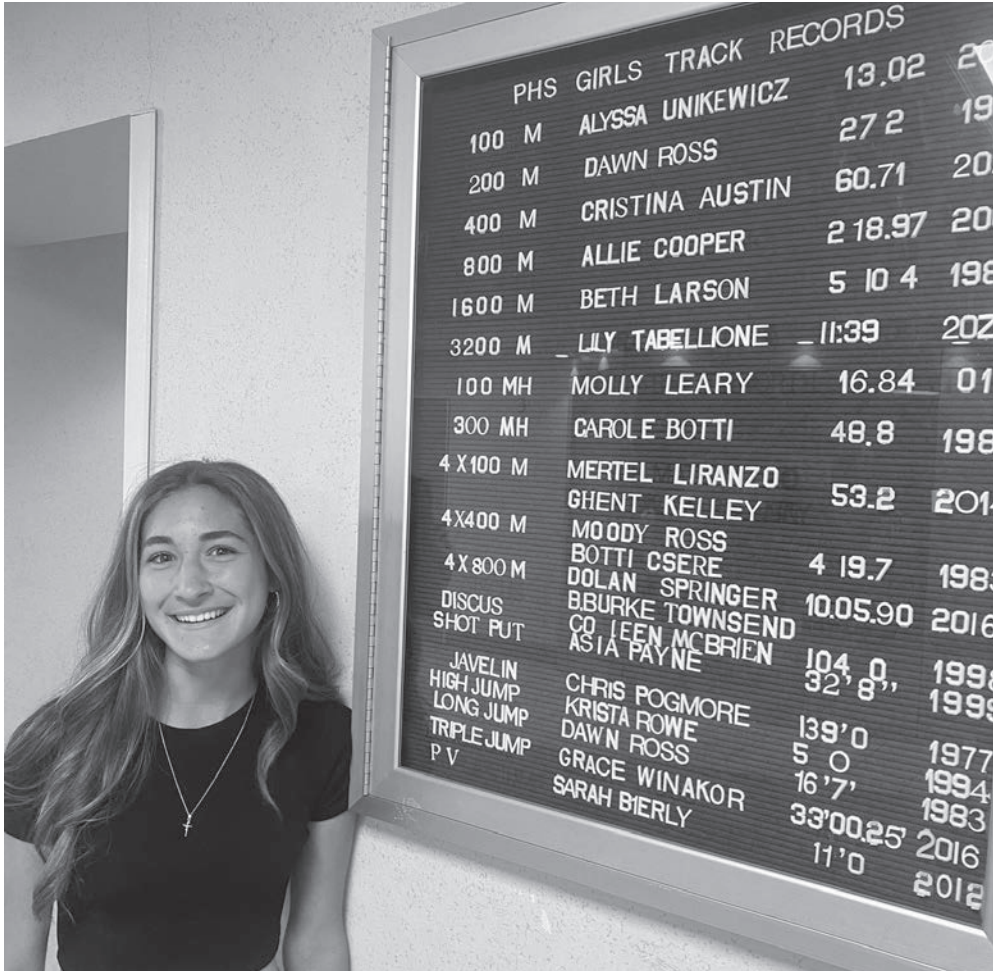
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This is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$51,788 with 100% funded by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official views of, not an endorsement, by CDC/HHS or the US Government.









Portland High School sophomore Cristina Austin broke the girls 400 meters record last week.

# Standout Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Here are the *Rivereast* Standout Athletes of the Week for the week of April 30 - May 6:

**Cristina Austin** - Portland High School (Track & Field): Austin set a new girls track and field record in the 400 meters on May 3. Austin, a sophomore, posted a personal-best and program record-breaking time of 60.71, placing fourth overall at the Marty Roberts Invitational in Coginchaug.

**Alex Gallardo and John Ceruti**: Bacon Academy (Golf): Gallardo and Ceruti were the co-medalist, each shooting a 36 to finish atop the leaderboard as the Bobcats beat Griswold (168-175) at River Ridge Golf Course in Griswold on May 6. The duo was coming off a performance in which they each shot 37s to finish tied for second on the leaderboard at Stonington Country Club on May 3. The Bobcats placed second at the three-school event, placing behind Woodstock and in front of the host Bears of Stonington.

**Addison Mike** - RHAM High School (Softball): Mike, a sophomore, had a pair of hits, including a home run to spark a Raptors' rally

in a 6-2 win over Rocky Hill on May 3. Trailing 2-0 in the bottom of the second, Mike connected on a solo shot to center field, leading to six straight runs for RHAM. Freshman Morgan McCarthy added three hits, while Mya Strumtkas and Ashlee Perkins each drove in a pair of runs. Faith Chanski was solid from the hill, allowing only five hits in seven innings and did not allow a run over the final five frames.

**Baden Plante** - East Hampton High School (Baseball): Plante drove in four runs and scored another on two hits as the Bellingers held on to beat Cromwell 9-7 on May 1. Plante, senior, had a pair of two-RBI doubles in the game, while senior teammate Alex Zimmerman also had a pair of hits, driving in a run and scoring twice. Plante also earned the save from the mound, pitching the final two innings and striking out four.

To nominate as athlete as a Standout of the Week or to offer sports-related comments, email [joshhowardsports@gmail.com](mailto:joshhowardsports@gmail.com).

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## Correction

In last week's article "Portland Resident's Concerns Addressed" there was an error regarding a resident mentioning the idea of connecting Perry Avenue to Wolcott Lane. The actual proposal from the resident was for the town to look into acquiring the parcel of land between Wolcott Lane and the backside of Brainard Place and build an access point. The *Rivereast* regrets this error.

## Lake Development

To the Editor:

To the folks in town that walk around the lake, live around the lake, use the lake, or pay taxes in town. Okay, this is to all of East Hampton.

There is another development being proposed within the watershed. This development within the watershed is 33 acres and it will be harvested of its trees and land disturbed which in turn will cause sediment runoff into our lake just like all the other developments within the watershed. This isn't a theory, it is a fact! This has occurred with all the other developments in the watershed. It is kind of ironic that we invest hundreds of thousands of dollars into our lake then we turn around and allow more damage. The lake has become the town's abused mistress, how much more can she take?

Pam Joslyn - East Hampton

## Defending Biden

To the Editor:

While everyone is entitled to their opinion of President Biden's performance, I found Mr. McNamara's "empathy" letter less than thoughtful, inaccurate in several areas, and more mean-spirited than clever.

Going back to a childhood nickname in an attempt to diminish one's character is silly. College performance may or may not predict success in life, but even if Mr. Biden "disremembered" or embellished his academic record, I could point out that many successful individuals have not been outstanding students. It is interesting to note that Mr. Trump's "genius" performance in college remains a mystery since his academic achievement is apparently carefully guarded.

The reference to Mr. Biden's brain surgery (for aneurysms) is a truly low note; how "Trumpish" to make anyone's life-threatening health crisis into a joke. Nothing could be less amusing to me — in my opinion.

The suggestion that somehow Mr. Biden's relatives and their past conduct or adventures have anything to do with the current issues facing America today is simply infantile. As for truth in daily conduct, why don't we discuss the continuing saga of alleged misconduct being considered before the courts from the many indictments facing his opponent.

Sandra Marshall - East Hampton

## Bulletin Board

My sister-in-law in Upstate New York recently ran into a deer with her car--or, as she claims, the deer intentionally and with malice aforethought ran into her. Whatever. It didn't matter to the auto body shop one way or the other when they estimated the repair costs.

It will probably come as no surprise to you that my sister-in-law's encounter is not that uncommon. In 1942 (when the classic film "Bambi" hit the theaters) there were approximately 500,000 whitetail deer in the United States. It is estimated that the population today is about 35 million. The good news is that deer, while they can pose their own set of problems, don't require much in the way of social services, despite the efforts of certain activists, some of whom also contend that turnips have feelings.

The not-so-good news is that there are about 1.5 million car vs. deer accidents in the U.S. per year resulting in the deaths of 200 non-deer (i.e., people). From an economic standpoint, this is good for car body repair shops, but probably not sufficient to provide a significant boost to the funeral home industry. On the other hand, the four-legged vermin have become so disrespectful of what really matters in this country that they have taken to grazing on expensive shrubbery and plantings in places like Fairfield County. So clearly something needs to be done and done soon.

Just what, depends on whom you ask.

In my extensive research on this pressing issue I came across a quote from a spokesperson for a group called "In Defense of Deer" who declared, "It's not a deer problem, it's a people problem. If you just leave well enough alone, the system will regulate itself."

Just what constitutes "leaving well enough alone" when it comes to deer roaming through suburbia like those herds of buffalo of yesteryear (talk about effective population control; when's the last time you saw a herd of buffalo?) is unclear to me. Perhaps by gradually culling deer out of existence with our cars, we will save our rhododendrons? I suppose we could just stop planting expensive shrubbery and tulips and stuff (I'm all for that, though I suspect my wife would object), but then what happens when desperately hungry deer begin to develop a taste for human flesh or family pets? Bambi may not be so cute when he's bounding away into the forest with your toddler in his mouth.

By the way, I couldn't help but notice that when I Googled the group "In Defense of Deer," the third hit down was titled "Top Seven Deer Rifle Calibers for Ohio," which indicates to me that some folks in the Buckeye State may have grown weary of waiting for the system to regulate itself and are taking matters in their own hands. (I forwarded this information to my sister-in-law, who has taken a sudden interest in venison recipes since receiving the repair bill for her car.)

Obviously, the suggestions of In Defense of Deer notwithstanding, the answer to the deer problem is fairly simple: 1) less people or 2) less deer. Personally, I'd prefer #1, provided I could choose the people to be culled. At this point, I'd probably start with college students. Since this is unlikely to be granted, the answer, by default, is clearly less deer.

One longtime suggestion is to resort to enforced birth control...for the deer, that is, since they don't have any Constitutional rights, at least for the time-being. Since deer have trouble pushing those little pills through the foil with their hooves, scientists (presumably funded by generous government grants or possibly COVID money) have come up with a variety of alternative methods of birth control, one of which involves shooting the deer with a dart containing a contraceptive inoculation. This procedure, I am informed, costs about \$500 a year per doe (yep, responsibility always seems to fall on the ladies) and each deer has to be hit at least twice over the course of a year for the stuff to be really effective. Unfortunately, deer look a lot alike, so some are apt to get hit once or not at all, while other, less intellectually astute animals, are apt to get hit 42 times while they stand around wondering what the hell is going on.

Other animal welfare activists advocate surgical sterilization of deer, which involves shooting the deer with a tranquilizer dart, putting her on a stretcher and bringing her to the animal hospital for "tubal ligation" (tying the fallopian tubes) or an "ovariectomy" (removing the ovaries), presumably followed by a couple of months of out-patient counseling. Aside from giving me the creeps, this procedure (a weird combination of the barbaric and the ludicrous) costs about \$1,200 per deer and studies show it really doesn't have much of an impact on populations (not that that is likely to deter the folks making money off the thing).

So, to circle back to the beginning, maybe In Defense of Deer's recommendation to "just leave well enough alone and the system will regulate itself" isn't as idiotic as it might seem at first look. It would certainly be cheaper.

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

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### “American Legion Post 54 Thanks You”

To the Editor:  
The American Legion, Colchester's Post 54 thanks everyone who came to the St. Joseph's Polish Club on April 30th to give blood. The Red Cross said that their daily goal for this event was exceeded with 27 pints donated. Colchester Legion Post 54 will endeavor to sponsor another drive in the future.

Those who donated this time are eligible to donate again on June 25, 2024. In the intervening time please note that the Polish Club will host another blood drive at the end of each month. Please continue in your support for the Red Cross by donating blood as you are able.

**Alphonse Letendre – Colchester**  
Deputy Post Commander

### Budget Referendum

To the Editor:  
Monday, May 13th is the budget referendum vote here in Portland. Registered voters, as well as Portland property owners, may cast their ballots on the 2024-25 annual budget in person, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Middle School, located at 93 High St. The selectmen – John Dillon, Mike Hernandez, Bobby Hetrick, Shaun Manning, Mike Pelton, Jim Tripp and myself – worked together on a bi-partisan basis to send this budget to the voters. Total government expenditures increase by 4.62%. The entire budget is available for review at the Portland Library, the Town Clerk's office or online at [www.portlandct.org/budgets](http://www.portlandct.org/budgets).

My sincere appreciation goes to each selectman. Thank you for your leadership, and all that you do for Portland.

Sincerely,  
**Ryan J. Curley**  
Portland First Selectman

### Inaccurate and Misleading

To the Editor:  
There's Annie Steinbrecher...Edmund Smith...Joe Stevens...John Barnowski...and, of course, Scott Sauyet. But then...there's Sheila Jackson Lee. Let's give a listen, shall we?

“A full moon is a complete rounded circle which is made up mostly of gases and that's why the push...the question is why, or how, could we as humans live on the moon. Are the gases such that we could do that. The sun is a mighty powerful heat and it's almost impossible to go near the sun. The moon is more manageable. Today will be the closest distance that the moon has ever been in the last twenty years, which means that's why they will shut the light down because they will be close to the earth.

A solar system is bigger than us...there are solar systems...uh...and there are systems that are smaller than the earth. Still, we are in a solar system and we depend on the earth, the moon, and the sun. That is our existence. That is what creates...uh...our desire for creativity...uh...our music...our weather...our rain...our snow...our cold...our heat...that solar system working.

Some of you are going into engineering. This is what engineering is. We have yet to know whether you can live on the moon, but I don't know about you, I want to be first in line to know how to live and to be able to survive on the moon. That's another planet that you're gonna see shortly.” – Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D), 4/8/24

As you may have guessed, Ms. Jackson Lee articulated a number of inaccuracies and misleading statements, not unlike statements made by the individuals mentioned above. I suspect that, just like Rep. Hank Johnson (D), she also shares the concern that the Island of Guam could tip over if too many planes land on it.

Now that's leadership...

Be Afraid,  
**Ed Kozlowski – Colchester**

### Budget Concerns

To the Editor:  
It's just another inflated budget seeking to fleece the taxpayers. It never goes down no matter how many residents or kids in the school. They get excited that their numbers have gone up to 200 kids! Woohoo! Another 10 kids and next year's budget will be even higher. \$4.3 million dollars to educate 200 Andover elementary school kids and this is with grants! What happens when those grants go away?

On the other hand, it's so nice to see improvements in town. Finally, we have a community center this town has needed for so long. This is all been accomplished without major increases in the town budget. Roads and bridges have been improved as well. I'm impressed. Still, there's fluff in the budget and needs to be voted down. Please turn out and vote no on this budget.

**Marcie Miner – Andover**

### Cancer Moonshot

To the Editor:  
Republicans rejected Biden's plea to continue funding for the Cancer Moonshot program. Cancer Moonshot brings together the federal government, health care providers, researchers, patients, caregivers, advocates and the public and private sectors, to dramatically accelerating progress against cancer. The Republicans cut taxes for the rich and corporations and then claim they have to cut the budget. There latest cut to cancer research is the latest blow to Americans. The Cancer Moonshot expands access to cancer screenings, toxic exposure research, preventing cancer before it starts, delivering the latest treatment and supporting caregivers.

**Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough**

### Defend POCD

To the Editor:  
“The best offense is a good defense, but a bad defense is offensive.” – Gene Wolf

We have been informed that Hebron's Plan of Conservation and Development is not a plan, but a guide and this is great news. Plans change, but guides generally don't, as they are based on previous experiences. Guides defend us against offensive avoidable mistakes.

GUIDE:  
“a person who advises or shows the way to others:

- a professional mountain climber in charge of a group.
- a thing that helps someone to form an opinion or make a decision or calculation:

a book, document, or display providing information on a subject or about a place.” – (Ipad dictionary)

Generally we don't hear the law in guides. If your guide recommends not skiing certain slopes, and you do, and you crash, you won't get much sympathy, you were warned. Here, insurance laws might actually come into play.

As US citizens we are beholden to our natural resources, not our politicians or CEO's. People come and go, but our history, land and waterways remain for the next generations. The health of our trees, water and soil are in our hands and

right now. All across America, we are doing a pretty lousy job defending them. But what if we had a guide to steer us in the right direction, to avoid the land mines, defend our values, natural resources, historic legacies and smart urban planning? We do.... It's called the POCD.

Hebron is a well maintained, beautiful town. Residents vote in favor of open space in survey after survey. Ironically, for Hebron, two of the most important things for successful expeditions are guides and access to safe water. Please join Planning and Zoning for a look at Hebron's 2024 POCD. Public Hearing, Tuesday May 14. #save17

**Jean Tulumieri – Amston**

### Budget Warning

To the Editor:  
I have been reading about the school budgets that are coming up for the vote. I am a recent implant from L.I., New York, leaving because of the high taxes that the public imposes on itself.

While the taxes here are not yet as high, I see the direction they are heading and am forewarning you if you keep voting 'yes' for these budgets, one day you will wake up and wonder how am I going to make this work. The BOE uses the same tactics everywhere, i.e, it's for the children, with kids on posters planted on lawns. I have yet to see kids miss an education cause the budget didn't pass and keep in mind not every kid is college material. It's the people in the trades that are making the big bucks. There is always work for them.

**Frank Grande – Colchester**

### Utilities Upgrades

To the Editor:  
The recent disagreement between the electric utilities and the Governor, [per *Hartford Courant* May 3 and 4th] highlight a lack of leadership leaving us in the dark. The utilities seem to be strapped by the cost of the need to repair and mitigate upcoming damage to the grid from trees after storms and the last legislative action to minimize this damage leading to outages and maintenance cost, preventing utilities from spending on the necessary updates for the future reliance on eclectic power.

The towns and state legislators can minimize the cost of grid maintenance by progressive legislation for example mandating future electric lines be installed on the northern and western side of the roads, designating distance from lines, type of trees to be planted in the future along these lines, requiring towns communicating citizens reports of pending problems on the grid to the utilities, namely a mutual cooperation between user and provider.

There is a need to update the grid for the future. Let's make meaningful improvements and stop playing.

**Chris Martin – Colchester**

### Flags Over East Hampton

To the Editor:  
You have probably noticed that the flags were recently reinstalled on the Eversource poles in East Hampton along the town's two parade routes, Main Street, throughout our downtown center, along Route 151 in the historic district of Middle Haddam and in Cobalt Center. This program, which is not supported by tax dollars, occurs through those that so generously donate to the Flags Over East Hampton fund. We annually have a goal of \$4000. Unfortunately, due to the many storms we weathered last year, we had to replace 150 flags and 20 flag poles at a cost \$4600, well above what we typically have to spend to support this program annually. I am hopeful your generous support as in the past will allow us to reach our goal and continue a program that the Town of East Hampton's residents have come to appreciate.

A special thank you to the East Hampton Fire Department who once again assisted with the installation of the flags this season. We would also like to thank the very generous donation from Markham Meadows Campground, the civic organizations in town and the many residents as well as former residents that have supported this program for over twelve years. Those interested in making a donation may want to consider making a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone who served our country proudly in the armed forces.

Please make your check out to “Flags Over East Hampton”, c/o the Town of East Hampton and send your donation to the attention of Renee Bafumi, Town Hall, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424.

Your donation will assist the committee in maintaining this worthy program.

**Kevin M. Reich**  
Chairperson,  
Flags Over East Hampton Committee

### Little Hands, Big Plans

To The Editor:  
Donald J. Trump, the best president in American history! America thought it once had a personal Lord and Savior in Obama...then the “whites” met Donald Trump...case closed...done deal...winning!!

Growing up on the gritty streets of NYC was no picnic...people were flushing toilets 10...15 times. And then you have to remember how his folks packed him off to military boarding school...and people want to claim he isn't a patriot?!?! Fake news! If it wasn't for those bone spurs I'm sure he would of probably been the real life inspiration for Rambo...just like those flags at the flea market.

After a storied career in real estate development/casino construction, a few failed marriages and some bankruptcies, The Don knew

See Letters, page 6

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# ENTERTAINMENT

Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Read

★ Letters cont. from page 5

The next logical step was to become the “leader of the free world”. I’ve even heard that it’s in his “stars”, but I’m not very good at that astronomy stuff.

Some people have tried to portray Trump as some self-possessed millionaire playboy. I hear he is even engaged on some sort of lawsuit about it now...I guess that’s what you get for trying to give your wife a rest and watching some “Shark Week”. No good deed goes unpunished. One thing that is apparent, even if you don’t like Trump, you’ve got to admit he is a great father. Always pumping his kids up and calling them hot and sexy on television.

Has America ever had a better president? What other president has ever had their own line is steaks, wine, neckties, hotels, Bibles, sneakers? None...all the other presidents sucked. And soon we are gonna have a Trump Wall! MAGA 2024!!!

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## Hebron’s Board of Confusion

To the Editor:

Watching Hebron’s Board of Selectmen meeting of May 2nd, I was struck by the deep state of confusion among certain board members. The discussion of the 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development illustrated a bewildering misunderstanding of the nature of the POCD. The intent of the POCD was clearly stated by Town Planner Matthew Bordeaux, “This is a vision document...” This was reinforced by Town Manager Andrew Tierney, “It is a guide to consider as you move forward...” Despite these assurances, certain members of the BOS appear to be stuck like deer in the headlights, confused and afraid of what might happen if a comprehensive POCD is adopted. It was explained by Mr. Bordeaux that the details are directly related to the ability of the Town to pursue funding from State grants and other sources, “There is a lot of material in there that we can use, that actually helps the town to pursue funding opportunities...we can point to specifics in the plan.”

The Planning and Zoning Commission has spent literally thousands of hours holding meetings and workshops to accept input. As noted by Mr. Bordeaux, “It has been three years and we have solicited every available entity, many of whom have provided a great deal of content.” Shockingly, one BOS member complained that the Selectmen were not updated or included in the process. The BOS is solely responsible for

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**HOPE & SUPPORT GROUP** TriCircle Hope Support Groups provide a confidential, and supportive environment for parents, guardians, and loved one(s) who have someone affected by the disease of addiction. Every Thursday 6-7:30pm rotating in 3 locations. For a virtual option email [ana@tricircle.org](mailto:ana@tricircle.org) [www.tricircle.org](http://www.tricircle.org) 860-349-7074

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## On it.

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- Vote in national and local elections to ensure your elected officials share your vision of public safety.
- Donate to organizations, campaigns and initiatives who are committed to racial justice.

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their own confusion and lack of contributions, the opportunities to be involved have been extensive.

