

News Bulletin

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

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Abundance of Books...Gilead Congregational Church in Hebron doubled their spring book collection goal, amassing a total of two thousand books to benefit the Connecticut-based "Read to Grow" program. The collection was organized by GCC's Sunday School and greatly surpassed the initial goal of one thousand books. The church said this accomplishment was made possible by the congregation members and community's heartfelt generosity and will directly benefit families in need, fostering literacy and a love for reading across the state. Pictured surrounded by boxes full of books ready for donation are Carter Kompanik, Evelyn Biggs, and Alice and Matthew Helweg.

Bacon Graduates Commence Forward

By Michael Sinkewicz

"You will always be a Bobcat."

Bacon Academy Principal Amy Begué offered a sentimental reminder to the class of 2024 last Friday just moments before they turned their tassels left, tossed their caps towards the rafters and took their first steps into the future.

For the second straight year, inclement weather shifted Colchester's commencement ceremony indoors, but nothing could dampen the spirit of 149 high school seniors as they reached the culmination of 13 years of local education.

After successfully navigating the halls of 611 Norwich Avenue, completing tests and essays while absorbing the reverberations from COVID-19, there was a well-earned sense of accomplishment inside the Dave Shea Gymnasium.

Channeling the memorable graduation speech delivered by Reese Witherspoon's character Elle Woods in 2001's "Legally Blonde," class president Mia Belcamino exclaimed, "We did it!"

Sporting royal blue gowns, the graduates entered to "Pomp and Circumstance," drawing applause from eagerly awaiting parents and siblings who hoisted their cameras in hopes of securing the perfect snapshot from a once-in-a-lifetime moment.

Although there may have been some initial disappointment resulting from the ceremony being displaced once again — including from those in attendance who crammed into the bleachers and used their programs to stir the humid air — the excitement at Bacon's 221st commencement was palpable and quickly trumped any lingering discontent. The scoreboard above the graduates fittingly displayed the result "20-24," and some in the crowd waved celebratory balloons.

After Superintendent of Schools Daniel Sullivan III officially certified the outgoing class, each graduate made the walk across the stage, clutching their diploma that represents the climax of the high school career.

"Remember the invaluable lessons you've learned within these walls about respect, responsibility, achievement and compassion," Begué instructed her former students. "Cherish the memories you've made and hold them close as you venture into the future, and always remember, you will always be a Bobcat."

Begué also acknowledged the empty chair for Andra Spencer, who tragically died in 2022 at beginning of her junior year. Her parents were welcomed to the stage to receive gifts in her memory, and as part of their senior gift, Spencer's classmates are funding a memorial garden in front of the school that will honor students and staff who passed away while active at Bacon Academy.

"We carry the memories of her bright smile, infectious laughs and vibrant personality with us always," said Begué.

'We're Just So Proud'

In their remarks at the podium, Carolyn Baehr and Abigail Belding — the valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively — emphasized the importance of living in the moment and maintaining individuality.

Baehr told a story of her mom escaping traffic congestion by simply going around the obstacle in front of her.

"Is she cutting all those people off or is she carving her own path?" Baehr asked rhetorically.

She urged her classmates not to be sheep, who are often afraid to be different.

See Bacon Graduates, page 24

Hebron Kicks Off Summer and Marks Juneteenth

By Michael Sinkewicz

Thousands of residents swarmed Burnt Hill Park over the weekend to celebrate "Hebron Day" and properly kick off the summer.

After last year's edition was canceled due to inclement weather, the community was gifted a gorgeous afternoon on Saturday, perfect for a friendly game of ladder golf or enjoying a rain-bow-sprinkled ice cream cone.

"It went so well," said Brianna Alessio, a program supervisor with Hebron Parks and Recreation, who organized the day. "We couldn't have asked for a better event."

Featuring over 70 vendors, a car show presented by Ted's IGA Supermarket and horse wagon rides, the 2024 extravaganza was billed as the most extensive and eye-catching yet; it was roughly twice the size of the version from just a few years ago. Although there wasn't an official

headcount, Alessio estimated that roughly 2,000 people showed up — most likely a record for the event.

"People were coming in the entire time," she recalled.

Typically, Alessio continued, the most stressful moments occur in the hours leading up to the start of the event, as vendors set up and get situated in their prepared spots. But she cheerfully reported zero hiccups and the scheduled itinerary proceeded with only positive momentum.

The next likely spot for turbulence would've been around noon, roughly the halfway point of the event. Instead of