Compounding the confusion, the BOS voted to make alterations to the motion to endorse the 2024 POCD and included an effort to change the wording of the POCD itself. Please attend the May 14th PZC Public Hearing and support the 2024 POCD as written. For more information please visit Save Hebron Center on Facebook.

Sincerely,  
Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

### Teach These College Protesters a Lesson

To the Editor:  
The United Nations first recognized the country of Israel in May of 1948. To my knowledge they have never attacked any other country. After an unprecedented attack by the armed Muslim Palestinian group, Hamas, 6 months ago, Israel did what any other country would do. Fight back. Defend your country. Try to rescue the hostages that the Palestinians took and protect your citizens. Luckily Israel's allies stepped in to help. That's what is still going on today.

Palestine has made no attempts to end this war. Has not released their hostages and continues to attack Israel. They hide amongst their woman and children. They hide in hospitals and other areas that put it's woman and children in danger. This Muslim Hamas group are the ones responsible for their woman and children that are being killed, not Israel! These college students are protesting against the wrong people! They are blaming the wrong people! Do these students have any common sense or are they all Muslims that hate Israel? If they are arrested for not doing as law enforcement has told them to do or are arrested for resisting arrest than they should be thrown out of college! All of these resisters that are not US citizens should be sent back to the country that they came from, and fast! Do you want these students college loans paid for by the hard working men and women of the United States? I sure don't!

Frank Blume – Colchester

### Pledge History

To the Editor:  
Don Denley wants everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. He learned it in grammar school, empowering him to chastise Democrat Scott Sauyet for not reciting it at BOE meetings, though he stands respectfully. Scott is a Quaker whose beliefs oppose the taking of oaths. He shared the Supreme Court's 1943 affirmation that one does not have to recite the Pledge.

MAGA Denley wants none of that. His history deficits spur him to unexamined action. The original Pledge was written by a socialist. Based on his previous *Riverast* letters, Denley despises socialists. But over time the original socialist Pledge became palatable to Don. Racist Southern politicians made sure to remove the word

'equality' lest uppity women and Blacks tried to get out of line. Don is old-school wistful; when Blacks needed a Green Book to avoid traveling into sundown towns, and women couldn't vote. Xenophobes later added "United States of America" lest immigrants imagine their former flag. McCarthy era anti-communists added "under God," a direct assault on our nation's original Founders who wisely left God out of the Constitution and separated Church from State.

Denley finds purpose within a MAGA-herd group psychosis, injecting ever more pyrrhotite into the formerly sound foundational concrete that once buttressed our country. He tried adding patriotic gravitas to his Pledge argument by mentioning his World War II hero father. But dad served under General Eisenhower who helped create NATO to prevent WWII; and voted for President Eisenhower who kept the wealthiest tax rate at 90%, to better create national equity. The MAGA son feigns paternal respect, wanting dad's NATO dismantled and the billionaires to keep their bullion. Google 'Mussolini and Hitler salute' to see how you will salute a Trump II flag. Real American patriots know the Pledge's history. They stand silently.

Ed Smith – Andover

### Hebron Memorial Day Parade

Greetings to All:  
Those interested in participating in the Memorial Day march, please be cognizant of a few rules: The Hebron and other Memorial Parades, are just that! A parade to memorialize our Military Veterans. Marchers, Memorial is not a political or any kind/type of advertisement. It is requested that the only "Flag-waving" be military, i.e. The American Flag in "serviceable condition", POW/MIA - "Prisoner-of-War", flag of a recognized American Branch of Service, United States Army; United States Navy; United States Marine Corps; United States Air Force; United States Coast Guard, United States Space Force, United States, Merchant Marines, and/or an American flag of a military unit. If there is a military theme recognizing the Memorial, please feel welcome.

Remember, the function is to memorialize United States Military Veterans, any and all "fun," be realized after the ceremony. For God and Country. Pre-parade set-up, prior to 10:00 a.m., arrangement, at the drive between the schools and the sports fields-tennis football/baseball fields, the scenario will be similar to past years, basically, self-arranging order. Please remember, leave the serpentine drive, (the curved driveways), adjacent to RHAM High School, for the busses.

For the Hebron, Post 95, Commander, Sr. Vice and the entire contingent Hebron Veterans of Post 95 American Legion, and Hebron, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 8776. For God and Country, questions/concerns contact 860-742-0762, R.A. Bob Mangillo, Post 95 Adjutant, or 2038485913, Joe Fetta, Post 95, Commander.

Proudly submitted,  
Bob Mangillo,  
Hebron Post 95 Adjutant

### Portland Exchange Club Thank You

To the Editor:  
On May 2nd the Exchange Club of Portland held their 35th Annual Charity Golf Tournament. The Exchange Club would like to thank the golfers and volunteers for their help and support.

The Exchange Club would also like to thank the sponsors of the Tournament.

Eagle Sponsors – Aresco Construction, Chris Cote's Golf Shop, DRVN of Portland, The Flood Law Firm, Law Office of George A. Law, Mc Cabe & Associates/Ameriprise Financial, Piper Veterinary, Schultz Electric, Snyder Civil Engineering, and Symmetry Physical Therapy.

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From your support the Portland Exchange Club will be making contributions to Gilead Community Services, New Horizons Domestic Violence Shelter in Middletown, Rushford, and Middlesex Hospital Hospice.

Thank you,  
Jamie Leonard  
Exchange Club of Portland

### Portland Budget

To the Editor:  
On May 13, Portland will be voting on a \$40M town budget with a 3.11% increase in spending.

The proposed budget fails to allocate funds to repair the leaking school roofs and is irresponsible in not providing funding to pay off the school's \$273K deficit. Recently, the BOE voted to add \$20,000 to the deficit to repair tennis courts while parents are being asked to donate paper to Gildersleeve school. In my world, a safe healthy environment trumps tennis courts any day.

Conservative fiscal spending is nonexistent in Portland under the Board of Selectmen GOP leadership. The BOS priority spending this year includes pickleball courts and a fourth firetruck purchase for a shrinking volunteer department. Supplemental allocations were used more than ten times over the past 2 years to finance pet projects that came in over town budget funds. Supplemental allocation money comes from years of savings and should only be used for emergency spending, not political promises. Although one member of the BOS has voiced concerns regarding excessive spending, there appears to be no end in sight.

In the coming months, the BOE along with the BOS will be asking the taxpayers to vote on a \$66M MEGA school that hinges on the state paying half the cost that would not break ground for 2 years. Why should Portland taxpayers approve a new MEGA school when our schools now are not being maintained?

The other big project coming within the next year is a proposed water filtration plant with a multi-million-dollar price tag. Buckle up for big tax increases over the next few years.

I will be voting NO on May 13 to send the message to hit the brakes on spending.  
Rose Aletta – Portland

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## Better Dental HEALTH

by George M. Mantikas, DMD

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### WHY FLOSS?

Daily flossing is essential to proper dental hygiene. Forgoing flossing can promote plaque between teeth and along the gumline. Over time, increased plaque on tooth enamel increases the risk of developing cavities. Regular flossing removes small food particles and plaque build-up and aids in preventing gingivitis and gum diseases. It also reduces halitosis (bad breath), the result of decaying food trapped between teeth and gums. Proper oral hygiene not only benefits teeth and gums, it may also benefit heart health, too. A 2019 study showed that participants who practiced high oral hygiene standards also had decreased risk of atrial fibrillation and heart failure. Professional dental cleanings every six months are highly recommended to monitor and maintain overall dental health.

And while it is true that brushing and flossing may take the lead in the fight against food and plaque build-up, the main causes of decay and gum disease, it is equally important to perform these oral hygiene routines correctly for maximum results. Your family dentist can show you the most effective way to brush and floss your teeth. Remember, a sure investment in your future is a visit to your dentist today. This column is brought to you in the interest of better dental health by the offices of George M. Mantikas, D.M.D.

P.S. Flossing stimulates blood flow to the gums, which helps fight bacteria growth in and under the gums.

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**Fun Run....** Marlborough Elementary School PTO held their MES Fun Run on April 25. This event is the PTO's biggest fundraiser of the year. All money raised goes right back to the school for field trips, educational enhancements, whole school assemblies, teacher appreciation week and so much more. The school raised more than \$37,000 this year. Pictured are fourth grade students with the school's mascot, "Zippy" the panther. The Marlborough Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization would like to thank our Platinum Sponsors for the 2024 MES Fun Run - Paul's Auto of East Hartford, CT Propane and Petroleum of Marlborough, and the Rotary Club of East Hampton & Marlborough for their generous donations.

### Lions 'Round the Lake 5K

The Marlborough Lions will hold their 40th annual 'Round the Lake 5K Road Race on Sunday, May 26. The race is a certified 5K and will start promptly at 10:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$30 and runners must be registered by the day prior to the race. Shirts will be guaranteed for those who pre-register by May 17 with additional shirts provided to runners as available. There is also a \$60 package price for groups of immediate family members participating in the race. Same day registrations need to be signed in by 10 a.m. Runners will start near the entrance to Blish Park on Park Road and will proceed on a course, which circles Lake Terramuggus.

In the past, local businesses have provided race sponsorships of \$100, \$250 and \$500. If any additional businesses wish to provide sponsorships, contact one of the Lions Club members listed below. The business sponsor's information will be printed on the shirts handed out to runners. To register or for additional information, call Lions President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or Lions Secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116. Lloyd can also be emailed at MarlboroughCTLions@gmail.com. Registration forms are also available at various locations. You can register online at itsyourrace.com; search for Marlborough Lions.

### 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 May 13:** Safety Driving Course 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; **Tuesday, May 14:** Help & Support 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Free Bread & Bakery Goods 10:00 a.m.; **Thursday, May 16:** Parkinson Exercise with Anne / 3:00 - 4:00 p.m., Red Cross Blood Drive 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

### Benefit Assessment Bills Due

Residents in the town's sewer district are notified that Benefit Assessment bills are due to the Marlborough Water Pollution Control Authority (MWPCA). Bills were due April 1, and the last day to pay without interest is May 1. Delinquent bills will be charged 1.5% interest per month reverting to the due date of April 1 or 18% per year. Minimum interest is \$5. If you do not receive a bill, contact the Tax Office at 860-295-6205.

Make checks payable to MWPCA. Payments can be mailed to: Tax Collector, Town of Marlborough, P.O. Box 26, 29 North Main St., Marlborough CT 06447, or placed in the drop box to the left of the Town Hall front door. Payments can not be made via cash. Tax Collector hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

### Lions Collecting Medical Equipment

The Marlborough Lions will be holding a durable medical equipment collection on Saturday May 25 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Marlborough Elementary School at 25 School Drive in the parking lot outside the Cafeteria. The Marlborough Lions, in conjunction with the human relief organization Orphan Grain Train, will be seeking the following items in new or good used condition: Rehabilitation Equipment, Blood pressure cuffs, Commodes, Walkers, Wheelchairs, Shower chairs, Crutches, Otoscopes, Sleep apnea machines, Canes, Lifting devices, Stethoscopes, Unopened packages of bandages, adult diapers and other medical items. Unfortunately, motorized wheelchairs and hospital beds cannot be taken due to their size and weight. Donated items will be shipped to impover-

ished areas in the southern states, with some items being given to people locally who may be in need of their use. For further information, please feel free to call Lions Club Secretary, Ken Hjulstrom, at 860-490-9116. The Lions Club supports programs which address various issues including blindness, drug abuse prevention and diabetes awareness in addition to supporting local organizations such as the Marlborough Food Bank. The Lions also perform annual vision screening services for students at the elementary school and at various child care facilities in the area. Those interested in joining the Marlborough Lions Club should call Club President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537. New members are always welcome.

### 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 broadcast live every Sunday and recorded for later viewing at [mcc.marlconchurch.org](http://mcc.marlconchurch.org). Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided downstairs in the nursery but children are always welcome at the worship service. All children in the community are welcome and invited to attend Sunday School. Contact the church office at [office@marlconchurch.org](mailto:office@marlconchurch.org) for more information. **Sunday, May 12** is a Bluegrass Sunday in celebration of Mother's Day. Joyful Blue, the church's bluegrass band, will play upbeat, hand-clapping sing-along hymns as well as an anthem piece performed by the band. Pastor Valerie Seaver will lead the service. Her sermon title is "A Mothering Prayer." After worship all are invited to Coffee Hour in the Thienes Lounge for light refreshments. **Bible Studies** are led by pastor the Rev. Valerie Seaver. The morning study meets Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Thienes Lounge; the Thursday evening study meets at 6 p.m. in Seaver's office. **Outreach:** On May 5 church parishioners will prepare and serve a meal for the soup supper at St. Vincent DePaul in Middletown. The Church collects non-perishable food items year-round for Marlborough Food Bank with a basket lo-

cated in the narthex for Sunday worshippers to bring donations. A Drive Thru Café for Marlborough Food Bank patrons with vouchers is usually held on the last Sunday of each month. The Youth Enrichment Team sponsors a monthly meal for residents at Florence Lord Housing. Second quarter mission giving will go the AHM Mental Health Fund. **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 Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. **Annual Spring Tag Sale:** Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Donations can be brought to the Community Fellowship Hall during thrift shop hours. **Second Blessings Thrift Shop,** located on the lower level, is open for shopping and donating 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@marlconchurch.org](mailto:pastorval@marlconchurch.org).

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**Town Offices Relocated**

Through May 15, Marlborough Town Hall offices have been temporarily relocated within Town Hall during an HVAC project. Residents looking to access the offices are asked to use the back entrance of Town Hall. Signs will be posted within Town Hall to guide residents. For more information, call 860-295-6204.

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### Republicans Spring Plant Sale

The Marlborough Republicans are selling geraniums and hanging plants, which will be ready for pickup on Saturday, May 11 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. at the Marlborough Town Hall Parking Lot. These plants will be available just in time for Mother's Day.

The geraniums will be available in a variety of

colors, including red, white, pink and fuchsia at a price of \$7 each. The assorted sun and shade hanging plants will be sold at \$25 each. Orders can be placed by calling Louise Concodello at 860-295-0201 or Barbara Murray 860-295-0792. These plants are being supplied by Paul's & Sandy's Garden Center located in East Hampton.

### Grief Share Sessions Starting Up

A Grief Share support group will begin next month at Fellowship Community Church, 24 South Rd.

There will be registration for the group on Tuesday, May 7, from 5-6 p.m. The series will start May 14 and be held Tuesdays from 5-6:30 p.m. until Oct. 15. The group consists of 13 sessions, with each session including video, group discussions and a workbook. You do not need to attend each group in order, and you can join at any time. There will be a Celebration of Life in

memory of your loved one(s) on Tuesday, Oct., as the final session.

Grief Share features nationally recognized experts on grief recovery topics. Seminar sessions include "Is This Normal?" "The Challenges of Grief," "Grief and Your Relationships," "Why?" and "Guilt and Anger."

For more information, call the church at 860-295-0844, visit [fccefree.com](http://fccefree.com) and click on the link for Grief Share, or text or call 860-338-1060 with any questions about the group.

### Parks and Rec Upcoming Programs

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

**Youth Programs: Just For Fun ART-ventures:** Tuesdays, 3:15-4:15 p.m., April 30-June 4, at Marlborough Elementary School, for grades K-6. Fee: \$128/resident, \$133/non-resident.

**Skyhawks Tots:** Tuesdays, May 14-June 11, at MES. Age 2 meets 5-5:45 p.m., and ages 2-5 meets 6-6:45 p.m. Fee: \$89/residents, \$94/non-residents.

**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.

**Beginner & Intermediate Tai Chi:** Tuesday/Thursdays, 1-2 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Fee: \$40/resident, \$45/non-resident.

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

**Kids Fishing Derby:** Saturday, May 11. 9 - 11 a.m. at Blish Park. Ages 4-15. Registration \$100. Prizes awarded.

### 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).

**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.stjfisher.org](http://www.stjfisher.org), or look for the church on Facebook (Saint John Fisher Roman Catholic Church).



Award winners Don Ledversis, Gabby DuCharme, Albert D'Antonio, Lynn Brylowe, Carolyn Emerson, Marny Lawton, Neil Scollan, and Lorraine Ficara. Not pictured is Charles McCaughtry.

### Arts Center Announces Winners

The Marlborough Arts Center opened its annual Members Show on May 5, with a reception in the gallery and the awarding of prizes.

Rebecca Moran, artist and art professor at Eastern Connecticut State University, judged the show for awards. First Prize went to Carolyn Emerson for her watercolor, "Martha's Vineyard Mussels." Second Prize was awarded to Neil Scollan for his oil painting, "Amber Dawn." Marny Lawton received third prize for her egg tempera painting, "3 Peaches." Honorable Mentions went to Gabriella DuCharme for her oil painting, "Jackson," Don Ledversis for his sculpture, "Rack 'Em Up," Charles McCaughtry

for his watercolor, "Mt. Hope Flurries," Albert D'Antonio for his bronze sculpture, "Balance," Lynn Brylowe for her graphite drawing, "Cupcake," and to Lorraine Ficara for her mixed media painting, "Come Watch the Sun Rising."

The Arts Center is grateful to the following donors: Jerry's Artarama of West Hartford, Blick Art Supplies, Hammond Iles Wealth Management, Big Y of Marlborough, Stop and Shop of East Hampton, and Ted's IGA of Hebron.

The show will be open on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through June 1, from 1:00PM to 4:00 PM. A slide show of the exhibit is available on the website [marlborougharts.org](http://marlborougharts.org).



Meal prep...Marlborough Congregational Church members Pastor Valerie Seaver, Deb Cook, Marge Bartlett, and Sheryl Scheidel, along with other church volunteers, recently prepared and served a meal at St. Vincent dePaul Soup Kitchen in Middletown. The Church sponsors a Sunday meal in May and November as a part of mission outreach.

### Arts Center Exhibit at Town Hall

The Marlborough Arts Center is holding an exhibit at Town Hall, featuring artwork by East Hampton resident Dianne Gorrick.

Gorrick is a former art teacher at Bacon Academy. Her current display ranges from traditional landscapes to imaginative themes.

This exhibit is open to the public during normal business hours at Town Hall, and will run through June 30. For more information, visit [www.marlborougharts.org](http://www.marlborougharts.org), or contact the Arts Center at 860-467-6353 or [marlboroughartscenter@gmail.com](mailto:marlboroughartscenter@gmail.com).

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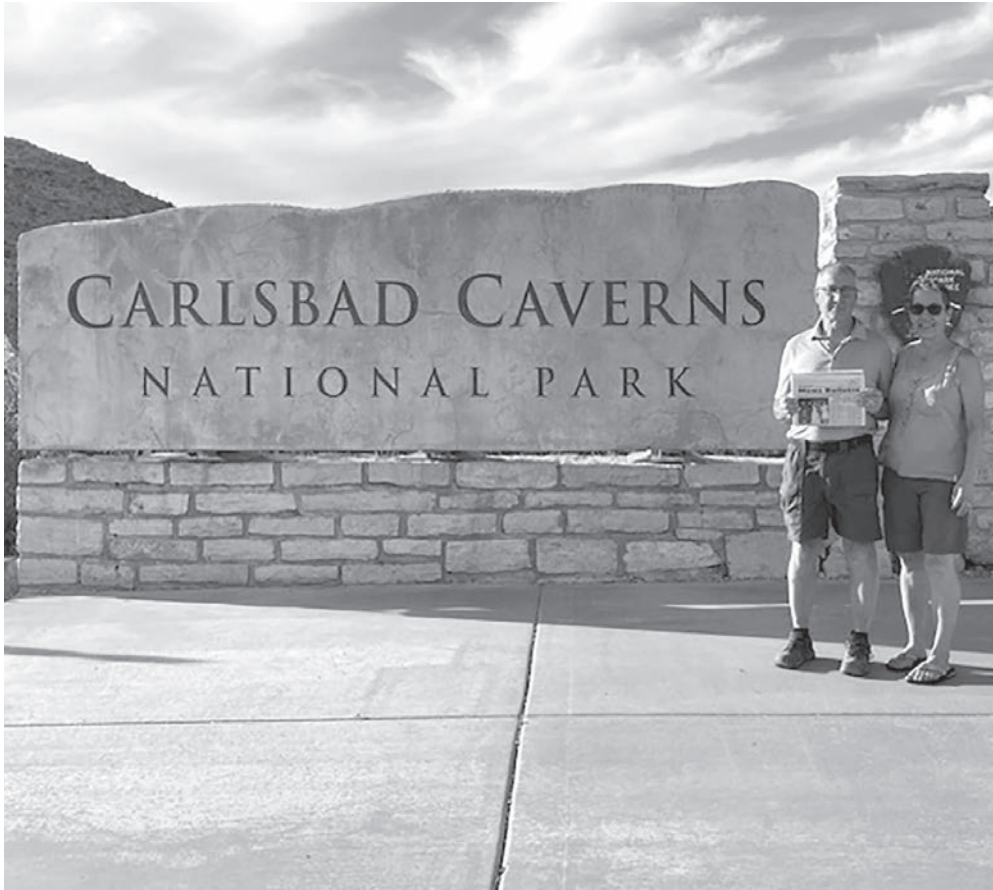
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Checking Out the Caverns... Gail and Kevin McDonnell from Hebron recently visited Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico.

## 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).



Enjoying the Eclipse... Pictured is the Concodello family of Marlborough, during April vacation in Marathon, Fla. The Concodellos are all wearing their eclipse glasses and enjoyed watching the solar eclipse in Florida! From left are Meredith, Aubrey, Alana, Michael, Louise and Adeline Concodello.



Sailing Away....On a recent trip to Panama, Portland's Kayleigh Kinsella brought the *Rivereast* with her as she traveled through the Miraflores Locks of the Panama Canal.



Roman Around....The *Rivereast*, along with Adrienne, Marcus and Miriam Clements of Portland, visited Basilica Cistern in Istanbul, Turkey in April. The Basilica Cistern is an underground cistern that was built to supply water to the Great Palace of Constantinople in the 3rd - 4th century. It has now been re-established as an art exhibit featuring sculptures, including 2 stone carvings of Medusa's head from the late Roman Period.

# Where in the World?

**Going on a trip?  
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# Highlanders Scoring Leader Enters Hall

By Josh Howard

Kelly Coleman, a 2011 graduate of Portland High School, was inducted into the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame on April 28.

Coleman, now the girls' basketball coach at PHS, called her induction, "such a great honor."

"It was a privilege to be chosen amongst other players and individuals who have contributed so much towards the growth of women's basketball in Connecticut," she added.

During her final two years as a player at PHS, Coleman helped the Highlanders reach the state championship game in consecutive seasons (2010 and 2011) and led the way as the program won their first and only state title when Portland defeated Cromwell in the 2011 Class S state championship game.

By the time she graduated high school, Coleman was the program's all-time leading scorer with 1,639 points — a record that still stands today — and was twice named the Most Valuable Player of the conference, along with being a two-time all-state selection.

Coleman was just as impressive off the court in Portland, earning Academic All-State and being selected as a Shoreline Conference Scholar-Athlete three times.

Following her time on the local courts, Coleman continued to excel in college where she was named the Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) Player of the Year and fourth team Division III All-America honors her senior year at the University of New England (UNE) in Biddeford, Maine.

During her time in the Pine Tree State, she was part of nearly 100 wins, which included the program's first-ever NCAA tournament victory in 2013.

She finished her collegiate career with 1,508 points (5th in program history), 763 rebounds (8th), the fifth-most free throws with 362, along with the most points (32), rebounds (14), field goals (12) and free throws (8) ever by a UNE player in an NCAA tournament game.

Coleman left Maine as a three-time All-CCC

first-team selection and, in 2021, she was inducted into the UNE Athletics Hall of Fame.

After an illustrious career on the court, Coleman returned to her roots to take over as the head coach of the girls' basketball program at Portland High School. Over the last two seasons, Coleman has headed the Highlanders with her mom Diane Coleman, who was an assistant coach under longtime head coach Nick Chaconis during Kelly's playing days at PHS.

She noted her mom, Chaconis, and her "Papa" Ed Moskey as her greatest influence.

Equipped with an undergraduate in exercise science and a Ph.D. in physical therapy, Coleman is now a physical therapist as she doubles as the Highlanders hoops coach.

She stated that her goal in taking over the girls' basketball program at PHS was to grow the program to what it once was by "instilling not only basketball skills in my athletes, but also life skills to make them successful on and off the court."

At her hall of fame induction ceremony in April, Coleman was presented by her mom (Diane) during the 35th annual Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame Luncheon at the Aqua Turf Banquet facility in Southington. She was one of seven inductees — joining Tracy Stolle (Player), David Danko (Coach), Stacey Porrini Clingan (Player), Larry Savo (Referee), Paula Fitzgerald (Honorary), and Vickie Fulkerson (Honorary) in the Class of 2024.

## "Treats and Sweets" Bake Sale

The Portland Historical Society will be having a "Treats and Sweets" Bake Sale on Town-Wide Tag Sales Day on Saturday, May 11 at the Callander House, 492 Main Street. Members and friends of the Society are baking and wrapping their baked goods & special treats for tomorrow's Sale.

If you don't bake or eat sweet treats anymore,

a financial donation can be dropped off at the bake sale or mailed to PO Box 98, Portland CT 06480.

Set your alarms to get to the Bake Sale early (after 8:30 a.m. please) for morning treats, shopping munchies or a special dessert for Saturday night or Mother's Day. It's always a sell out, so plan your route to get to 492 Main Street early.

## Portland Senior Center Hike Day

The Portland Senior Center is once again hosting a hike on the Air Line Trail on May 14 at 10:30 a.m. starting at the 18 Depot Hill parking lot in Cobalt. This hike will be led by Carol Bozena and Beau Doherty. Mr. Doherty is an avid wildlife photographer and has a wealth of knowledge of the flora and fauna found in Connecticut. He will point out native trees and plants along the way, show you some of his

beautiful photographs and identify the various birds on our hike. The hike will be two miles on flat terrain. This monthly hike is a collaborative initiative among the Portland Seniors, Bartlett Hill Association Members and the Air Line Trail Committee members. All Portland residents and their friends are welcome to enjoy some exercise and learn more about the wildlife in our backyards.

## Portland Post Office Food Drive

The Portland Post Office is proud to announce that their annual food drive, will be held on Saturday May 11. Please leave food donations in or by your mailbox. The carriers will pick up your donations as they deliver your mail.

All food is then distributed to the Portland Food Bank. Suggested items are any non-perishable food items such as canned goods, pasta, sauces, baby food, and formula.

Throughout the country, the food drive has been going on for 26 years; in that time, we have collected almost a million pounds of food a year

making this the largest food collection in one day. Last year in Portland, we collected over 3000 pounds of food.

The Portland Post Office would like to thank our patrons in advance, for their generous donations of non-perishable food items. We look forward to filling the shelves of the Portland Food Bank, once again.

This is sponsored by the United States Postal Service, and the National Association of Letter Carriers.

## Portland Lions Club News and Activities

The Portland Lions Club has had a very busy April. Members of the club joined other Lions Club members from clubs throughout the state for the annual "Journey for Sight" fundraiser held in Niantic. The teen members of our Portland Leo's Club delivered over 900 pairs of glasses as well as some hearing aids that were collected from buckets that have been placed throughout the town. The funds raised by those that walked at this event will enable Portland Lions to give to many important causes. It also provides funding for the purchase of Eye Screening machines that are used throughout our District. This year the Portland Lions did eye screening evaluations for over 600 students in our Portland school sys-

tem. Approximately five percent were referred for further eye evaluations, those that were referred might not have been recognized for issues with their eyes if this evaluation had not been done.

Kicking off on May 18 is Portland Lions first annual "Lions Roar" Cycling event. Various length routes have been planned. If you are not an avid cyclist, you can still help with a donation by going to bikereg.com go to the search area in the upper right corner and put in Portland. This event truly speaks to our motto "Our hands working together for our community". Portland Lions meet every 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Portland Waverly Senior Center on Waverly Ave. Visitors are always welcome.

## Parks and Rec. News & Notes

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

**Connecticut Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation (CPWO):** Tuesday and Wednesday, May 21 and 22, 5-9 p.m., at Portland Library. The successful completion of this beginner boating class will give you the knowledge and a completion certificate needed to obtain a boater's license/certification in Connecticut.

**Junior Golf Workshop (Grades K-8) Session 2:** Tuesdays, June 4-25, at Portland West. Grades K-2, class meets 4-5 p.m.; grades 3-5

class meets 5:15-6:15 p.m.; and grades 6-8 class meets class 6:30-7:30 p.m.

**Organic Community Garden:** All are welcome to grow their favorite vegetable, flower or herb. The garden is located in Bransfield Park on Rose Hill Road. Gardeners can purchase a 10x10 plot for the summer for a fee of \$30.

**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.

**Yin Yoga at Riverfront Park:** Tuesdays, May 28-June 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

**Slamma-Jamma Basketball Camp:** Camp is held Monday-Friday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Portland High School gym. Session 1 is June 24 June 28; Session 2 is July 15-29; and Session 3 is Aug. 5-9.

## Student Inducted into Lambda Epsilon Sigma

College students were recently inducted Meghan Flynn of Portland into Lambda Epsilon Sigma, the institution's academic honor society. The organization recognizes outstanding juniors and seniors who have demonstrated an excitement for both learning and sharing their knowledge.

## Town Hosting Events

On May 11, plant a aloe plant for your mother/caregivers at 2 p.m. at Portland's Town Green Gazebo. This is a free family and kid friendly program.

On May 14, Little Hikers returns. Families are welcome to join us at 10 a.m. at Riverfront Park in Portland for a short walk (under a 1/2 mile) and nature connection fun with a naturalist at a local preserve. Free program and snacks are included.

## Donations Needed

Each year the American Legion Auxiliary Post 69 in Portland sponsors two girls to attend Laurel Girl State. They are seeking donations to reach a goal of \$800.00 for this year.

Checks can be made out to: American Legion Auxiliary, Post 69, 117 High Street, Portland, CT 06480.

## Horseshoe League Seeks New Members

The Portland Horseshoe League is looking for horseshoe players of any skill level to join for the 2024 season, which will start in late May (date to be determined).

Folks from surrounding towns are welcome also. Games take place at the Horseshoe pits in Bransfield Park on Rose Hill in Portland. The league meets on Wednesdays from 5:45- 8 p.m.

Email Andy Bauer at AndyTBauer@gmail.com if interested. Portland Horseshoes is an alcohol-free activity.



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# Portland Fair Moving Down the Street

By London Brazal

With a history of muddy fields and inches of water flooding the fairgrounds, the Portland Agricultural Fair has officially announced its new location not far down the road.

Between the late 1980s and 2000s, there was no fair for the community to gather at and enjoy until a committee was formed and the current version of the Portland Agricultural Fair was born. For the last 24 years, the fair has been hosted at the Portland Fair Grounds owned by the Exchange Club of Portland. However, the fairgrounds started to decline as water levels from the Connecticut River rose, and a nearby brook couldn't hold water anymore. In the past five years, fair coordinators have been actively pursuing a new location.

Vice President Kelly Chester described last year as "the ultimate disaster." Volunteers were constantly moving water, and it became nearly impossible to have the fair. When it rained, it took about half an hour until the fields were turned into a bog. At some points, vendors were in four inches of water.

About six weeks before last year's fair, Chris Cote mentioned to Joe Bordinaro, the President of Portland's Fish and Game Club (PFG) about moving the fair down to his Golf Performance

Center further down on Main St. Committee members thought anything would be better than the flooding fairgrounds. However, it wasn't feasible to move the fair in August for it to be ready in October, and it wasn't possible to staff two places.

So, the fair's coordinators decided to wait and have a year to go through all the logistics. Since then, the fair's officer board has been writing contracts and planning short- and long-term goals. With the space from the driving range and PFG, there is plenty of space for the fair to be maintained and eventually grow. Following a dirt road, parking will still be on the club's property. A large range of short trees will be moved, and a pulling ring will be permanently built. The dirt has been tested and submitted to the Inland Wetlands Commission, and the plans will be presented at Planning and Zoning in June. People who run the motorized pulls have been down to the site and worked with planners to make sure the right type of dirt and clay are laid. The truck pull club is coming back and is excited to bring bigger vehicles.

Following the announcement, some residents were shocked a fair wouldn't ruin the golf range. However, Chester said the acreage is perfect,

and they won't have to move onto the main area of the driving range. "Cote has been so fantastic," noted Chester. "The cooperation between the different people involved has been great."

Treasurer Kim Hanna described how she comes down to the new fairground often with different town officials and others to picture the future of the fair. One of the committee's goals is to fix up another dirt road to create another entrance for carnival rides and trucks going to the motorized pulls. It will also create a loop for more access that helps the safety plans required by state officials and emergency services. "We're official, we have new safety plans," described Hanna. "The state protects their citizens, and we have all new evacuation plans."

Hanna and Chester are excited about the inaugural year at the new site. In terms of entertainment, they are happy that country duo Presley and Taylor will be coming back to the fair, since attendance was lower last year due to heavy rains.

With various groups helping with the big move, Hanna noted how the State Fair Association has been helpful and collaborative and is also thrilled to see how the fair will grow with a better location. As an agricultural fair, the Portland Fair organization has been working hard to make sure all the requirements are met; however, they want to make sure the fair keeps its small-town feel. "It will be good for the town. We'll put on a good fair," said Hanna. The main goal of the fair is to have the community involved.

The fair is dependent on volunteers, whether they dedicate a few days to set up and clean up or work booths on the fair dates. Hanna described the perks, "Volunteer for a four-hour time slot, we'll give you free admission, and we'll feed you."

Though the thrill of moving has kept expectations high, it doesn't come without larger expenses. To donate or volunteer, visit portland-fair.com.

## 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 YouTube 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:** Sunday worship is at 10:00 a.m. and will be led by Intentional Interim Minister, Rev. Dr. Barry McCarthy. Communion is provided the first Sunday of the month. The worship service this week is themed, Music Appreciation Sunday when Music Director and Organist, Kasha Breaux, and the church choir will be honored. Coffee hour follows the services and is a time of fellowship for all. All are invited to participate in the worship service and coffee hour.

**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.

**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.

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

## 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:** 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.

**Medical Equipment Donations:** Call the senior center to ask if the center is seeking medical equipment donations at this time. Due to limited space, donations cannot be accepted at the senior center without prior approval by the director.

**Next Week's Programs:** **Monday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Cline; 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 (last class of session

- to register, email bivenne@yahoo.com); 10:30 walking club. Coupons for Troops, 1-4 p.m.; Setback, 1 p.m.; Dulcimer Progressive Class, 6 p.m. **Wednesday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; Syncosize II Dance and Fitness, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; noon, Lunch & Learn with National Health - "The Warning Signs of Dementia"; Bridge, 12:30 p.m. **Thursday:** Stretch & Tone, 9:30 a.m.; Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Mahjong, 12:30 p.m.; Scrabble, 1 p.m. **Friday:** Light aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; 10:30 Virtual Movement

**Special Events:** Thursday, May 16: Trip to Lessard Lanes for 18 holes of mini golf and bowling. Fee is \$14, which includes a slice of pizza and a coffee. \$5.00 transportation fee.

**Congregate Meals:** Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon. Fee: \$3 suggested donation. Seniors (60+) can socialize with other members of the community while enjoying a hot lunch. If interested in attending, ask or call Holly or Judy for an application form-860.342.6761

**Blood Pressure Clinics:** 10:30-11:30 a.m. on the first Monday of each month.

**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.

**Lessard Lanes:** Thursday, May 16, 9:30 a.m. Trip includes 18 holes of mini golf, bowling, a slice of pizza and coffee. Cost is \$14.

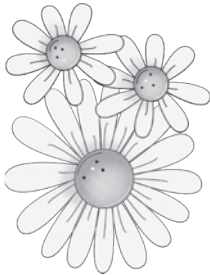
**Movement and Motivation Chair Yoga:** Friday, May 17, 10:30 a.m. Fee: \$5.

**Joanie in the Spot Massage Education Class:** Monday, May 20

**Learn Mahjong with Laurie:** Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon, starting May 24. This is a six-week session.

**Sound Healing with Gina:** Thursday, May 30, 10 a.m.

**Volunteer Drivers Sought for Meals-on-Wheels:** Meals would be delivered to the homebound Monday-Friday. The delivery usually takes about an hour. For full details, call Holly at 860-342-6761.



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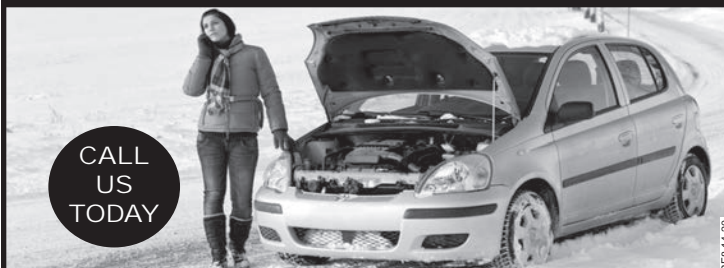
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**Rockin' Rome....**Local rocker Tony Rome will perform with his band The Excuses on Saturday, June 1, at 1:30 p.m., at Concentric Brewing, 91 Main St. The concert will benefit the Portland Volunteer Fire Department. All donations can be sent to Town Hall, 33 E Main St., Portland, CT 06480, with attention to Portland Volunteer Fire Department Chief Bob Shea.



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### 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 discus-

sion of *The Chosen* video series and meets the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 10:15 a.m. 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 Budget Referendum

The Portland Budget Referendum will be held on Monday May 13 from 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Portland Middle School, 93 High Street. Curbside Voting will be available for those with disabilities. If you want to utilize this service, please call The Town Clerk's Office at (860) 342-6743 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., when you are on your way to the polls. When you arrive, please

pull into the circle in the front of the school and put your hazard lights on. Completed absentee ballots should be brought to the Town Clerk's Office in person or left in the election drop box located by the rear entrance of the Town Hall. Absentee Ballots, including any that are mailed back to the Town Clerk's Office, must be received back no later than 8:00 p.m. on May 13 in order to be counted.

### Village District Garden Project Returns

The Portland River-Valley Garden Club and the Portland Economic Development Commission are once again inviting all downtown businesses and property owners/renters as well as other Portland businesses to participate in the second annual Street Garden Project. This program will recognize those participants that make a special effort to use plants and flowers to enhance the beauty of the community. There are three categories, including in-ground plantings, container gardens, and

professionally designed gardens. The deadline to register for the Street Garden Project is Saturday, May 11. Plantings should be completed by Saturday, May 25, with judging by club members in June. More information and applications are available through the Portland Economic Development Commission or on The Portland River-Valley Garden Club website, [portland-river-valley-garden-club.blogspot.com](http://portland-river-valley-garden-club.blogspot.com).

### 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.

adopt dogs or cats will be given a "treat bag" that contains treats, toys, bowls and a thank you note for adopting. For more information, please call 860-262-3251.

**Service Schedule Update:** On Sunday, May 12 at 9:00 a.m., we will be worshipping with Zion Lutheran Church, 183 Williams St, Portland. On Sunday, May 19 at 9:30 a.m., we will be worshipping with the Church of the Holy Trinity, 381 Main St, Middletown. We will return to Trinity Church on Sunday, May 26 at 9:30 a.m. with a Holy Eucharist service.

**Town-Wide Tag Sale:** Saturday, May 11, from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. We will be open for hospitality, with restrooms open to the public. We will also be offering Mother's Day and spring crafts and bake sale items. Reserve your 20' x 20' space on our lawn by calling the church office at 860-342-0458 or emailing [trinityvitalconnections@gmail.com](mailto:trinityvitalconnections@gmail.com) today! The reservation fee is \$25, and you must bring your own table/set up. Set up begins at 7:30 am. Space is limited, so call or email today!

**CT Humane Society Project:** Trinity monthly service project is supporting pet adoption for the CT Humane Society. We are accepting donations of new dog and cat toys and food bowls in the collection bin outside the front doors of the church. We are also collecting "soft" dog and cat treats inside any church door on Fridays from 11:30 am-1:30 pm and Sundays 9:30 am - 11:00 am. Please do not leave any treat items outside at any other time. Families who

The church is open for prayer and meditation and for Anglican Prayer beading from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. All are welcome. No prior beading experience is required. Visit [www.trinity-churchportlandct.org](http://www.trinity-churchportlandct.org) for more information, our calendar of events, donate or listen to past sermons.

### 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). The library is also on Facebook and Instagram.

to a local shelter. Bring a sweater if you have one, or we can provide one for you. Registration is required and space is limited.

**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.

**Portland's 'One Seed, One Community' Project:** Stop by to pick up your free green bean seeds and growing instructions for one of three "levels" of gardener: Solo Gardener, Grow a Row, and Bed of Beans. Sign up for emails to learn how to grow food and save seeds.

**Drop-In Programs for Preschool and Toddlers: Parachute Play on Town Green:** Tuesdays, May 14 and 28, 10:30-11 a.m. **Drop-In Playdates:** Wednesdays, May 8, 15, 22 and 29, 10:30 a.m.

**Movie:** Wednesday June 12, 1:00 p.m. - One Life

**Spring Into Garden Crafting:** Thursdays, 3:30 p.m., May 16 and 23, for grades K-5. Register for one or all three programs. On May 16, craft a custom sprout house from sponges and then watch your microgreens grow (Held in partnership with Fire Ring Farms). On May 23, design your own fairy house and landscape.

**Take Great Photos with Your Smartphone:** Saturday June 1 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. This class, by professional photographer Peter Glass, is for those truly interested in producing first-rate images with their smartphone cameras. Registration Required.

**Family Craft Night: Bean Planting and Clay Pot Painting:** Thursday, May 30, 6:30 p.m. Come start your own bean plant from seed and paint a pot to house your bean once it begins to sprout. This project is being offered in conjunction with the One Seed, One Community Project, which encourages community members to learn about gardening by each growing the same type of native plants. Beans and planting materials have been donated by Fire Ring Farms.

**Book Clubs: 1st Thursday Night Book Club:** Thursday June 6, 6:30 p.m. Beartown by Frederik Backman

**Read to a Therapy Dog:** Saturday, June 1, 10:30 a.m.-noon. The library has partnered with Middletown High School's animal ambassador program and is hosting a therapy animal at the library. Kids ages 3-12 can make an appointment for a 15-minute session to read to an animal buddy.

**Talk About Books:** Tuesday June 4, 1:00 p.m. A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson

**Teen Programs: LGBTQ Social Group.** Wednesday, May 15, 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jenn Renk at 860-342-6770.

**Mystery Lovers Book Club:** Tuesday May 14, 1 p.m. *Bent Road* by Lori Roy will be discussed.

**Sweater Cat Beds:** Monday, May 20, 3:30 p.m. June 4 is National Hug Your Cat Day, so celebrate by making cat beds to keep or donate

Portland Committee on Solidarity Pride March Meet up: Saturday, May 11, 1:00 p.m. The town of Portland's Committee on Solidarity is marching at Middletown Pride and their Pride Workgroup is hosting a meet and greet and crafting session to make banners, signs, and poster boards to bring on June 1 or for your home/community this June. Registration for this crafting event is encouraged, but not required.

Friends of the Portland Library's Annual Meeting & Executive Board Officer Elections: Monday, June 3, 7:00 p.m. All members of the Friends are cordially invited to attend. The agenda for the annual meeting includes presenting the President's and Treasurer's annual reports, the election of Executive Board officers for the coming year and any other items that are brought before the Board.

**Library Closing:** Saturday, May 25 – Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day Weekend.

### Plant Sale

The garden clubs of Portland will hold their annual Plant Sale Saturday, May 18, from 8:30-10:30 a.m., in the parking lot next to The Buck-Foreman Community Center on Main Street. (Rain date is Sunday, May 19.)

and free gardening advice will be offered. There will be some gently used garden treasures for sale as well.

A large variety of perennials, herbs, annuals, trees, shrubs, and ground covers from members' gardens will be available for sale,

The Portland Garden Club and The Portland River-Valley Garden Club work to support the beautification of the Portland community as well as promote the conservation of the natural environment.

### Bill Peterson Memorial Scholarship

Portland Soccer Club (PSC) has announced the availability of the Bill Peterson Memorial Scholarship.

a 250-word essay explaining "How Soccer Inspired Me to Give Back to the Community." The essay needs to demonstrate the role soccer has had in the applicant's development and how the applicant has used that influence to give back to Portland's soccer community.

Peterson was a lifelong Portland resident, ardent soccer fan, and contributor to the town's soccer program. He was instrumental in forming the Portland Soccer Club and this scholarship helps to honor his memory and connection to Portland's soccer history.

Scholarship applications can be found on the Portland Soccer Club website, [www.blue-sombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub](http://www.blue-sombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub), under the 'Community Link' drop-down. All scholarship applications must be received no later than May 8.

The PSC Board of Directors will award one \$500 scholarship annually for high school seniors who are college- or post high school-institution bound. Applicants must be a Portland resident and have played a minimum of two years with the PSC. All applicants must submit

For more information, contact PSC President Chad Wilson at [nosliw.dahc@gmail.com](mailto:nosliw.dahc@gmail.com).

### Town-Wide Tag Sale

Saturday, May 11, more than 125 tag sales will be held all around Portland, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This 28th annual event is a fundraiser for the Portland Historical Society's Ruth Callander House Museum of Portland History. Several nonprofits are also participating with their own sales. Look for the official black and orange tag sale signs and yellow balloons that signal a registered sale shown on the official Tag Sales Day Map.

at the local eateries for a breakfast break, lunch, a snack or something cool and refreshing.

The free 2024 Town-Wide Tag Sales Map is now available in a barrel on the front steps at the museum located at 492 Main Street and online at [www.PortlandHistSoc.com](http://www.PortlandHistSoc.com). The map features locations of the registered and numbered Tag Sales and lists types of items featured at each.

The Historical Society's Tag Sale is back under the tents at 492 Main Street, with something for almost everyone — from kitchen necessities, lamps and china to books, collectibles, toys and crafts as well as the "Treats and Sweets" Bake Sale of homemade treats — pies, cakes, cookies and more — you never know what will be ready for you to snack on or take home for dessert with dinner. Members are being asked to donate baked goods for the sale. Come early for homemade goodies — doors will be open at 8:30.

The Society encourages all shoppers to support the sponsors of this year's map and to stop

And as always, the Society reminds everyone to drive and walk safely in town and on the country roads on Tag Sales Day.

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# Quilt Group Makes an Impact

By Michael Sinkewicz

For over two decades, a collection of Colchester residents have come together to create stunning quilts and showcase their remarkable talents.

But for the St. Andrew Quilt Group, the stitching is only the beginning.

Twice a month, no more than 10 members — mostly women — socialize and collect their creations, which they donate to a variety of causes.

They've provided quilts to a veterans home in Rocky Hill, Colchester senior residents, Waterford youth services and the St. Andrew Church craft fair. Other items, such as dresses and shorts, have been forwarded to Haitian children.

Last week, on May 3, the *Rivereast* caught up with the group as it prepared to hand off its latest batch of quilts.

The members recently completed nearly 50 baby quilts for the Norwich Diocese layette program — a longstanding initiative of the group — which will be unveiled next month. In addition, a new connection was formed this year with Community Residences Inc. (CRI), who develops and operates community-based support services for children and adults, including foster care, according to the organization's website.

Over the winter, the St. Andrew group provided close to 10 quilts for CRI, but transferred 45 new creations during its recent gathering last Friday — a gift that will have a meaningful impact on numerous children.

"These are beautiful," said Stacy Kelsey, a recruiter in the CRI foster care department, who's also a Colchester resident. "[The children] are so used to not having a lot. Having a quilt or something to keep them warm and feeling safe — it's a wonderful thing."

Kelsey has worked to recruit and train foster parents at CRI since 1996, and primarily deals with kids over the age of 12, who the state Department of Children and Families typically struggles to find care for, or who need a higher level of services. Sometimes, she added, they've been through significant trauma and have been abused or neglected.

"They're very grateful," she said regarding the quilt donations. "They get very excited. They really have not had a lot in their lives unfortunately, so it's definitely a source of comfort."

In her mind, the quilters are performing a valuable service, while also allowing them to continue a fun hobby.

"It's a win-win for everyone because they enjoy doing it and the kids enjoy getting them,"

Kelsey expressed.

Joy Tyler, who's led the group for the past year, conveyed that personally, the objective of the group is only partly centered on making quilts.

"It's also about having all these ladies have an outlet for their skills and talents," she conveyed. "They come together and they get community with one another."

As the group sorted through containers full of quilts, members swapped jokes and admired their work, generating a discernible positive vibe in the St. Andrew church hall.

"We're all doing something that we love doing, so that makes it a happy place," Tyler exclaimed.

The number of attendees each month fluctuates, and members are free to participate at their own convenience. Sometimes, only a handful of people are able to attend, but some have stuck with the group for considerable lengths of time as they continue to savor the experience.

"It keeps us old ladies out of bars and home sewing," said Linda Blakita, a 16-year member. "It's community more than anything. When you retire, you're a little bit isolated and you've worked your whole career and then you don't know what to do. You can only sew so much for yourself and your own family."

About 22 years ago, Lori Barbaresi and a group of fellow parents who were home schooling their children, began making quilts as a fun activity. But as most of the moms dropped out, Barbaresi continued the concept, initially hosting meetings at the library.

But the group eventually had to find a new home, and the parish gave them permission to meet at the church hall. The current pastor, Mark Masnicki, has continued to uphold the relationship and facilitated the group in recent years.

Barbaresi stepped away from her leadership role a year ago, but undoubtedly helped distribute a plethora of items during her tenure. Sometimes, she'd be able to see the impact, including the recipients of the donations through the Haitian Health Foundation, who'd send pictures of children wearing the new clothes.

While the group has assisted many charitable causes since its inception, the primary focus has always been on helping anyone who comes through the Guardian Angel parish in need of support or comfort. Often, the group would learn about a specific individual through word of mouth and make a quilt for them.

Maintaining supplies remains an ongoing challenge, but as Tyler pointed out, "If you're a quilter, you have a stash."



Dozens of quilts on display at St. Andrews before being donated.

Recently, the Colchester Lions Club awarded the group a \$500 donation that will allow them to purchase new thread and batting. Fabric donations are always greatly appreciated, and anyone looking to make a contribution can contact the Guardian Angel's rectory office.

Barbaresi emphasized that every fabric donation is utilized and handled with care.

"It's such a joy to use the fabrics that are given to us because we know people have had fabrics in their stash and they've used them for their children's clothes and maybe for their own quilts, yet they're giving them to us," she said. "So, we really take that to heart and use them and not throw them away. We find a spot for every piece of fabric on a quilt. It really is very heartwarming to do that for people when they trust us with their fabrics."

Although she lost the file that tracked the group's total output, Barbaresi estimated they'd given away roughly 1,200 quilts during her 21-year period. But moving forward, she believes the number will easily be exceeded largely due to one member's advanced equipment.

Kathie Arbuckle has a longarm machine, which essentially speeds up the quilting process. "It saves a lot of time from domestic machine use," she explained.

Blakita interjected that the longarm allowed Arbuckle to complete a task in a matter of hours that might've otherwise taken a member days to finish.

Arbuckle, like the rest of the members, embraced the element of community that has flourished.

"It's a good, wonderful group of people."

## Colchester Giving Garden

The Colchester Giving Garden is up and running its 12th year of growing and donating fresh produce to those in need. Volunteers will work at the garden on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. All ages and abilities are welcome. No gardening experience is necessary.

The garden is located at 95 Norwich Ave., behind the existing Colchester Senior Cen-

ter. There are many garden tools to use or you can bring your own. To participate you need to have a closed-in shoe; no sandals or flip-flops allowed. All new volunteers must sign a waiver, as the garden is on town property.

For any questions about the garden, email [colchestergivinggarden@gmail.com](mailto:colchestergivinggarden@gmail.com).

## BACA Fish Fry

The Connecticut chapter of Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA) will hold a Fish Fry Saturday, May 18, from 1-6 p.m., at St. Joseph's Polish Society, 395 S. Main St., Colchester.

There will be catfish, French fries, hush puppies, coleslaw, onions, water, soda, and desserts. There will also be a cash bar. Music will be provided.

Donation is \$25/person. Kids age 10 and under will be admitted free. For more information, call Happy at 860-912-4038.

## Polish Dinner Dance

The St. Joseph's Polish Club at 395 South Main St. will host a dinner dance featuring Dennis Polisky & The Maestro's Men on Sunday, May 19.

A polish dinner plate will be served at 1 p.m. consisting of pierogi, golumpki, kapusta, kielbasa, and rye bread with butter. Dancing will start at 2 p.m. and continue until 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person.

Call the club during regular business hours to reserve your seat. Hours are Monday-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; Saturday morning, 10 a.m.

There are daily Facebook Live classes on Ken Alter's Facebook page, on "Ask the Rabbi" and "Bible Portion of the Week."

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

## Troop 72 Mother's Day Flower Sale

Boy Scout Troop 72 is having its 22nd annual Mother's Day flower sale adjacent to the Colchester Haywood Volunteer Fire Department Headquarters on Old Hartford Road Friday, May 10, from 5-8 p.m., and on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or when sold out.

The scouts will have a large variety of hanging baskets and individual potted plants available on site. All plants are supplied by a local grower.

All proceeds will go to support Troop 72 scout camping and youth training activities. Troop 72 has more than 15 scouts and has been serving Colchester's youth since 1939.

## Senior Center Newport Harbor Cruise

Colchester Senior Center is offering a one-day Newport Harbor, R.I., cruise aboard the Coastal Queen on Thursday, June 27, departing Colchester at 9 a.m.

View Newport Harbor and the east passage of Narragansett Bay. Upon arrival you'll have lunch at Johnny's Restaurant at the Wyndham in Middletown, R.I. The menu is a choice of chicken, scrod, or pasta primavera. There will be time for shopping prior to the cruise.

Cost is \$142 per person. Sign up before May 24. Register by coming into the senior center. Trips are available to Colchester Senior Center members and their adult guests over the age of 18. Senior center membership is free for Colchester residents age 55 and older. There is an annual fee of \$15 for seniors residing outside of Colchester.

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# BOS Approves Road Improvements

By Michael Sinkewicz

The Colchester Board of Selectmen (BOS) last week approved various public works expenditures predominately targeting local road upgrades.

During its meeting on May 2, the BOS unanimously approved nearly \$575,000 for numerous two-inch mill and fill projects throughout town, as well as \$489,000 for a variety of rubberized chip seal projects.

The selectmen also agreed to fund a \$22,000 pavement study that will assess the condition of all 107 miles of local roadways. The board authorized a contract with Infrastructure Consulting Group LLC, financed through the public work's highway road improvement budget.

According to documentation provided to the

board by Public Works Director, Joseph Leone, the work will be done by Steven Norton, who also works as a supervising engineer with the state Department of Transportation.

According to Leone, the funding would cover the initial phase of a two-part process, which begins by identifying cracks in the roads, the possible method of repair and other tasks, such as collecting data. For example, the width of certain streets needs to be measured.

"It's the first step to identifying and settling in on an appropriate budget for what we need to do to keep up with the deterioration of our roads in town," he said, adding that the most recent data he found scrutinizing local roads was from around 2009.

By soliciting a third-party, Leone conveyed the town would be bringing in "someone who can speak intelligently on the quality of the roads" and "tell us where to focus."

"I think this type of study is what our town needs because we need to hear from an expert where our largest problems lie."

Phase two, Leone continued, would involve the consultant taking the recommendations and formulating a five-year plan to help the town budget its improvements and execute them moving forward.

First Selectman Bernie Dennler III remarked, "We can all agree that we need to do a better job of taking care of the roads in Colchester."

The BOS also tapped into the highway road improvement budget-line to authorize an agreement with All States Construction Inc for \$489,318 to address chip seal projects.

Leone said the work would be done on a 660 foot stretch of Shugrue Rd., a 2,040 foot stretch of Jurach Rd., 6,712 feet of Lake Hayward Rd., the entirety of Windham Ave., extending to the Lebanon town line (12,110 feet), and a 12,727 foot stretch on Bull Hill Rd.-River Rd. In total, the job would tackle about 6.5 miles of local roadway.

The work would involve a rubberized emulsion chip seal instead of an asphalt seal, which Leone said could extend the lifespan from 5-7 years to 10-12 years.

"It's a way to refinish a road in an economical way," he explained.

Leone said the material prevents water from getting into the pavement and causing further splits.

However, in order to maintain over 100 miles of local roads, the town may need to increase its budget moving forward, Leone added.

Currently, the road improvement budget is slated at \$540,000, and based on the price of this

specific project, it cost \$75,279 per mile using chip seal. If the seal lasts 12 years, Leone calculated that about 8.92 miles need to be maintained each year. Without accounting for inflation, he said that endeavor would cost \$671,237 per year.

"So this is really a low estimate of where we need to be annually, minimum, just to keep up with deterioration," he said. "There's no actual paving, no unforeseen repairs, no improvements to our roads."

The board authorized an agreement with Charles Pasteryak Jr. Inc for \$574,657 for two-inch mill and fill projects around town with funds to come from the road improvement town aid road fund. Leone explained that the town receives upwards of \$240,000 in state funding each year, but had not done a lot paving lately, resulting in a surplus in the account.

Dennler, emphasizing the uniqueness of the situation, added: "We're not going to be able to do this much work again."

This project will include four roads being milled and filled: Pleasant St. (.34 miles from Halls Hill Rd.-Norwich Ave.), .32 miles of Davidson Rd., roughly 1.5 miles of Pine Brook Rd., and Linwood Cemetery Rd., at the intersection Rte. 16.

Leone offered a similar calculation, outlining what it would cost to mill and fill — which lasts for 15 years — all of the town's roadways. That amount, he said, would be upwards of \$1.85 million per year.

During the meeting, the board also authorized \$11,970 for labor and materials from Stula Enterprises to raise 15 valve boxes in the Stop and Shop area of Rte 16 that were paved over last year. Additionally, the selectmen agreed to \$18,180 for Stula Enterprises to complete shimming projects, although that item didn't require official approval from the BOS.

## Parks & Rec News & Notes

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

**Open House:** Saturday, May 11 at 10 a.m.

**Youth Tennis Lessons:** Tuesdays, May 14-June 4 (makeup date June 11), at the RecPlex. Ages 5-7 meet 3:45-4:30 p.m. and cost is \$65/session; ages 8-12 meet 4:30-5:30 p.m. and cost is \$85/session. There is a minimum of five players and a maximum of 10.

**Summer Day Camp:** Camp registration is underway. The summer day camp, for kids entering grades K-7 in the fall, will run June 24-Aug. 16, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. each day. Cost per week is \$170/child. Aftercare is an additional \$45 each week. Cost includes all activities and field trips but does not include food. All snacks and lunches must be sent with your camper. There are separate camps for grades K-5 and grades 6-7.

## Town Green Event

The 44th Annual Colchester on the Green event, is scheduled to take place on June 9 on the Town Green and sponsored by the Colchester Business Association CBA. Last year we had around 100 vendors including local businesses and residents. Applications to participate as a business or a local resident selling Tag Sale items is available on the CBA website at [www.colchestercba.com](http://www.colchestercba.com).

## Tag Sale Items Needed

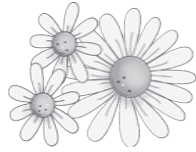
Boy Scout Troop 13 of Colchester is seeking tag sale items for their booth at the Colchester (Tag Sale) on the Green, Sunday, June 9. Donations such as toys, books, holiday decorations, kitchen items, and small household items accepted. No clothing, TVs, or outdated electronics. Gail at (860) 212-1743 or email [troop13tagsale@gmail.com](mailto:troop13tagsale@gmail.com) to arrange pickup or drop off of donated items.

## 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.

For more information, contact Barbara Gozzo at [barbogozzo@gmail.com](mailto:barbogozzo@gmail.com) or 860-208-4121.



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**Giving back...** The Treefort Natural Soap Company held a plant sale on Earth day, donating the proceeds to the Colchester Garden Club. Pictured below (l-r) are owner Jessica Eveleigh, Co-presidents Mary Spalter & Joan Aubin. Treefort Natural Soap Company 188 Norwich Ave.

## Theater Workshop

The Colchester Community Theatre (CCT) announces its Summer Children's Theater Workshop, July 8 through July 19. Auditions will be held Wednesday June 5, 6:30-7:30 p.m. and Sunday June 9, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the Congregation Ahavath Achim (Colchester Synagogue) on 84 Lebanon Avenue in Colchester. The workshop is open to all children entering grade 2 through grade 12 in the fall.

Every child must audition to attend the program. There are NO exceptions. All children who enroll are accepted. Auditions are solely for the purpose of cast placement. Each

child is to bring sheet music or an instrumental recording and be prepared to sing. An accompanist will be provided.

Required pre-registration must be completed at: [www.colchestercommunitytheatre.com/summer-workshop/](http://www.colchestercommunitytheatre.com/summer-workshop/). The workshop fee is \$135.00/child. Additional forms required to be completed by a parent/guardian will be available at auditions.

The workshop will be held at Bacon Academy Auditorium, July 8 through July 19, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-noon, culminating in a show on July 20 at 2:00 p.m.

## 32nd Annual Top Dog Contest

Join us for our 32nd Annual "Top Dog" Contest to win the coveted #1 dog tag from the Colchester Town Clerk's Office and a basket, generously donated by Wagging Tails Pet Shop in Colchester. In order to enter into the contest you must pre-register your dog for the 2024 -2025 license year. Return the application with payment to our office by 4:30 on Wednesday, May 29, 2024. The drawing will be held May 31, 2024 and the winner will be notified. The application can be found on our website at [colchesterct.gov](http://colchesterct.gov) under Town Clerk. We will also have applications available at the Bark for the Park event on May 19, 2024.

A copy of a current rabies vaccination certificate and if it is not listed on the rabies certificate, a current spay/neuter certificate must be

included. Checks/money orders should be made payable to Town of Colchester. Your License and Tags will be mailed to you after registration begins on June 1<sup>st</sup>. You can mail the application to: Colchester Town Clerk, 127 Norwich Ave. #101, Colchester, CT 06415

Applications may also be returned the Town Hall via the drop box located outside the Town Hall or e-mailed to [dogowners@colchesterct.gov](mailto:dogowners@colchesterct.gov). E-mail can only be done with a credit/debit card and there is an additional \$2 convenience fee the vendor charges to use your credit/debit card.

License Year: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. Spayed/Neutered: \$8.00 Not Spayed/Neutered: \$19.00



**The Colchester Lions Club distributed \$20,000 in grants to a record 29 local organizations at its annual Community Night of Giving last month.**

## Lions Club Donates \$20,000

The Colchester Lions Club distributed \$20,000 in grants to a record 29 local organizations at its annual Community Night of Giving on April 10.

The grants were the result of a successful year of fund-raising projects, according to Lions Club Treasurer Greg Barden, who chaired the event. In addition to a very successful carnival last year, the Lions sponsored many other events, including a pierogi booth at the Hebron Fair, annual appeal mailing, and pancake breakfast.

Next month, the Lions Club will award a \$13,000 in scholarships to graduating high school seniors, and another \$8000 during its annual District Night of Giving to ongoing Lions projects for sight, hearing and speech, guide dogs and children with cancer.

"We are able to do all of this for two great reasons - the hard work of our volunteer members, and the great support of our events as always

from the community," said Barden

Groups receiving funds this year were: American Legion Post 54, Bacon Academy First Robotics, Bacon Academy Project Graduation, Bacon Academy Board of Trustees, Colchester Community Theater, CASTLE, Colchester Federated Church, Colchester Co-op Nursery School, Colchester Dog Park, Colchester Hayward Fire Department Cadets, Colchester Historical Society, Colchester Is Kind, Colchester Land Trust, Colchester Memorial Day Parade, Colchester Music Boosters, Colchester Senior Center, Colchester Veterans Honor Guard, Collaboration for Colchester's Children, Cragin Memorial Library, Cub Scout Pack 13, Honor Rotary, Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership, Jack Jacker School Lego Robotics, Norton Park Committee, St. Andrew's Quilters, Troop 13 Boy Scouts, Troop 72 Boy Scouts, Troop 109 Boy Scouts, Troop K Police Explorers, UCFS Healthcare.

## Memorial Day Participants Welcome

On Sunday, May 26, Colchester will hold its annual Memorial Day Parade, and local groups are encouraged to participate. Each contingent willing to march or bring a float can obtain an application online, at [www.colchesterct.gov/memorial-day-parade-committee](http://www.colchesterct.gov/memorial-day-parade-committee), or from the first selectman's office at Town Hall.

The theme of this year's parade will be the Battle of Anzio, and the Congressional Medal

of Honor award presented to William Johnston who was awarded it as a result of his efforts in the World War II battle. Many other local WWII veterans were also part of this battle.

The Colchester Parade Committee will again award prizes for the best volunteer marching unit, best float meeting this year's parade theme, and most creative float.

## Celebrate Juneteenth and Commemorate Peter Maguire

The Colchester Federated Church and Historical Society will welcome Pauline Merrick, President of the CT Society of Genealogists, to shed light on the life of Peter Maguire on June 16 at Colchester Federated Church at 1:30 p.m. with a reception to follow.

Enslaved in Colchester before the Revolution, Maguire's story is a powerful piece of our town's history. Uncover the past, connect with your an-

cestors, and celebrate Colchester's rich heritage. This event is for anyone interested in local history and genealogy.

Presentation is free with offerings gratefully accepted in the restoration of the Colchester Federated Church building, an open and community-centered presence in town and around the world. Questions and RSVP to Amy Domeika [amydomeika@gmail.com](mailto:amydomeika@gmail.com).

## Healthy Living

In Partnership with our Colchester Senior Center, Colchester's Commission on Aging will be presenting "Healthy Living For Your Body and Brain".

MaryLou Gannotti, Development and Program Manager for the Alzheimer's Association, Connecticut Chapter, will be presenting at the Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Avenue, on May 13th at 2:00 p.m. Registrations can be made at the Center at 860-537-3911. There is

no cost to attend, and the public is invited.

Join us to learn about current research and practical strategies in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity, and social engagement, and use hands-on tools to help you incorporate these recommendations into a plan of healthy living. Finding the right activities requires an understanding of your interests, needs and abilities.

## Historic Bacon Academy Celebrates Annual Founder's Day

May is National Historic Preservation Month, and the Trustees of Historic Bacon Academy invite you to celebrate with them as they honor Pierpoint and Abigail Bacon's original endowment of the school that continues to bear their name today. The event will be held in the Federated Church at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 15, and will honor Bacon Class of 1978 graduate Steven Bradstreet. A luncheon in the church hall will follow the ceremony.

Bradstreet, who is the lead Director of Finance for the Technology department at Aetna, has become well known in town for harkening back to yesteryear and sharing memories alongside present-day photos via the Facebook group "You know you grew up in Colchester, Connecticut, when." Bradstreet is a fixture in town, especially as a long-standing member of Colchester Federated Church, and has served countless hours as an usher, Sunday School teacher, Treasurer, and member of numerous committees. Additionally, he's been a youth sports coach, held numerous leadership positions with Colchester Boy Scouts and is a trustee for the Bacon Academy Scholarship Fund,

Steven Bradstreet, a distinguished community member, will join a long list of notable

graduates honored at this annual event. The ceremony will include a wreath-laying on Bacon's headstone, a solemn reminder of our shared history. This event comes at a critical time for the historic landmark, as the Trustees have embarked on a multi-year effort to preserve and restore the building to use. We believe that the strength of our community lies in our shared commitment to our heritage. May 27th marks the 300th birthday of Pierpoint Bacon, and in honor of that milestone, the Trustees have established a "Bacon 300 Society" of giving. We ask anyone interested to donate \$300 by that date to help raise \$50,000 to restore the roof and cupola. Your contribution, no matter the size, will significantly impact our restoration efforts.

For more information on the Capital Campaign, Founder's Day or any other upcoming events, please email [info@baconacademytrustees.org](mailto:info@baconacademytrustees.org) or visit our website: [www.baconacademytrustees.org](http://www.baconacademytrustees.org).

## Free CPR/AED Class

Colchester Fire & EMS will offer free CPR/AED and "Stop the Bleed" training to Colchester residents on Wednesday, May 8, from 2-4:30 p.m., at Company 1, located at 52 Old Hartford Rd.

Call 860-537-2512 or email [firedepartment@colchesterct.gov](mailto:firedepartment@colchesterct.gov) to register.

## Colchester Giving Garden Fundraiser

Colchester Giving Garden Fundraiser is having a seedling plant sale to benefit the garden on Tuesday, May 21. Todd Macijauskas will be donating many beautiful seedlings that he has started and all of the money raised will be donated to the Giving Garden. Todd is always so generous with his many vegetable donations to the Giving Garden each summer and now he wants to help raise awareness of and funding for the garden as well. Todd will be at the garden on our usual work night of Tuesday, May 21 to sell a large selection of seedlings that he has started. The event will take place at 95 Norwich Avenue from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

## Colchester-Salem Postal Food Drive

The combined workers of the Salem-Colchester Post Office will be holding a Food Drive on Saturday, May 13. Donations of current non-perishable food items will be gratefully accepted. Please leave donations in, on or next to your mailboxes after 9 a.m. for pick up by your mail carrier, and other retired Postal workers. Donations can also be brought directly to Colchester Town Hall that day between the hours of 10 a.m. -4 p.m. All Donations will go to stock the Colchester Food bank and are used to lend a "hand up" to those in need in the Colchester-Salem community. This has been an event that consistently brings in several thousand pounds of food. Thanks in advance for the support.

## Upcoming Programs at Cragin

Cragin Memorial Library, located at 8 Linwood Ave., has announced the following upcoming programs and events. For more information or full program descriptions, call 860-537-5752 or visit [www.craginlibrary.org](http://www.craginlibrary.org).

**Foodie Fun:** Saturday, May 11. Create a treat after watching the videos with this goodie bag.

**Success with Hydrangeas:** Saturday, May 11, 10:30 a.m. Lorraine Ballato will discuss all things hydrangea. Registration is required; call 860-537-5752 or stop by the Adult Circulation Desk to register.

## Vendors Wanted

The Colchester Dog Park Committee is looking for vendors that sell dog-related items for its 10th annual "Spring Bark for the Park," which will be held on the Town Green Sunday, May 19, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., with a rain date of Sunday, June 2.

The event will feature a Lucky Duck Egg Hunt for the dogs, May Baskets, a blessing of the dogs, and other canine entertainment. Vendor slots are available at \$40 per booth. There is no charge for nonprofit organizations.

If interested in a vendor slot, email [tagnobark@gmail.com](mailto:tagnobark@gmail.com) by Friday, May 3. Spring Bark for the Park is sponsored by the Colchester Parks and Recreation Department.



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### Colchester Federated Church News

Colchester Federated Church is an Open and Affirming church located at 60 Main St. Pastor is the Rev. Lauren Ostrout. The church office is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The office can be reached at 860-537-5189 or cfc06415@gmail.com.

Worship services are Sundays at 9 a.m. For those wishing to worship from home, the service 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.

**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.

### Colchester Music Fundraiser

Colchester Music Boosters' Mattress Fundraiser will be held at Bacon Academy on Sunday May, 19 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. in the Bacon Academy Gym. Shop locally and support music education in our schools.

The Mattress Fundraiser is a pop-up mattress store (run by Custom Fundraising Solutions) that includes: all major mattress brands, all sizes, adjustable bases, pillow top mattresses, mattress protectors, pillows and linens, factory warranties, financing available, delivery of new mattress, removal of old mattress, competitive pricing, 25+ mattresses on site to check out.

A portion of the sales will go to Colchester

Music Boosters (CMB). CMB is a new 501(c)3 non-profit fundraising organization with the goal to provide support for the music programs in the Colchester Public Schools. Some of CMB's goals include: providing private music lesson scholarship(s), funding to offset costs of field trips, funding to offset costs of speakers and workshops, funding to offset additional costs parents incur when their student participates in the music program, and providing a music scholarship to a graduating senior. For more information, find us on Facebook or email [colchestermusicboosters@gmail.com](mailto:colchestermusicboosters@gmail.com)

### Westchester Church News

Westchester Congregational Church, 98 Cemetery Rd., holds worship Sundays at 10 a.m. All are welcome to attend. The church choir always welcomes new members. The services are also available on Zoom; visit [westchestercongregation.org](http://westchestercongregation.org) for login information.

Sunday School for children meets during the worship service.

**Twelve-Step Meetings:** Al-Anon meets in Canney Hall Wednesdays at 7 p.m. AA meets in Canney Hall Fridays at 7:30 p.m.

**Scouts:** The church sponsors two Scout BSA units: Troop 109 and Pack 109. During the school year, Troop 109 meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Pack 109 meets monthly on a Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

**Outreach and Other Opportunities:** Knitting Group meets Thursdays at 10 a.m. Many knitted, crocheted, and quilted items have been sent to Native American reservations, hospitals for babies, and other places to help those in need. The Blessings Box is at the end of the church parking lot and contains donations of non-perishable food, personal care, and other items for those in need. Take what you need; donate what you can. The church sponsors The Wounded Warrior Project, a popular donation opportunity to help veterans.

For more information, visit [westchestercongregation.org](http://westchestercongregation.org), email [westcongchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westcongchurch@gmail.com) or call the church at 860-267-6711. Pastor Ron Lake can be reached at 860-428-3460.

### 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, May 13:** 9:00 CoA Meeting (TH); 9:00 Making Memories; 9:00 Exercise w/Anne; 10:00 Sittercize; 11:00 Learn to Sign; 12:30 Mah Jongg; 12:30 Bridge; 12:45 Setback; 2:00 CoA: Healthy Living for The Brain & Body.

**Tuesday, May 14:** 9:00 Making Memories; 9:00 Sr. Golf League; 9:45 Tai Chi; 10:00 LTC Ombudsman Meeting; 12:30 Pinochle; 12:30 CHOICES Program by appointment only; 1:30 BINGO; 7:30 SCBC Meeting (Z).

**Wednesday, May 15:** 9:00 Making Memories Program; 9:00 Walking Group meet up at the Airline Trail in Amston; 10:00 Adult Coloring; 10:00 Sit & Be Fit; 11:00 No Place Like Home Mother's Day Lunch; 1:30 Line Dancing.

**Thursday, May 16:** 9:00 Exercise w/Anne; 10:00 Sittercize; 10:00 Wii Bowling; 11:00 Yoga; 12:00 Chair Massage; 12:30 Dominoes; 1:00 Knit & Crochet; 1:00 Container Garden Club Presentation.

**Friday, May 17:** 10:00 Sit & Be Fit Video; 10:30 Choral Group; 11:00 Yoga; 1:00-3:00 Tech Time with Harry, by appointment only; 1:30

BINGO.

**Fabric Sunflower Workshop:** Wednesday, May 22 10:00 a.m. Create a beautiful fabric flower that can be used as a wall hanging, a stake for an indoor plant. Requires the use of a glue gun. A selection of colorful fabrics will be available to choose from. The cost is \$5 per person. Space is limited. Registration is required.

**Older American's Month** May is Older American's Month. The 2024 theme is Powered by Connection. This recognizes the profound impact that meaningful relationships and social connections have on our health and well-being. To celebrate, we will be creating a giant CSC puzzle, a symbol of connectedness, with a piece to represent each of the wonderful programs that we have at CSC and how they all connect us together. Puzzle pieces will be available throughout the month for you to sign. We will then display the puzzle in the hallway.

**Garden Club Presentations** Thursday, May 23 1:00 PM May is a great time to get out and garden. For many, having a large garden is not possible. Join the Colchester Garden Club as they share how you can add a small garden to your porch or under a window. Planting Herbs in Pots: Herbs are a great way to enjoy gardening and a great way to add flavor to your cooking or baking. Join us as we discuss various herbs and plant some herbs for your home. The Cost of this program is \$10 per person and space is limited.



**Service Project...** Scouts BSA Troop 109 members and leaders recently performed a service project at the Colchester Dog Park, raking and spreading mulch to improve the facility. Troop 109 is sponsored by the Westchester Church, located at 98 Cemetery Road in Colchester, and meetings are Tuesdays at 7 p.m. during the school year. For more info email [westcongchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westcongchurch@gmail.com).

### Bacon Band Director to Retire

Bacon Academy's band director of 37 years, Tom Kessler, is retiring from his post, and Bacon band alumni are inviting players back for an Alumni & Friends performance on Saturday, May 25, at 3 p.m., at Bacon, 611 Norwich Ave.

Bacon's band program has generated hundreds of graduates with whom music continues to be a source of joy, comfort, and of

course lots of "yuks." Many of his students have gone on to national and internationally recognized musical careers.

For the "Alumni & Friends" performance, fans are needed just as much as players. Everyone (alumni, friends, and fans) is encouraged to go to [www.baconband.com](http://www.baconband.com) to sign up for the email list and get more information on the event, as well as other future events.

### Senior Center Trips

Colchester Senior Center, located at 95 Norwich Ave., has announced the following upcoming trips. Trips are available to senior center members and their 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.

**Boston Casino Trip:** Wednesday, June 5, to Encore Boston Harbor Resort Casino. Cost is \$136 and includes transportation, a casino bonus of \$20 in free slot play (subject to change), and a family-style meal at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant in Park Square. Register by coming into the senior center.

**Trip to Salem & Marblehead, Mass.:** Tuesday, July 16; bus departs at 7:30 a.m. Upon arrival you will have a buffet lunch at the Hawthorne Hotel in Salem. After lunch, a local guide will join you for a riding tour of Salem and Marblehead with many opportunities to step off the

bus and visit various sites. The trip will end with time for shopping at Pickering Wharf. Cost is \$144/person; sign up by June 16.

**The Sound of Music at the Theatre By The Sea:** Thursday, Aug. 15, 9 a.m. Travel to South Kingston, R.I., to revisit this beloved musical. Have a preshow lunch at George's of Galilee in Narragansett, R.I. Menu includes choice of baked cod, roasted chicken thigh with mushroom cream sauce or beet salad. Cost is \$176/person. Sign up at the senior center before July 15.

**Nubble Lighthouse Trip:** Thursday, Aug. 29, departing the senior center at 8 a.m. Head to Ogunquit, Maine. Have lunch at Jonathan's; choose chicken piccata or lemon baked scrod, with salad, vegetable, potato, dessert, and coffee and tea. Then there will be time to shop and browse in walkable downtown Ogunquit. Cost is \$142/person. Register before July 29.

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For info: [IdentifyTheSigns.org](http://IdentifyTheSigns.org)

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RE5-10-24

### Colchester Food Bank

Join State Representative Mark DeCaprio for a food drive to benefit Colchester Food Bank on Saturday, May 18 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Food drive will take place at the Stop & Shop at 99 Linwood Avenue.

### Veterans Coffee House Meetup

The town of Colchester invites all former military members, males and females, to meet on Saturday, May 18 from 10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Cragin Memorial Library. The meetups may include presentations about a variety of issues including veteran benefits, local programs and opportunities and health and well-being. Coffee and light snacks will be provided. For questions and/or suggestions for speakers, call Mary Emerling at (860) 537-2921.

### Colchester Youth Soccer is accepting bids for field painting for the 2024 Season

Bids must be sent to [president@colchestersoccer.org](mailto:president@colchestersoccer.org) by June 15, 2024. Scope of work includes painting soccer specific lines on up to 3 full size 11v11 fields and up to 8 smaller 9v9 fields for the fall season which will start on or around August 12 and run through November 3. Fields will need to be lined once per week in conjunction with the town's mowing schedule to be ready for weekend games. Paint and paint machine will be provided by the Club. Regular maintenance and cleaning of the machine, which must be performed immediately after each painting, will be the responsibility of the contractor. Any parts or supplies needed for the upkeep of the machine will be provided by the Club with the exception of gas, which the contractor will be required to provide and transport. There are 2 painting sites: Colchester Rec Plex and Jack Jackter Intermediate School soccer fields. The Club will assist in the initial layout for the fields at the start of the season. Please submit a price for weekly lining over the course of the above season dates. In the event lines cannot be completed due to weather, the Club will not pay for services that week. Contractor must communicate with the Club weekly to ensure that the lines are completed based on scheduled Club games and town mowing schedules. Please feel free to contact Club President William Beeler with any questions: [president@colchestersoccer.org](mailto:president@colchestersoccer.org).

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# Commissions Burdened with More Tasks After Joint Meeting

By London Brazal

Heightened discussion around developments in the Lake Pocotopaug watershed area led to a joint workshop between the Town Council, Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z), Inland Wetlands Watercourse Agency (IWWA) and Conservation Lake Commission (CLC).

Last Thursday, May 2, the various boards and commissions gathered to discuss the town's current regulations regarding the Lake Pocotopaug Watershed and the next steps. For the last few months, residents have provided comments at town council meetings regarding run-off from the Edgewater Circle development and logging on Lakewood Drive. Town Council chairman Dean Markham said staff found more information regarding the current issues. "Some citizens circulated their own interpretation of applicable regulations, which we found to be inaccurate," Markham noted. In the two-hour workshop, frustration and annoyance were present as members of the various boards repeated the same sentiments.

At the start of the meeting, interim town planner John Guskowski reviewed relevant regulations and the responsibilities of the P&Z, IWWA and CLC. He further explained the regulatory bodies and how they are supposed to work. In the town's ordinance, the CLC's main responsibility is to evaluate and monitor the needs and conditions of Lake Pocotopaug and more. The town ordinance grants the commission the responsibility to review all applications submitted to the IWWA, P&Z and Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) affecting open space, the Lake Pocotopaug watershed area and more. Guskowski said the IWWA is, essentially, a mini-deputized version of DEEP and acts as a small local environment protection agency. P&Z sets its regulations and can approve permits regardless of a different commission's report.

Guskowski went on to explain the types of permits available. As-of-right permits are for straightforward projects like building a single-family house in a zone designated for single-family residences. The zoning officer handles the permit to ensure compliance. Typi-

cally, these permits don't require commission approval and are handled at the staff level. Site plan reviews apply to projects that are allowed in a specific zone but may need a closer look by the commission to ensure factors like parking, lighting and traffic are adequately addressed. It doesn't usually require a public hearing, the commission decides on these applications. A special permit is for projects that might not be expected or permitted in a particular zone. These projects require a public hearing to gather input from the community and ensure that they won't disrupt the surrounding area. It's an opportunity for public engagement and stakeholders to voice concerns about potential impacts.

### 'Wording is Important'

Throughout the meeting, Guskowski repeatedly told board members that "wording is important" when dealing with these matters. The language in the zoning regulations is written to prevent speculation and interpretation; however, during the meeting, gaps in the written rules were revealed. The terms "projects" and "activity" were used by some members to describe the logging disturbance to the 30-acre parcel on Lakewood Rd. When Councilman Jordan Werme tried asking a clarifying question, Guskowski replied by saying that wording is important. "I know you want to sort of rush past the wording being used, but wording is important when you say 'any work being done.'" He continued, "So if you're mowing your lawn in the watershed, do you need a permit? If you're trimming your hedges, that's work, right? That's not development."

One of the topics of discourse was the difference between timber harvesting and site clearing and what needs to be permitted. Vice chairman of P&Z Ray Zatorski explained if people are doing a timber harvest, planning and zoning can't assume they are going to build a development and require them to come to the commission for approval. "That's not how the state regulations are written," noted Zatorski. "But if we don't have an application in front of us, we can't go back by state statutes and say we don't like

that timber harvest or whatever it might happen to be, or we think your intentions are. We can't do it that way." Town Manager David Cox explained that timber harvesting is an agricultural activity and the lumber is selected to be sold.

Wesley Jenks, a member of the Lake Commission, claimed the town made a "major mistake" about issuing the permit for the timber harvesting on Lakewood Rd. "Because of the level of disturbance over there, this 100% needed to come to the commissions, and it didn't," stated Jenks. "So I think we can all admit that the town may have made a mistake in this and let's move on and correct it."

The East Hampton Zoning Regulations were last amended on March 6, 2024. In Section 3.1 regarding the Lake Pocotopaug Protection Zone, it states, "All projects resulting in more than 2,500 square feet of ground disturbance shall be referred to the Lake Consultant for a third-party review. The applicant will be required to cover the cost of any such third-party reviews." Guskowski replied that a project refers to a development activity. "It was not deemed that timber, that seasonal clearing, is in a different section of that regulation treated separately from development or projects." Jenks countered by asking, "What do you consider a project? You don't consider having excavators and machines over on a site knocking down trees a project, that's just timber harvesting?"

The vice chair of the Lake Commission, Jason Hartling, reiterated one of the problems. He ex-

plained the activity happening in the watershed was not permitted. "So when they get called out they come down to the office, they get the permit and that's the end of the conversation?" said Hartling. "The town of East Hampton should have some redress for someone who violates the regulations and the expectations of the town." He went on to say that there should be a strict fine structure with enforcement. "We have to take action, or it's not going to be fixed."

By the end of the meeting, each respective board shared its next steps, including reviewing the regulations to fill in gaps and the need for enforcement. While people are unsure what can be done for activities already happening, there was a consensus about preventing future issues. At a staff level, Cox said they would reevaluate the permits for Edgewater Circle and have an engineer determine if the developments meet the regulations. Planning and zoning are looking at a moratorium to set in place that holds a temporary freeze of future development until they can review Section 3.1 and get advice from their attorney. The IWWA plans to review the 200 feet review area, regarding projects in the watershed, and make the regulation more known and easier to find. The CLC will also look at Section 3.1 while coming up with ideas and suggestions to close gaps in the language. In addition, they plan to look at enforcement and provision options. Ultimately, the various commissions have a lot of work ahead of them as they try to remediate the ongoing problems.

## 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:** Mondays at 9 a.m., Tuesdays at 7 p.m.,

Saturdays at 9 a.m. Cost is a \$15 drop-in fee. To register, email [tensummitst@gmail.com](mailto:tensummitst@gmail.com).

**Family Yoga Series:** Fridays at 9:30 a.m. through May 24. Cost is \$12 to drop in. Email [zenlotus860@yahoo.com](mailto:zenlotus860@yahoo.com) with questions and to register.

**Pilates:** Thursdays at 6 p.m. through May 23. Cost is \$12 to drop in. To register, call 203-592-4448 or [abstite@sbcglobal.net](mailto:abstite@sbcglobal.net)

**Mahjong:** Is starting up again. Players of all experience levels are welcome. Please contact the library for more information.

## 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, priest-in-charge.

**Donations:** Food items for East Hampton Food Bank may be placed in the black totes at the rear of the church. Clean returnable bottles

### Tag and Bake Sale

Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam, 52 Middle Haddam Road, will hold a tag and bake sale May 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Baked goods, tag sale items and rada cutlery featured.

and cans are collected in cans by the shed.

**Sunday School:** Sunday School classes are in session. Contact the Rev. Joanne Neel-Richard at [jneelrichard16@gmail.com](mailto:jneelrichard16@gmail.com) for information.

**Bible Study:** The group meets via Zoom on Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. Contact the Rev. Bobette Reed Kahn at [bbobette@kahn.com](mailto:bbobette@kahn.com) for more information. New members are always welcome.

**Mother's Day Diaper Drive:** Diapers in sizes 3-5 and 3T-5T will be collected for children in need. Bring your diapers to church on Mother's Day and honor mothers everywhere.

**Pentecost:** May 19th is Pentecost. Be sure to wear red to church.

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).

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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.

**Chicken BBQ:** Held at the Church on Saturday, June 1st from noon - 5 p.m. Call or email the Church to pre-register and provide a pickup time.

**Puppet Ministry:** Each Sunday, the Church's Puppet Ministry featuring 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:** Children's Ministry, for children in kindergarten through 5th grade, is held in Fellowship Hall during our

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

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

**Adult Bible Study:** Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Music Room. The study is on the Holy Spirit.

**Women's Fellowship:** The next gathering will be on May 23 from 1 to 3 p.m.

**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).

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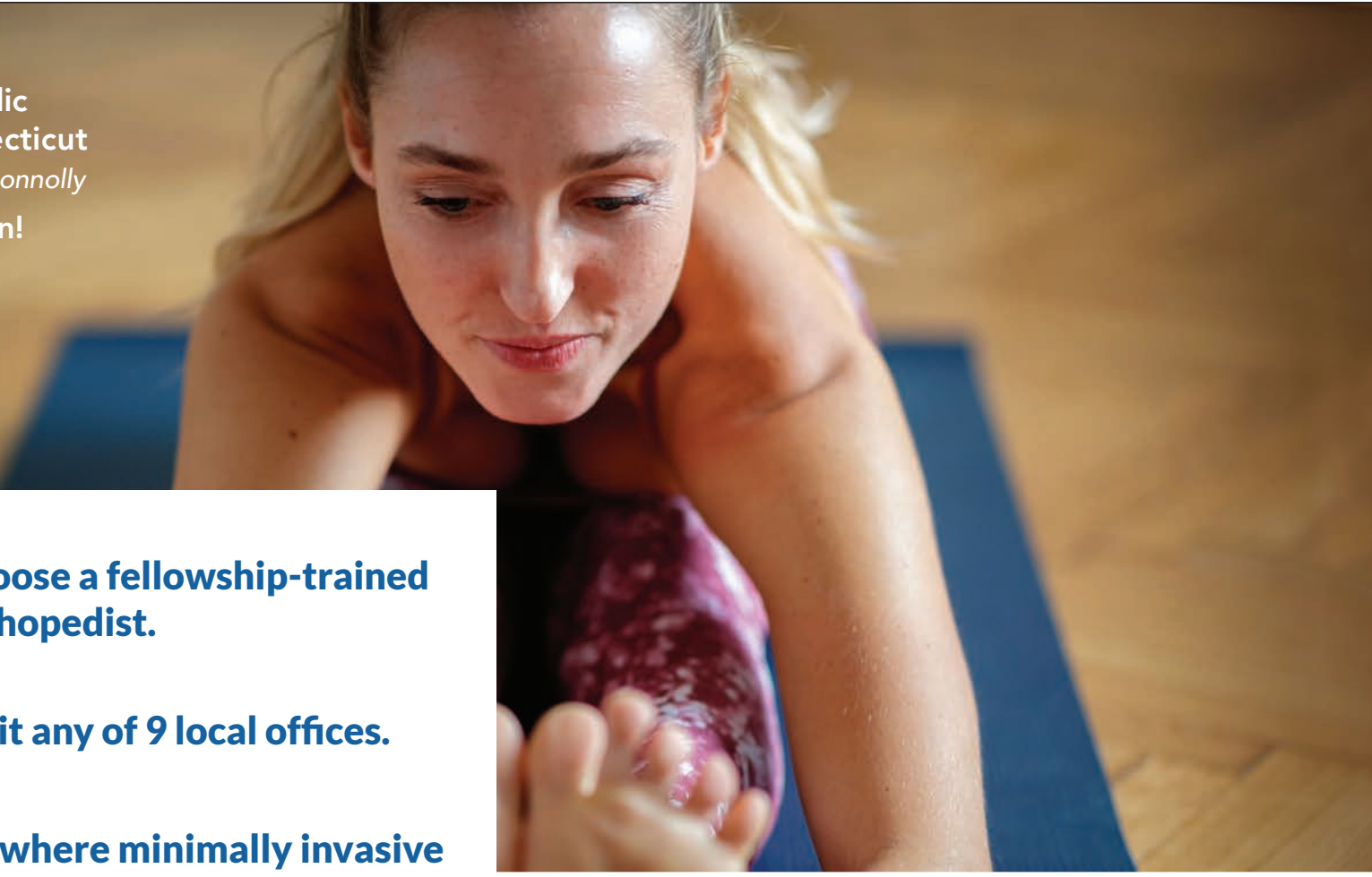
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**Online Farmers Market**

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. Pickups are year-round on Saturdays from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

**RTC Trade Scholarship Available**

The East Hampton Republican Town Committee is accepting scholarship applications for a Trade Scholarship. This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to any high school senior in East Hampton who is planning on pursuing a career in a trade.

Trades include: cosmetology, medical and veterinary services, court reporting, welding, auto/diesel mechanics, aviation and marine services, HVAC, plumbing and electrical services, and more.

Students enrolled in public, private or home school educational environments are eligible for this scholarship. For an application, email [ehctgop@gmail.com](mailto:ehctgop@gmail.com) or contact the East Hampton High School guidance department.

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# Supporting EHHS Graduating Seniors, Spring Sprint Next Week

By London Brazal

For the past 15 years, Project Graduation has provided a free-of-charge and safe overnight event to celebrate the students' accomplishments.

Project Graduation was formed in 2006 by a group of parents who wanted to plan an all-night event following the senior's graduation. The make-up of the committee is always growing and changing, but the goal remains the same. Since the first celebration for the Class of 2009, the committee has provided approximately 140 graduates each year with a fun, safe, drug- and alcohol-free night, free of charge. The organization believes that cost shouldn't be a barrier to keeping the graduates safe and celebrating their significant accomplishments.

Next week is the organization's largest fundraiser, the annual 5K Belltown Spring Sprint. On Saturday, May 18, runners will gather at the East Hampton High School for a 9:00 a.m. race start. The race path will go towards North Main St., through the Edgemere Condos and around the North Maple neighborhood for some extra mileage to end at the back of the high school. In addition to the 5K, there will be a two-mile walk from the high school to Sears Park and back, and a Kids Fun Run.

All participants will be timed, including the kids for the shorter run. Road race co-chair Ben Sullivan said they were willing to pay a few extra dollars for kids to see their race times. "It feels pretty good for them when they see how fast they can run, it helps inspire them to keep running and competing," explained Sullivan.

Same-day registration will be available, but the fee to participate will increase on Sunday, May 12. The goal is for 120 to 150 runners, but more runners are always welcome. "It's a good start to the running season," said Sullivan. He explained that East Hampton doesn't have many races throughout the year like Middletown and Hartford, so it's a great opportunity to run in town. Since the race has been established for a long time, the co-chairs invite all types of runners to participate, including members of Run169 who try to run one race per municipality in Connecticut. "Beautiful weather would be great. If you like to run and want to support a local organization that sponsors a free event for graduating seniors, then come run." He added that more fundraising efforts help pay for Project Graduation, so students and families don't have to worry if they can't afford it.

Sullivan became one of the co-chairs for

the race last year because it was close to being canceled. "We didn't want to skip a year or else there was a risk of never returning," he said. "Last year, it was at the end of May and a nighttime race, but weekends are generally better." Their goal for last year's race was to break even, and they were happy to make some profit from the race. In the future, the organization wants to establish more goals regarding donations to make sure they don't ask the same local businesses to sponsor the race and support the graduation event itself. Project Graduation thanks the businesses that sponsored the race: CMK Sports, Kenneth Barber and Associates, Classic Auto and EMP Apparel. Sponsors help parade the cost of the race itself, such as the race equipment and police presence.

### Test Your Luck

In conjunction with the Spring Sprint, Project Graduation is a raffle with five chances to win. The two main prizes are a Velotric Discover 1 E-Bike, a retail price of \$1,299. Brian Holdt of Airline Cycles worked with members of Project

Graduation to pick the bikes out and find out what was cost-effective. The Velotric Discover 1, as described on the manufacturer's website, is presented as an ideal option for people looking for a reliable commuting or leisure electronic bike option. Highlighting its Velopower H50 drive system, it offers enhanced performance in distance and hill climbing compared to similar models. Additionally, there is a hydraulic suspension and brakes, preinstalled fenders and an integrated rear brake light for comfort and safety.

The other three available prizes are \$100 gift cards to Po's Rice and Spice, Loco Perro and Pizzeria Da Vinci. Raffle tickets are \$50 each, but only 150 will be sold. The Project Graduation committee encourages people to buy one and tell a friend. The drawing will be at 10:15 a.m. on the day of the Spring Sprint. Winners do not have to be present. To buy a ticket or register for the race, please visit [ehhsprojectgraduation.com](http://ehhsprojectgraduation.com). Any questions can be emailed to [treasureehhsctprojgrad@gmail.com](mailto:treasureehhsctprojgrad@gmail.com).

## EHVFD: Road Closure

The East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department will conduct its mandatory pressure testing of all fire hose on Wednesday, May 15 (weather permitting). An annual certification requirement, this testing will be conducted in the area of the Fire Department's Pump House at the western end of Walnut Avenue.

As a result, Walnut Avenue will be closed to through traffic between Main Street and

Watrous Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Residents are advised to utilize alternate routes.

The EHVFD apologizes for any inconvenience this one-day road closure may cause to residents and business owners in the area, and firefighters sincerely appreciate the continued support and consideration afforded the Department by those they serve.

## East Hampton Library News & Notes

East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., has announced the following:

All-ages programs:

**Book Sale Donation Drop-Off Begins:** Saturday, May 18. The Friends of the Library will be accepting donations of gently used books from Saturday, May 18 through Thursday, May 30 in anticipation of their Book Sale on Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1. Please bring in your donations during normal library hours. Only books in good condition will be accepted.

Adult Programs:

**Book Club and Author Event with Katie Tietjen:** Tuesday, May 21, 6:30 p.m. East Hampton High School's very own Library Media Specialist Katie Tietjen has written a novel, and the Friends of East Hampton Public Library invite you to read her new book and join us for an author event in the Library Rotunda. Copies of the book will be available for borrowing or for sale at the circulation desk.

## 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/easthampton-senior-center](http://www.easthamptonct.gov/easthampton-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.

**Mexican Train Dominoes- Returns Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.** New members welcome but you must pre-register.

**Weekly Activities: Quilting Group:** Mondays, 9 a.m.; **Setback:** Mondays and Thursdays, 1-3 p.m.; **Mexican Train Dominoes:** Returns Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. - new members welcome, but preregistration required; **Bible Study:** 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. through May 15, and cost is \$20; **Tap Dance:** Thursdays, 11:15 a.m. through May 16; **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-

**Tech Help with Sam & Nicole:** Thursday, May 30, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Need help with an electronic device, downloading an app, or navigating your phone? Drop by the Library and let us help you figure it out! Just bring your device with you.

Teen Programs:

**Sock Monster Stuffies! Grades 6-12:** Tuesday, May 14, 5:30 p.m. Local artist Pamela Hanks will bring all the supplies you need to make a super cute sock monster stuffie, you just need to bring your creativity. Registration required, space is limited.

The Library hosts several storytimes for ages 0-5 years each week. Please see the calendar on our website for more details.

For full program descriptions or to register for a program, call 860-267-6621 or visit us at [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org)

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

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, May 14 at 10 a.m. Features a presentation on ways to finance home care and long-term care. Please register in advance at the Senior Center.

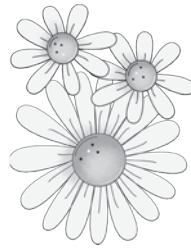
**Bike Rides for Seniors:** Friday, May 17 at 10 a.m. featuring a ride on the Airline Trail at the Cranberry Bog on Smith Street. Please call the Senior Center to register. Bring your bike, helmet and water.

**Art with Karen:** Sunday, May 19 at 2 p.m. Create a simple craft with this fun group of creators. Cost is \$5 for supplies payable at the event. Please register in advance at the Senior Center.

**Shopping Trip to Windham Walmart:** Monday, May 13, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Shopping is followed by lunch on your own at a location to be determined. A \$4 transportation donation is requested.

**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 [khemp-hill@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:khemp-hill@easthamptonct.gov). The shopper will call you before the drop-off to let you know the cost of the groceries. You can write out a check for the amount, payable to the Town of East Hampton. The volunteer will drop off the groceries at your door and pick up the check in a prearranged designated spot.

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**Lake Cleanup Day...** The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug held its annual Lake Cleanup Day Saturday, April 20. Despite the rainy start, over 40 volunteers in bright green Friends of the Lake t-shirts picked up trash around the lake collecting over 30 garbage bags. Pictured from left are Friends member Jeff Muttart and volunteers George Blesso, Dave Bengtson and Liz Bengtson.

### Belltown Sprint Sprint & eBike Raffle

The East Hampton High School Project Graduation committee is holding its annual 5K Run/2 Mile Walk/Kids Fun Run on Saturday, May 18 at East Hampton High School. Pre-registration can be found at EHHSPG.com. Links to the Spring Sprint and eBike raffle are on the home page. Free race T-shirts are available to the first 50 5K registrants. Students receive a discounted rate. Registration fees increase after May 11<sup>th</sup>. You can also register in person the day of the race beginning at 7:30am.

The 5K and 2 Mile will begin at 9 a.m. A new course takes participants along Lake Pocotopaug. The Kids Fun Run begins at 10 a.m. Awards will follow the completion of all races along with the eBike raffle drawing (150 ticket limit).

All proceeds from the events help to support an all-night drug and alcohol-free post-graduation party for the seniors of East Hampton High School at no cost to the families. We believe that cost should not be a barrier to keeping our graduates safe and enjoying their significant accomplishments.

For more information or to register go to EHHSPG.com or contact Ben at [treasurerhhsct-projgrad@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerhhsct-projgrad@gmail.com).

### 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.

### CDHR Celebrates Anniversary, New Barn

All are invited to celebrate the seventh anniversary of Autumn Ridge, the farm for Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue (CDHR), on Sunday, May 19, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at 113 Chestnut Hill Rd. Admission is free, and the event is rain or shine.

There will be vendors, raffles, wagon rides, and more. Two food trucks will also be on site: Fire in the Kitchen and Rustic Streets. Explore the new barn and witness the ribbon-cutting ceremony at

1 p.m.

If interested in being a vendor, visit [www.ct-draftrescue.org/vendorform](http://www.ct-draftrescue.org/vendorform).

CDHR is a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving the lives of neglected or abused draft horses as well as draft horses heading to slaughter. For more information visit [www.ctdraftrescue.org](http://www.ctdraftrescue.org) or [www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue](http://www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue), or email [ctdraftrescue@aol.com](mailto:ctdraftrescue@aol.com).

### East Hampton High School Botany Plant Sale

Join us at the EHHSPG Botany Plant Sale on Saturday, May 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The sale will take place at the greenhouse located in front of the high school at 15 North Maple Street. Follow the signs from Route 66 for easy navigation.

Discover a wide selection of plants available for sale, including annuals, perennials, sunflowers, and vegetable garden plants, all grown by our talented students.

The plant varieties include Dahlia, Purple

Cone Flower, Cosmos, Delphinium, Shasta Daisy, Gaillardia, Cardinal Climbers, Mexican sunflower, Scarlet poppy, Zinnias, Marigold, Crack-crack marigolds, Sweet pepper, Cherry peppers, Monarda tomatoes, Eggplant, Pink Brandywine tomatoes, Cucumber, Large red cherry tomato, Broccoli, Beefsteak tomato, Red salad bowl, Buttercrunch lettuce, Brussel sprouts, Cilantro, Rosemary, Large leaf basil, Sage, Parsley, Cilantro, Lavender, Catnip, and more.

### Epoch Arts Upcoming Events

Check out what's happening at Epoch Arts. All events are held at 27 Skinner Street East Hampton. [www.epocharts.org](http://www.epocharts.org)

**Glow Dance Party. Friday, May 10. 7:00-9:00 p.m.** Teens come dressed in your glow clothes, dance to a live DJ and create some original glow paintings. \$10, free food and drinks. 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up.

**Daddy Daughter Dance; Sunday, May 19 4:30-6:30 p.m.** Girls ages 12 and under grab your favorite guy for a wonderful evening of dinner and dancing. Each girl will take home a

craft and have her picture taken with her favorite guy. Register online [www.epocharts.org](http://www.epocharts.org)

**Henna Workshop. Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. 1:00-3:00 p.m.** Learn the history and origins of henna. Learn how to create your own Henna design and Zentangle and get a professionally applied henna design from Jamilah from Jamilah Henna Creations. Register online. [www.epocharts.org](http://www.epocharts.org). 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade, \$10.

### Postal Food Drive

On Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> mail carriers in East Hampton will be conducting their annual food drive to help replenish the local food bank shelves. This is part of a nationwide effort that has been carries on for more than twenty years.

Because of our struggling economy many families rely weekly on our local food bank.

Donations can be left at your mailbox or brought to the post office lobby. It would be helpful to put items out early as carriers will be assisted by volunteers. Donations should have current use by dates. Thank you for your help.

### Troop 8's Annual Mother's Day Breakfast

On Sunday May 12 the Boy Scouts of Troop 8 East Hampton will host their annual Mother's Day Breakfast at VFW Post 5095 located at 20 North Maple Street, East Hampton, from 8:00 a.m. - 11 a.m. The scouts will be serving a traditional breakfast featuring eggs and our famous home fries. The breakfast will cost \$15 per a person. All proceeds from the breakfast will be used to support the scouting activities of Troop 8.

### Memorial Day Parade

East Hampton's Memorial Day Parade will be held Monday, May 27. The parade will assemble at East Hampton High School at 8:30 p.m. and the parade starts at 9 a.m.

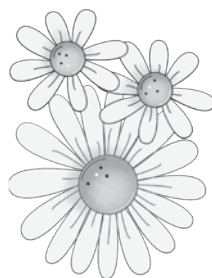
Community groups interested in marching or entering a float should contact Lou Carillo at 860-462-3711.

### Local Artist Display

Local artist GERALYN YOCHER is exhibiting her work at Town Hall during April.

Yocher taught art in Portland Public Schools for eight years and at Wesleyan Pottery in the children's pottery program. She paints in oils, acrylics and watercolors; her medium of choice is watercolors.

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Class of 2016, 2017 and 2018

The Student Services and Special Education Department of East Hampton will destroy any and all special education/504 records of students who graduated or would have graduated with the Class of 2016, 2017 and 2018. These records may be helpful or necessary for future referrals to social security and other state services. These records will be destroyed on July 1, 2024.

If any student, as described above, would like his/her special education/504 records, he/she must submit a written request for a copy of the records no later than June 17, 2024.

Please forward all requests to Rodney Mosier II, Director of Student Services and Special Education, East Hampton School District, 1 Community Drive, Suite 1, East Hampton, CT 06424

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**Donation to Shelter... Outreach Co-Ordinator Joann Osmond, of St Peter's Episcopal Church, Hebron gives donation check to Avery Lenhart, the director of the Willimantic No Freeze shelter for the housing insecure. For 20 years, the shelter has been open from November - April, to provide a place for warmth, shelter and to sleep during the colder months. Now, with some funding from the Department of Housing, a new shelter will be opening, upon completion of renovations, of a building on the corner of Valley St and Mansfield Ave. This new facility will be able to be open year-round. There will be 28 beds available regularly. However, in addition to the space for 28 beds, there will be a common room that will allow for placement of costs for additional beds in extreme weather. St. Peter's gives a portion of all events to a local charity.**

### Applications for Property Tax Abatements

Applications for property tax abatements are available to Hebron residents. There is a town ordinance that defers property taxes when those taxes exceed 8 percent of total household income from any source. For example, if the total household income from any source totals \$30,000, the property tax liability would be capped at \$2,400. The

abatements apply to the upcoming tax year beginning July 1. Those interested in the program can request an application by calling the town manager's office. Applications will be mailed upon request. Call 860-228-5971 for more information. The application deadline is May 31.

### Preschool Screenings

The Hebron Board of Education will hold screenings at Gilead Hill School, 580 Gilead St., on Wednesday, May 15, for children that reside in Hebron and are 3 and 4 years old by the time of the screening. Screens in areas of speech, language, cognitive, and motor development will be provided. Parents will also receive information to assist in fostering their child's growth. Call the office of the director of educational services at Hebron Public Schools at 860-228-2577 to register your child to participate in the screening, as reservations are required.

### Church of Hope News & Notes

Hebron Church of Hope, 1 Main St., holds worship Sundays at 10 a.m., with Education Hour at 9 a.m., including Bible classes for all ages. The church office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Pastor Jordan Brown is available by appointment. For information about church beliefs, care, small groups, Kids Ministry, and Youth Group, visit [www.hebron-coh.com](http://www.hebron-coh.com), or follow the church on social media.

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★ **Marlborough Budget cont. from page 1**  
tributed, dispelling any claims of misdirection or misinformation. "All of the information I shared to the best of my knowledge was accurate," he conveyed. Moving forward, Porter said the boards of selectmen and finance were expected to meet this week, after press time. Per the town charter, Porter said another referendum must occur within three weeks, and he's tentatively eyeing May 23. During a phone call following the referendum result, Hageman said the Board of Education "will await the considerations of the Board of Finance" as they prepare to bring any changes. Based on the presentations made by Porter throughout the budget season, she believes the town is facing real "financial challenges" and the overall budget was "too much to ask" for from the voters. Hageman added, "The Board of Education stands behind the modest budget increase designed to meet the needs of students." The overall capital expenditure for 2024-25 were slated at \$5.5 million. Including the three school capital projects, taxpayers are only on the hook for \$839,577, or 15% of the total cost. Town reserves would cover 21% (\$1,164,439)

and grants account for 64% (\$3,496,823). Porter explained that culverts represent the largest budget driver, but grants are mitigating a large portion of the cost. The culvert crossing South Buckboard Road would cost \$1.2 million with half the expense being canceled-out by a state grant. Additionally, the culvert on Johnson Road would be repaired, rather than fully replaced, at a cost of \$525,000. In a previous joint-letter signed by the boards of selectmen, finance, and both school boards, published in the *Rivereast*, officials highlighted additional factors that contributed to the tax hike, including a decline in revenue. Middlesex Hospital received a tax exemption, which equates to a loss of \$67,070 for Marlborough, but that amount was partially offset by six new homes, according to officials. In addition, the letter stated the net assessed value of motor vehicles decreased by \$2.76 million, resulting in \$89,529 tax loss, and the town will also receive \$135,700 less in state funding this year. While tax collections rates are high, local residents and business owners collectively fail to pay up to \$450,000 in taxes each year, the letter explains, creating another shortfall.

## 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. There is shopping on Tuesdays, Foodshare rides bi-monthly on Wednesdays, Food Pantry Mondays and Wednesdays, and lunches bi-monthly on Fridays. Call Palazzi for transportation reservations. 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](http://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:** Shopping Dates: Willimantic: 5/7, 5/21 and Tuesday Manchester 5/14, 5/28. Call Palazzi for transportation. **Events:** YAH picnic June 5<sup>th</sup> town hall at the

gazebo and tent. **Next Lunch:** May 3. Due to the many events in May, there will only be one lunch date. Dates for June 6/14, 6/28. Currently we plan to be under the senior tent by the gazebo. Call Palazzi for reservations. **Upcoming Trips:** Trip planned to Elizabeth Park with lunch at Chili's on Friday, May 17th. Trip on May 18<sup>th</sup> to Veterans Memorial in Danbury. Trip to Maritime Aquarium on Friday, May 24th. Please contact Carol Lee if interested. **Rides to Food Pantry:** The bus is available for the food pantry on Mondays at 5 p.m. Note: Wednesdays to food pantry have been eliminated from the driving schedule due to lack of interest. There will still be a bus for Foodshare every other Wednesday. Call Palazzi if you need transportation or have questions about this change in schedule. **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. Also, call Palazzi if you need a ride to this Saturday's tag sale.

### EDC Developing Map, Farm Directory

The Andover Economic Development Commission is putting together a "Buy Andover Grown" map and directory of local farms to help support agriculture in town. Anyone in town who grows/raises and offers for sale local produce, cut flowers, eggs, meat, honey and maple syrup are welcome to add their farm to the directory. Those who offer farm-based services such as horseback riding and boarding are also encouraged to participate. Sign up by completing a form at [tinyurl.com/Andover-GrowersGoodsForm](http://tinyurl.com/Andover-GrowersGoodsForm) by May 10. Email questions to the EDC at [edc@andoverct.org](mailto:edc@andoverct.org).

### Friends of Library Sponsors Photographer

The Andover Friends of the Library will sponsor a nature photography program on May 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Andover Public Library. This program is made possible from a Nature Photography Program Grant from The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving - Andover Greater Together Community Funds. Paul Fusco, wildlife photographer, will share samples of his own photography, and offers suggestions to attendees on how to best capture nature scenes through photography.

### Town Budget Referendum

The Town of Andover budget referendum will be held on Tuesday, May 14 from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Community Room of the Town Office Building. Absentee ballots are available to any Andover Elector or Taxpayer who won't be able to vote in person on May 14.

### Reflective Address Markers

Reflective address markers will be available on Sunday, June 9 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Andover Volunteer Fire Department. There is no charge to Andover Residents. If we can't find you, we can't help you. It may save your life or someone you love.

### Burial Ground Committee Vacancy

Any Andover elector interested in serving on the Olde Andover Burial Ground Committee should send a letter of interest to: Town of Andover, Olde Burial Ground, 17 School Rd., Andover, CT 06232, or email it to [townclerk@andoverct.org](mailto:townclerk@andoverct.org). Due date for letters is May 13.

### Andover Friends of Library Event

On Friday, May 17 the library will have a Goods & Services Auction at the Andover Town Hall Community Room at 6:30 p.m. (Preview begins at 6 p.m.). Place your bid on so many wonderful goods and services, buy a yummy baked treat, visit with your friends and neighbors, and support the Friends' fundraising efforts for your Andover Public Library.

### 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.

### Craft Supply Tag Sale

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6 in Andover will be holding a Craft Supply Tag Sale on Saturday June 1. Tables are available for \$20. This event will be great for teachers, crafters, day care providers, Sunday school teachers and creative folks. Please leave a message at the church office, 860-742-7696 for an application.

### 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).

### Memorial Day Parade

The Andover Memorial Day Parade will be on Monday, May 27, starting at 8:45 a.m. from the Andover Elementary School parking lot to Route 316 to Monument Lane. The ceremony will be held on Cider Mill Road. All Veterans are invited to march or ride in the parade.

### Bingo & Baskets

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6 in Andover, CT will be holding a Bingo & Baskets night on Friday, May 17, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Games start at 6:30pm. \$12.00 admission includes dinner, drink, dessert and bingo. No reservations required. Leave a message at the church at 860-742-7696 with questions.

### Fire Department Food Drive

The Andover Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting a food drive to benefit The Andover Food Pantry on June 9. The pantry is in need of the following: condiments, baking supplies, cereal, rice, beans, canned fruit and veggies, mac and cheese, canned tuna and pork, coffee, tea, juice, toiletries, dish and laundry detergent. Please bring your donations to the fire department at 11 School Road on Sunday, June 9 between 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Monetary contributions welcomed. Please make checks payable to Andover Food Pantry.



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# Budget Heads to Referendum Next Week

By Michael Sinkewicz

Andover residents attending a town meeting last week advanced the 2024-25 fiscal year budget proposal to referendum, which will be held next Tuesday, May 14.

Voting will take place at the Town Office Building on 17 School Road from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

The proposed budget is slated for \$12.84 million — a \$367,647 increase over the current fiscal year. Residents “overwhelmingly” approved the budget at the town meeting, according to Town Administrator Eric Anderson, which he believes was a sign that there wasn’t anything “controversial” included in the spending plan.

Town Clerk Carol Lee reported that 43 people attended the town meeting, with the budget being endorsed with a 37-6 vote.

At the town meeting, residents can only reduce the budget; they cannot increase the bottom-line. Ultimately, they approved a proposal without any additional modifications that was identical to the outline forwarded by the Board of Finance (BOF) last month.

During its April 24 meeting, the BOF voted 4-2 in favor of adopting budget; the board’s vice chairman, Joanne Hebert, and Kimberly Person voted in opposition; Robert England was absent.

When factoring \$2.67 million of revenue and \$150,000 of unassigned fund balance, the total being raised through taxation would be \$10.05 million — a \$107,247, or 1.1%, increase over the 2023-24 budget. As a result, the expected mill rate would go up by .17, or .55%, to 31.46.

The budget is broken down into three main expenditures: town, local school district and the RHAM school district.

The Andover Elementary School budget is \$4.35 million — a \$113,262, or 2.7% increase; Andover’s levy of the RHAM budget is \$4.15 million — a \$343,307 decrease, which includes a \$119,800 credit from a prior budget surplus; the town budget is \$4.34 million — a \$597,692, or 16%, increase.

On Tuesday, the overall 2024-25 RHAM budget of \$31.79 million — a \$654,406, or a 2.1%, increase over current-year spending — passed at referendum. That figure is broken down between an operating budget of \$31.29 million and capital budget of \$499,777.

During an interview with the *Rivereast* this week, Anderson said the town budget represented a “significant increase,” but the overall proposal was a “responsible budget.”

“It’s as responsible as we can be at accomplishing what the community wants,” he said.

## Budget Breakdown

During the public hearing on April 24, BOF chairman Marc Brinker outlined the major expenses driving the budget, and acknowledged that the 16% increase for the town spending plan was substantial, but was largely due to new

funding that “we really feel is necessary at this point.”

As the town aims to open its brand-new community center, it requires funding to operate the facility, which was budgeted at \$73,000. The bulk of that earmark, \$50,000, is allotted towards a new building director.

“That’s a significant addition to the town’s budget this year to take advantage of the new community center,” Brinker said.

There’s also a \$50,000 capital transfer for the multi-use transfer fund, which Brinker said would be allocated towards additional work, as well as furniture and fixtures at the community center moving forward.

Another entirely new pocket included in the 2024-25 budget is \$100,000 for an Andover Elementary School capital fund.

“We do not have any mechanism currently,” Brinker explained, “to fund capital improvements to the school and this has become a real issue.”

The BOF also agreed to inject \$50,000 for open space, which Brinker said could possibly help the town acquire available parcels in the future.

“We’ve missed some opportunities in the past potentially because we did not have any such fund or the resources to take action on some real things that might’ve been a real bargain for the town in terms of securing some open space,” he said.

The town’s bridge and culvert fund, which had been earmarked at \$100,000 the last two fiscal years, received a \$75,000 boost, bringing it up to \$175,000.

Other items, such as health and dental insurance, are experiencing lofty increases. For 2024-25, that line jumped nearly \$70,000 for a new total of \$233,000.

## Community Center Discussion

Before voting on the proposal, Hebert conveyed that a nearly \$600,000 increase to the town budget represented a “huge amount of money.”

Although that spike was largely being offset by the decrease in the RHAM budget, Hebert said that eventually in upcoming years the regional budget will increase yet again.

“I think overall, we’ve done a good job,” she concluded.

The finance board reviewed numerous initiatives impacting the budget, including the new funding for the community center. During a budget workshop on April 17, the board modified the salary for a new director from \$60,000 to \$50,000.

Anderson explained that the original goal was to find a single individual to handle the responsibilities of a community center, senior center and recreation department, as well as

write grant applications for the new facility.

“I think getting a reasonable amount of programs up and running and doing it fairly quickly for the community is a big ask,” he told the board during the public hearing.

He was asked by a resident if he’d be able to find someone to handle all of those tasks with the adjusted compensation level of \$50,000. Anderson replied, “Honestly, no.”

“But that’s the budget I was given, so that’s where we’re going with it,” he continued.

During his interview, Anderson said he initially intended to “poach” an experienced senior center director, which would cut down on the “learning curve.”

“I’m going to try really hard to find someone who can do all of that,” he said, adding that it would be challenging to hire a full-time director with the currently allotted salary, which he described as “less than I had preferred.”

“But it is what it is,” he said, explaining that the town now needs to be “realistic” about the possibilities regarding a new director moving forward. “There are decisions to make.”

At the April 17 meeting, the BOF briefly considered scaling down the community center director position even further to \$45,000.

“Are we biting off too much too soon with putting a full-time person in there?” Hebert asked during the board’s discussion.

The board settled on a \$50,000 salary, which would’ve allow residents to further reduce the amount at the town meeting, which they ultimately did not elect to do.

After the revision was approved, Anderson explained that he most likely wouldn’t pursue a full-time director, and would instead look for a retired senior center director. He would consider scaling back the job description by excluding the recreation and community center aspects, as well as any potential grant writing.

“And that’s okay,” he said. “If that’s what we can afford, that’s okay. We’ll make it work.”

He also told the board there’s multiple options. For example, he could use the \$50,000 earmark to hire two part-time employees for the community center. Those decisions, he added, would be coordinated between himself and the

Board of Selectmen.

Hebert remarked at the public hearing that it was important to account for the “volume of work” when considering the director position. The salary should be synced accordingly for a municipality with only a few thousand residents.

“We think we left it at a nice salary point,” she said. “We’re just not a big town.”

## Further Cuts?

Hebert introduced several topics for the board to examine that would aim to reduce the budget, which she suggested was too high as presented.

“I’m just not in favor of it,” she said, referring to a proposed project manager at \$15,000. She was looking for ways to “minimize the hurt” to the taxpayer, she added.

Person agreed with holding off on the new position.

“I think that there are so many expenses this year that potentially this one could just possibly wait,” she said.

Anderson requested the position as a “cheaper alternative” to paying the town engineer to oversee every local endeavor. Currently, Anderson is struggling to execute grant funding that the town has been awarded, and the new manager would help alleviate that issue, he said.

BOF member William Desrosiers urged the board to keep the funding in the budget.

“There’s a lot of grant money that could go to waste if we don’t handle it right,” he asserted, adding that there were additional savings in the town administrator’s budget due to Anderson’s assistant primary focus shifting to the role of tax collector. “It doesn’t make any rational sense not to do this.”

After the board agreed not to cut the project manager, Hebert made a motion to reduce the road improvement fund by \$60,000, from \$410,000 to \$350,000, which didn’t reach a vote after failing to receive a second from another board member.

“I don’t think it’s a good time to trim budgets,” Desrosiers said during the discussion. “It’s a time to take advantage of where we are with the RHAM [budget] situation.”

## 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.

## Town-Wide Tag Sale Next Weekend

The Andover annual Town-Wide Tag Sale will be held Saturday, May 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Rain date is Sunday, May 19. Proceeds benefit the Andover Senior Luncheon Program.

## Learn CPR

Learn CPR on Sunday, June 9 from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. at the Andover Volunteer Fire Department. This Heartsaver CPR class includes use of training materials, CPR / AED / Choking for adults / child / infant and 2-year certification from the American Heart Association. The cost is \$20 and registration is required. Please contact Deputy Chief Mindy Hegener at 860-706-3074.

## 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 registration 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.

## LEGAL NOTICE

Andover Democrats will hold a caucus on May 23, 2024 to select a Registrar of Voters and five Justices of the Peace. The caucus will take place at 7:00 PM in the Andover Town Hall Community Room, 17 School Road, Andover, CT. All registered Democratic voters residing in Andover are welcome to participate.

2 TB 5/10, 5/17

## Church Tag Sale

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6 in Andover, CT will be holding a Tag Sale on Saturday May 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Bag Sale from 1:00 - 2:00pm). The church will be accepting donations for this sale starting Thursday, May 16 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily until May 22nd. Please call the church at 860-742-7696 and leave a message with your contact information for more information.

## Mother’s Day Tea

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6, will hold a Mother’s Day Tea on Saturday, May 11, from 1-3 p.m. The tea will include an assortment of teas, a basket raffle and homemade delicacies.

Admission is \$10. Reservations are required; leave a message with the number of seats you would like to reserve at the church office, at 860-742-7696.

## LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF ANDOVER BUDGET REFERENDUM TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024

The Electors and Citizens qualified to vote in the Town of Andover are hereby warned to meet at their respective polling place in said Town on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 for the following purpose; To adopt the Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. The location of the polling place is as follows; **Community Room of the Town Office Building - 17 School Road - Andover, CT** The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Absentee Ballots are available in the Town Clerk’s Office for anyone who is eligible to vote in the Town of Andover who will not be able to vote in person at the polls. Dated at Andover, Connecticut this 2nd day of May, 2024. Carol H. Lee Town Clerk

1 TB 5/10

## Andover Veterans Meeting

On May 18, the Andover Veterans Meeting will be a field trip to the Danbury War Memorial Park for the Dedication Ceremony of the 1<sup>st</sup> Afghanistan and Iraq War Veterans War Memorial. The ceremony starts at 12:00 p.m.

Transportation is available with the Town Senior Transportation for those who would like a ride. We will leave the Town Hall at 10:00 a.m. We will stop for lunch prior to returning home to Andover. Explicit details

regarding the length of the event are not yet available. We will provide an update once they are published.

Those who prefer to drive on their own can convoy with the Town transportation. If not, the address of the event is 1 Memorial Drive, Danbury, CT 06810. Contact Carol Lee at the Town Clerk Office to reserve your spot on the bus or to let us know if you would like to convoy so we can make sure we wait for you.



May Birthdays....Andover Seniors Young At Heart celebrated May birthdays with cake and ice cream at the meeting May 1. Pictured are Cathy Palazzi, Roberta Dougherty, and Georgette Conrad. Photo by Mary Duval.



Obituaries

Marlborough

Alice Morin

Alice Morin, 86, of Marlborough, passed away Thursday May 2, 2024. Born in Hartford to the late Armand and Beatrice (Goodno) Bergan, Alice loved spending time in East Hampton, Hebron, and most recently, at the Marlborough Senior Center. There, she perfected her bingo skills. She was good to her children and adored the home she shared with her sons, Roland and Raymond in Marlborough.



Alice leaves behind her children, Roland Morin of Marlborough, Raymond Morin of Marlborough, Lee-Ann Mann of East Hartford, and Theresa Bushey of Florida, as well as four grandchildren and six, soon to be seven, great-grandchildren. She also leaves her lifelong friend, John Mucha and her special friend, Norma. Alice was predeceased by her parents and siblings.

Calling hours were held on May 6, followed by a Memorial Service and Burial at Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery, 1 Cottage Grove Road, Bloomfield. To leave your condolences, or for more information, please visit Farleysullivan.com.

East Hampton/Salem

Roy Wolstenholme

Roy T. Wolstenholme — a loving and generous family man, loyal friend, and kindhearted soul — passed away surrounded by family on April 27, 2024. He was 87.



Born in Middletown on October 14, 1936, Roy was the beloved only son of the late Roy J. and Catherine (Taylor) Wolstenholme. He spent his early years in Cromwell and later grew up in East Hampton. He was a graduate of East Hampton High School, Class of 1955, a place very special to Roy for bringing him together with the woman that would steal his heart and keep it for almost 65 years—the late Elizabeth “Liz” Wolstenholme. They would marry in 1958 and spent the next half century raising their family in the tranquil Salem countryside. As a proud and patriotic man, Roy served in the U.S. Naval Reserve for several years.

Roy’s career spanned many years, mostly at the Connecticut Department of Transportation where he would work in management until his eventual retirement in 1991. Roy enjoyed his time at DOT and returned to the department to offer his expertise as a consultant until 1993. Following his consulting service, Roy filled his days with things he truly enjoyed such as gardening, relaxing in the pool, painting with acrylics and watercolors and traveling. He thoroughly enjoyed being a part-time caregiver to his grandchildren where, from an early age, they formed a long-lasting and unique bond. Golfing in couple’s leagues with Liz and their good friends, Lenny and Delores, his buddies and children gave Roy immense pleasure.

Despite a long and fruitful career, there is no doubt that Roy was a dedicated family man. There was no place he would rather be than in the comfort of his home with the company of his wife and children. A quiet and gentle man, Roy was purposeful in his daily pursuits. He was a “fix-it” kind of guy who spent many hours working in his cellar workshop on numerous projects. He was extremely proud of the home he and Liz were able to provide their family, and it showed by his continuous upkeep and meticulous attention.

Roy lived to give his family the absolute best in this life, and the fact that he was also a sweet, extremely patient, fair, and loyal husband, father, and grandfather only serves to enrich his legacy. He will always be respected, loved, and cherished, and his memory will live on for eternity.

Roy is survived by his beloved daughters, Cathleen Wolstenholme, Susan Salecky and her husband, Zenko, and Lisa Stowe and her husband, Burton; his dear son, Ross Wolstenholme;

his cherished grandchildren, Joseph Salecky and his wife, Kristen, and Timothy Salecky; his sisters-in-law and their families, and many close family friends. In addition to his parents and his wife, Elizabeth, Roy was predeceased by his faithful golden retriever, Captain.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated for Roy on Monday, May 6 at St. Andrew Church, Guardian Angels Parish, in Colchester. A private burial ceremony will be held at a later date at the Salem Green Cemetery. Memorial donations in Roy’s honor may be made to the Fisher House Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 791598, Baltimore, MD 21279 or online at fisherhouse.org. To share a memory of Roy or condolence message with his family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

express their heartfelt gratitude to the Middlesex Health Hospice Program for their compassionate care given to their loved one. To share a memory of Roland or a condolence message to his family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Kathleen Culhane

Kathleen Culhane, of Colchester, passed away on May 1, 2024, at Middlesex Hospital after a sudden illness. She was 70 years old.



Kathleen was born in Brooklyn, NY on May 19, 1953, a daughter of the late John and Marion (McCarthy) Culhane. Kathleen grew up in Colchester on the Seven C’s horse farm. She graduated from Notre Dame Catholic High School. Kathleen was a parishioner of St. Andrew Catholic Church in Colchester throughout her lifetime. She retired several years ago after a career in insurance at both Traveler’s and AETNA Insurance companies. Kathleen was a very active member in her hometown community. She was a member and secretary of the Colchester Garden Club, a member of the Book Club and Quilting Club, a member and secretary of the former Colchester Grange, and a member of the Mt. Laurel Ski Club. Most importantly, fondly known as Kathy, she was an ever devoted and loving sister and aunt to her eight beloved nieces and nephews. Her loss will be mourned by many, but she will always be remembered with love.

Kathy leaves her siblings and their spouses, Tom ( Patricia) Culhane of Colchester, Gary (Lucille) Culhane of Parker, CO, Vincent Culhane of Colchester; Nephews and Nieces, Racheal Follacchio, Thomas (Kristen) Culhane, Steven Culhane, David Culhane, Christopher Culhane, Kelly Culhane, Sara Culhane and Fiancé, Sean Walsh, Jonathan Culhane, and Matthew Culhane; and many extended family members and friends. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her sister, Eileen.

Calling hours will be held at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester on Friday May 10, 2024 from 4 p.m.-6 p.m., and again on Saturday morning, May 11, 2024 from 9 a.m.- 10 a.m., followed by a celebration of the Funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Burial will follow in New Saint Andrew Cemetery.

In keeping with Kathy’s love of animals, donations in her memory may be made to the CT Humane Society, www.cthumane.org To share a memory of Kathleen or a condolence message to her family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Roland Forget

Roland Forget passed away peacefully at home on May 4, 2024. Born October 27, 1936, in Attleboro, MA, predeceased in death by his wife of 60 years, Ruth M. Forget. He was the son of the late Emilian and Camilla Forget.



Roland and Ruth were married on October 27, 1956 in Attleboro, MA. The couple started their family together in Attleboro, MA, before relocating to Oakdale, CT, in 1966. Upon graduation from high school, he served in the US Navy from 1954-1958. Roland then worked for the US Postal Service and Texas Instruments until relocating to CT. There he worked for the Naval Underwater Systems Center until his retirement in 1990. Upon retirement, Roland enjoyed golf and woodworking. In 2003, Roland and Ruth retired to The Villages in Florida where they enjoyed their new friends and golfing as a couple. They returned to Colchester, CT in 2009 to live out their later years close to family and friends.

Roland was the proud father of five children. He is survived by, Judith (Kevin) MacDonald of Norwich, CT, Daniel (Amy) Forget of Spanish Fort, AL, Timothy (Corinna) Forget of Fairhope, AL. Roland was also the proud grandfather of 14; great-grandfather of 20; brother to Yvette Forget Mercier; and friend to all who knew him. In addition to his wife and parents, he was predeceased by his daughters, Diane Bourdeau and Cathleen Forget; brothers, Gene and Roger Forget and sister, Rita Letourneau.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday, May 16th from 5-7 p.m. at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. A graveside service will be held on Friday, May 17th at 10 a.m. in the Chapel Mausoleum, St. Mary’s Cemetery, 600 Jefferson Ave, New London, CT 06320. Roland’s family would like to

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Obituaries

Hebron

Richard Sage

Richard Louis Sage age 89 of Hebron, CT, passed away peacefully on May 6, 2024. He was the beloved husband of Louise Sage for 66 years both born in New Haven, CT. He was the son of Louis and Doris (Eggleton) Sage of Hamden, CT, the brother of the late Joan Geffken (Sage) Burns of West Hartford and Margaret (Sage) Davidson of North Haven, CT. Father of Christopher Sage and his wife Patti of Monroe, CT, and Sharon (Sage) Stewart and her husband Jerry of Warsaw, MO. Richard also leaves behind grandchildren Amanda, Evan, Shane, and Shelby, numerous nieces, nephews, and great grandchild Oliver Stewart.



He worked most of his life at Travelers Insurance in Hartford, CT, in the print shop filling many roles during his decades long career. Avid gardener, organic farmer, and animal husbandry were passionate hobbies. His horse Jack brought him many years of pleasure riding, driving carriage, and even pulling a sleigh. He was good with his hands having built the house the family lived in for close to 60 years. He was a member of the Hebron Fire Department for a decade, an active member of St. Peters Episcopal Church and later a member of The Church of the Holy Family.

There will be a Catholic funeral service at Church of the Holy Family at 185 Church St, Amston, CT, on Saturday May 11th at 11 a.m. Burial will follow immediately thereafter at the New Hebron Cemetery on Wall Street.

hind two sons: Robert Jr. and William, daughter in law Cynthia, and two granddaughters Kayla and Ava.

Robert was a proud father, husband, and grandfather and was always there when someone needed a hand. He enjoyed playing music in his band in his younger years and conveyed to his sons the joy that music can bring. Robert also enjoyed his Sunday morning get togethers with his sons and best friend and drinking buddy, Jimmy Clark. There was never a loss for words or a dull moment at the kitchen table on Sunday mornings.

Robert was a very meticulous man and took great pride in always doing something to the best of your ability. He will be missed dearly by all that knew him.

Rest in peace Mr. D, we love you. Private services will be held at a later date. The Portland Memorial Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Portland

Barbara Ruitto

Barbara E. Ruitto, 85, of Portland passed peacefully at her home with her husband by her side on May 3rd.

Born August 9, 1938 in Southbridge, MA, she was the daughter of the late Clifford and Agnes Erickson. Barbara was a lifelong resident of Connecticut and was married to Dominic Ruitto for 23 years. They spent the last 20 years traveling throughout the United States in their motorhome, spending each winter in Florida by the ocean. Barbara enjoyed a variety of hobbies including sewing, ceramics, gardening, working on puzzles, and loved watching the UCONN Women's basketball. She was a great cook who could throw together a dinner for 10 people with little to no notice. Barbara retired from CMI in Manchester, CT. She was preceded in death by her son Jimmy Powell. Barbara is sur-

vived by her husband Dominic Ruitto and two daughters and their husbands, Vivian and Ray Webber, Joanne and Allen Coan, two granddaughters, Nicole and Courtney Webber. She is also survived by four sisters and one brother, Evelyn Malinowski, Karen Malinowski, Gloria Czerkie, Debbie Daigle, and Carl Erickson.

Services are private for immediate family only. The Portland Memorial Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

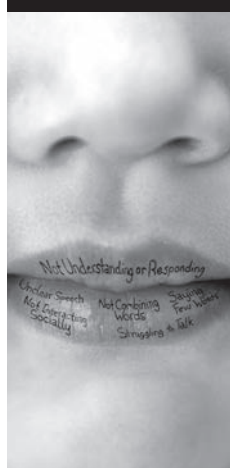
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Portland

Robert Deckelman

Robert H. Deckelman Sr., 86, of Portland passed away peacefully at his home with his devoted son Robert Deckelman Jr. by his side on Tuesday, April 30th.

Robert was born on February 17th, 1938, in Middletown, CT. He was the son of the late Christopher Deckelman and Agnes (Klare) Deckelman. Robert graduated in 1956 from Woodrow Wilson High School. Robert served in the army and worked for Bud's Plumbing and Heating for 40 years. Robert was the widower of Janice (Weglowski) Deckelman. He leaves be-



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**MOTHER**  
**I NEED YOU! WE NEED YOU!**

Because the House needs to be a HOME  
Because our Mother needs to be OUR MOTHER

Today, we are being pressured to disregard the erosion of **historic marriage** and family principles and practice. ENCOURAGEMENT to be a **normal, healthy** family is noted by its absence in the media, government, etc. which presents even that which is contrary. Determination to try to rightly steer straight faces many and varied opponents. These opponents are **determined to eliminate** mother, father, husband, wife—anything and everything that opposes the pursuit of their agenda **no matter the consequences**. Even today's social violence and unrest has at its root the **absence of a father and mother**. We are finding the **wrong road signs** and the **wrong roads**, calling wrong right and right wrong, calling evil good and good evil (Isaiah 5:20). We face the **ABSENCE** of MORAL and MENTAL STANDARDS, to be caught up along with the crowd, **trying** to belong, to become, to find oneself, to find peace, to find love, to find worth, to find values which inspire and overcome a society that has abandoned such. There is little to no recovery of the normal and natural God-created family setting. The **FAMILY** needs the **MOTHER**; the **NATION** needs the **FAMILY**.

**God's Pattern is Set:**  
"HONOR thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee" (Deut. 5:16; Eph. 6:2). "Whoever CURSES his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure [utter] darkness" (Prov. 20:20). "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and FORSAKE NOT the law of thy mother" (Prov. 1:8). "A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man DESPISETH his mother" (Prov. 15:20).

**God's Provision is Needed:**  
"This know also, that in the last days perilous [difficult] times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves...DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS, unthankful, unholy" (2 Tim. 3:1-2). "There is a generation that CURSETH their father, and doth not bless their mother. There is a generation that are pure IN THEIR OWN EYES" (Prov. 30:11-12). This is promoted by the age old "every man did that which was RIGHT IN HIS OWN EYES" (Judges 21:25). And "let us eat and drink; for tomorrow we shall die" (Isaiah 22:13). Take heart and know.

**God's Person is Found:**  
"I will LIFT UP MINE EYES unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. MY HELP COMETH FROM THE LORD, who made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1-2). "And YE SHALL SEEK ME, AND FIND ME, when ye shall search for Me with ALL YOUR HEART, and I WILL BE FOUND BY you, saith the LORD" (Jeremiah 29:13-14). "COME UNTO ME, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). The Nation, the Family and YOU need God and His sure and certain Word, the BIBLE.

**The Lord Jesus Christ** is waiting to provide for you the right and real relationship that God's RIGHTEOUSNESS requires and in which God's LIFE is found. This makes for life that is worth the living. You can find God's HELP and HOPE and ENCOURAGEMENT today. Why not begin RIGHT NOW and receive Him as your personal Saviour and Lord (John 1:10-13)! "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Act 16:31).

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**349 East Street, Middletown, CT 06457**  
Route 217 (East Street, Westfield) midway between Routes 66 and 372

**SUNDAY:**  
9:30 am Sunday School - all ages  
10:45 am Morning Worship  
6:30 pm Evening Worship

**WEDNESDAY:**  
7:30 pm  
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

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



After years of looking at a crooked lighthouse without a working light, Cole and Dalton Peszynski researched the history to find the current owners. When granted permission, the two set out to fix it to ensure boaters' safety near the rocky island. Photo by Cole Peszynski.

★ "Little Treasure" cont. from page 1

the boulder below. Over time, the ice was strong enough to move the boulder, making the lighthouse lean substantially. Dalton came up with the idea to use a bottle jack to lift the base of the lighthouse and place rocks underneath. After a tedious process of jacking and wedging rocks, they got the lighthouse as close to level as possible.

On the same day, Cole installed a temporary light but found the original code which led him to call the New York company, McDermott Light and Signal Incorporation. He told the company what he and his brother were doing and managed to get the exact one.

On Dec. 2, he installed the brand-new solar panel light which holds a charge for 10 days without sun, flashes 20 times per minute and turns off during the day. The light flashes every night and can be seen from CVS and if

the weather is clear, Sears Park. "We were lucky to have nice weather and the water was low enough," commented Cole. "It has over 100 years of history. We wanted to do something for the longest time, and we were happy to finally do it."

Cole and Dalton's grandmother, Lynn, sees the light from her porch and calls it "our little treasure." She was proud of the boys and was happy someone cared enough to maintain it. "People do treasure the Lake Pocotopaug Lighthouse," Lynn added.

Though the larger projects are behind them, there are a few things the boys plan to do when the water level goes down again. The point at the top of the lighthouse broke, but Cole saved all the parts to repair it later. He commented, "It also needs a paint job, but we'll get there one day."

**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.

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**Prepared, not scared.**

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

# LEGALS

**Town of Portland**

Legal notice is hereby given to the water and/or sewer usage customers of the Town of Portland that quarterly bills are due and payable April 17, 2024. Payments not made in full on or before May 17, 2024 will be subject to interest of 1.5% per month from the due date.

Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the charge. Please contact the Water/Sewer department if you do not receive your bill at (860) 342-6735 or by email [darce@portlandct.org](mailto:darce@portlandct.org)

Please feel free to leave your payment in the drop box located to the right of the back door at the Town Hall, which is located at 33 East Main St., Portland, CT or by mail at the address listed below.

Town of Portland  
Water/Sewer Dept.  
P.O. Box 71  
Portland, CT 06480-0071  
Cynthia L. Gotta, CCMC  
Town of Portland  
Collector of Revenue

3TB 4/12, 4/26, 5/10

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF AGENT DECISION**

Notice is hereby given that on May 8, 2024, the Duly Authorized Agent for the Colchester Conservation Commission made the following decision:

**W2024-3099** - 152 Stanavage Rd; Zachary Caldwell - Applicant/Owner; Assessor's ID 03-03-021-005; Proposed single family home with excavation, filling, tree clearing and erosion & sediment controls within 75' Upland Review Area. - **APPROVED WITH STANDARD CONDITIONS.**

Dated May 8, 2024  
Conservation Commission  
Falk von Plachecki, Chair

1 TB 5/10

**Legal Notice TOWN OF COLCHESTER Selectmen's Office 127 Norwich Avenue - Colchester, CT 06415 Tel (860) 537-7220 INVITATION TO BID**

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids by which the Town of Colchester will contract for the

**New Senior Center Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment RFP #2024-SC-1/SC-2**

will be received in the Selectmen's Office, Colchester Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave, until

**2:00 pm, Thursday, May 23, 2024**

when bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at Colchester Town Hall, Meeting Room #1.

A bid bond for five percent (5%) of the base bid cost is required and must accompany each proposal.

Bids must be held firm for ninety (90) days beyond the bid opening date.

The successful bidder must file a one hundred percent (100%) Performance Bond, a one hundred percent (100%) Labor & Materials Bond and a Certificate of Insurance with the Purchasing Agent within ten (10) days of notice of bid award.

Attention of bidders is directed to certain requirements of this contract which require compliance with certain local, state, and federal requirements.

Plans and specifications must be obtained directly from the Town of Colchester's website, [www.colchesterct.gov/doing-business-colchester](http://www.colchesterct.gov/doing-business-colchester), under the RFP/RFQ tab, at no cost to the Contractor.

**Each bidder is responsible for checking the website to determine if any addenda have been issued.**

The Town of Colchester reserves the right to reject any and all bids or any part thereof, or to waive defects in same, or to accept any proposal, or part thereof, deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Colchester for whatever reason.

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.  
Minority/Women's Business Enterprises are encouraged to apply.

1 TB 5/10

**LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF ANDOVER ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING 7:00 P.M., MAY 16, 2024 COMMUNITY ROOM - TOWN HALL 17 SCHOOL ROAD**

The Andover Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m., May 16, 2024 in the Community Room of the Andover Town Hall, 17 School Road to solicit comment on the application of Walter Tedford for the property located at 25 Lakeside Drive. The applicant is seeking relief from Section 11.2 of the Andover Zoning Regulations so as to allow for the reduction in the required side yard setback by 9'; from 25' to 16' in order to construct a 4.5' x 10' deck.

Comments/questions regarding the application will be entertained at the hearing. Written comments submitted to the Building and Land Use Office ([zoning@andoverct.org](mailto:zoning@andoverct.org)) a minimum of 24 hours prior to the meeting will be read aloud and entered into the Public Hearing record. Additional details can be found on line at the Town of Andover's web-site or by visiting the Building and Land Use Office at the Andover Town Hall, 17 School Road or by calling 860.742.7305, extension 4220.

Jim Hallisey  
Zoning Agent

2 TB 5/3, 5/10

**ADVERTISERS**

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

# 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.

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**greg@rarereminder.com**

CITZ-8-24



# LEGALS

## TOWN OF PORTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, May 23, 2024 at a meeting to start at 7:00 p.m. in the Buck Foreman Room (2nd Floor), 265 Main Street, Portland, CT. Application #23-03: 5 Gloria Heights. Request for a variance from Zoning Regulation 9.15.1.A to allow construction of a 48 ft length of 6 ft tall fence in the front yard where 4.5 ft maximum height is allowed. Application and property of Jose and Molly Otero. Assessor's Map 59, Lot 28. Zone R-25. At this hearing interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received. A copy of this application is available for public review in the Portland Land Use Department. Dated at Portland, CT this 7th day of May 2024. Joan Giesemann, Chair

2 TB 5/10, 5/17

## Legal Notice Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

The Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission RECEIVED the following applications at their Regular Meeting on May 6, 2024:  
 • Permit Application IWWC #24-03: Timothy White, 101 Gilead Road. Installation of an overflow pipe that will connect an existing plunge pool with an existing man made pond.  
 • Permit Application IWWC #24-04: Steven Nelson, 14 Lakeview Drive. Installation of a 16-foot x 8-foot prefabricated aluminum and composite dock extending into Andover Lake.  
 Questions: If you have any questions regarding the above notice, please contact the Andover Wetlands Agent at 860-742-7305 x4221 or email wetlands@andoverct.org, or buildingadmin@andoverct.org

1 TB 5/10

## COLCHESTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Historic District Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 13, 2024, at 7:00 P.M., in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 127 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415 to hear and consider the following petition:  
**Certificate of Appropriateness- COA 2024-001** of The Granite Group/Sink & Spout (Applicant) and Todd Gustafson (Owner)- 120 South Main Street (MBL # 16-00/070-000) – Application for Certificate of Appropriateness to install street and building signage for the Granite Group/Sink & Spout showroom.  
 At this hearing interested parties may be heard and written communications received. A copy of this petition is available for public inspection in the Planning and Zoning Department at Colchester Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester CT 06415 and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday) Historic District Commission  
 Ellen Sharon, Chair

2 TB 5/3, 5/10

## Town of Portland Notice of Budget Referendum Monday May 13, 2024

Pursuant to Chapter 12, Section 1201, of the Charter of the Town of Portland and Chapter 90 and 152, of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, as amended, notice is hereby given to the electors and the citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of Portland that a Referendum will be held on May 13, 2024 between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. for the purpose of voting on the adoption of a budget for the Town of Portland.  
 "SHALL THE GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT ITS MEETING OF APRIL 3, 2024, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, AMOUNT BEING \$40,050,813 BE ADOPTED?"  
 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notice is hereby given that the location of the polling place is:  
 Portland Middle School  
 93 High Street  
 Portland, Connecticut  
 Absentee ballots are available at the Town Clerk's Office at 33 East Main Street, Portland, Connecticut during business hours. Absentee ballots will be counted at the polls. Optical Scan Voting Tabulators will be used. The polls will be opened at six o'clock in the morning (6:00 A.M.) and will remain open until eight o'clock in the evening. (8:00 P.M.)  
 ATTEST: Michael V. Tierney  
 Portland Town Clerk  
 Dated at Portland, Connecticut this 29th day of April, 2024.

2 TB 5/3, 5/10

## 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, May 14, 2024, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, on the following:  
 1. **Petition #2024-14** - Application of the Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission to approve a comprehensive update of the Hebron Plan of Conservation and Development, as provided for in Section 8-23 of the Connecticut General Statutes, a copy of the draft Plan is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.  
**Planning and Zoning Commission**  
 May 14, 2024, 7:00-10:00 PM (America/New\_York)  
**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**  
<https://meet.goto.com/541828197>  
**You can also dial in using your phone.**  
 Access Code: 541-828-197  
 United States: +1 (224) 501-3412  
**Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:**  
<https://meet.goto.com/install>  
 Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 30th day of April 2024.  
 Frank Zitkus, Chair

2 TB 5/3, 5/10

## TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing and regular meeting on May 1, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Eaton Smith Council Chambers Room 107 and via ZOOM Virtual Meeting to consider and decide the following:  
 PZC-24-003 Theodore Hintz Jr., 46 Keighley Pond Rd., Special Permit for Lighting of Outdoor Athletic facility for existing horse ring in R2 Zone. Map 01C/ Block 10/ Lot 11- Approved with Modifications.  
 PZC-24-004: Abduwahid Alsharabe, 42 East High Street, Site Plan Review for Smoke Shop in C Zone. Map 05A/ Block 62A/ Lot 10 – Approved.  
 PZC-24-005: Out Front LLC, 35 West High St., Site Plan for Showroom/Office in C Zone. Map 01A/ Block 47/ Lot 3A – Approved.  
 Further details of these decisions are available in the Town of East Hampton Land Use Office.  
 Kevin Kuhr, Chairman

1 TB 5/10

## To enrolled members of the Democratic Party of the Town of Portland, Connecticut

Pursuant to the Rules of the Democratic Party and State election laws, you are hereby notified that a caucus will be held on: 5/23/24 @ 6:30pm at the Portland Senior Center 7 Waverly Ave, Portland, CT 06480 to endorse candidates for Justice of the Peace in Portland and to transact other business as may be proper to come before said caucus. Please note, you must attend the caucus in person and there is no Zoom option. Dated at Portland, Connecticut, on May 6, 2024 Democratic Town Committee of Portland  
 Andrea Alfano  
 Chairwoman

1 TB 5/10

## MARLBOROUGH ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION

The Marlborough Zoning Commission at its regular meeting on May 2, 2024, took the following actions:  
 MOTION CONTINUED:  
 APPLICATION #Z-07-24 – Greylock Property Group, LLC (Applicant) Terramuggus LLC (Property Owner) 156 & 163 No Main St, Special Permit- 48 Unit Multi-Family Development APPLICATION APPROVED:  
 APPLICATION #Z-06-24 – 1 Kimberly Way (Applicant) Matthew & Kristen Gomez (Property Owner) Construction of Accessory Building and Dwelling  
 APPLICATION #Z-08-24 – 7 E Hampton Rd (Applicant) Big Y (Property Owner) Installation of two locked and ventilated LPG display containing forty-two cylinders  
 ERIC COLANTONIO, ZONING COMMISSION CHAIR

1 TB 5/10

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PETS

**DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES:** starting soon. Offering Puppy Kindergarten, Basic Manners/What Rescue Dogs Need and Want; CGC/Therapy; Scent Work. Over 25 years experience. Michelle Larson, Paws-N-Heel DTC, 860-267-6040. paws-n-heeltraining.com.

## CLASSES

**ART CLASSES:** Landscape painting and drawing. All abilities welcome. individual attention, small groups. Studio: otchet@gmail.com.



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# REAL ESTATE

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If anyone refused to rent to you because of your source of income, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, religion, marital status, age, disability or because you have children, you may have been the victim of illegal housing discrimination. Contact the Connecticut Fair Housing Center.



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 www.angelaaresco.com  
 RES-10-24

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 □ \$9.00 per week for 25 words or less in the *Rivereast News Bulletin*; 20¢ for each additional word.  
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 Please make checks payable to: *The Glastonbury Citizen*

## 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

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CT12-21-23



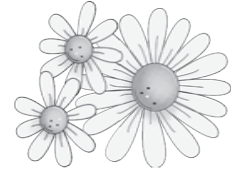
# EMPLOYMENT

**ASSISTANCE FOR DISABLED GENTLEMAN WITH CP:** in Middletown. Twice per day, 7 days a week. 2 hours per shift. Mornings and dinners. Looking to hire ASAP. Please email pcahelp@gmail.com.

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**CARPENTER / LABORER:** Commercial/Industrial General Contractor seeking for full-time skilled tradespeople. \$20 to \$35 per hour. Must have reliable transportation. Must be able to pass a background check. Please send resumes to Mark@BuildingConstructionContractors.com.

**CLEANER WANTED:** in busy Bakery. Stop in to Marlborough Country Bakery for an application.



**CLEANERS SUMMER:** 2-3-person team to thoroughly clean 7 br home after weekly rentals. Experienced with own equipment. Disinfect/clean entire house. Blow off deck/balconies, clean outdoor tables for new family arrival. Required to clean 11am-3pm, Saturday or Sunday depending upon rental. Drop off and pick up linens part of job. \$425 per cleaning. Please call evenings 860-985-4534.

**COOK AND WAITRESS WANTED:** Starting pay for cook \$19 to \$21 an hour to start. Please apply in person looking for someone to start immediately. Eggs Up Grill, Rt.66, Portland.

**FULL TIME OFFICE HELP:** Small local company offering a full time clerical position. Candidate must be able to multi-task and be well organized. One of the primary duties includes assisting in the development of project sales quotations. Other duties may include phone answering, filing, order entry & expediting. Training provided. \$20-\$25 an hour DOE / Plus benefits! Apply in person at: Yost Associates 224 Eastern Blvd, Glastonbury. M-F 8:00-5:00. Positively no phone calls.

**HIRING EXPERIENCED PAINTER & Painter Helpers:** Full-time, year round, commercial work. Must have transportation to Glastonbury. Call 860-659-2023, afternoons.

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The East Hampton Public Library seeks a part-time Public Service Associate with excellent technology skills and a passion for working with the public. Approximately 15-19 hours per week at \$16.90 per hour. Must be able to work one evening per week and one Saturday every three weeks. Responsibilities including assisting patrons at the circulation desk; answering patron questions about technology, collection, and research; and providing superior customer service. Additional responsibilities may include planning and running library programs for children, teens, and adults. A great opportunity for library school students. Library experience preferred. Strong communication, customer service, and computer skills essential. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and employment application to: Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton CT 06424 or by email to Human Resources at lseymour@easthamptonct.gov by May 20, 2024 or until filled. EOE/AA/M-F. 1 TB 5/10

### Part Time Speech Pathologist

Andover Elementary School currently has a part time Speech & Language Pathologist opening for the 2024-2025 school year. **Qualifications:** **Certification/License:** Appropriate Connecticut State Certification for subject/grade level. **Education:** Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university. Master's Degree as per state requirements. **Experience:** Student teaching, practicum, and/or state-approved preparation. Experience working with children is desired. **To Apply:** Applicants who wish to apply should go to the school website to locate a copy of the application and submit a copy of their Resume, Certification, Transcripts, and three (3) current letters of reference directly to the Principal: Taylor Parker, 35 School Road, Andover, CT 06232, or via email to: parkert@andoverelementaryct.org. 8TB 4/12, 4/19, 4/26, 5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31

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**ESTATE SALE:** Furniture, decorations, dishes, some free items, and more. Saturday May 25th-Sunday 26th, 9:00am-3:00pm. 31 Kramer Rd., Colchester. Tom 860-367-1952.

**FLEA MARKET:** WAIM 866 Main Street, Willimantic. May 18th, 8am-12pm. Exercise bike, lamps, coffee & end tables, costume jewelry, roll-top decks, curio cabinets, chairs, glassware, collectibles.

**LARGE TAG SALE:** 100 Old Common Rd, Wethersfield. 5/11 9-2. Vintage items, lots of interior decor from remodels, holiday items, window treatments, artwork.

**GARAGE SALE:** Friday May 10th, 9am-3pm. Saturday May 11th, 9am- 4pm. 40 Midwood Farm Rd East Hampton. Tools, grills, patio furniture, refrigerator, tool boxes, work bench.

**GARAGE SALE:** 5/11 & 5/18, 9am-4pm. 91 Bush Rock Road, Colchester. Kayaks, gas grill, tools, household, and more!

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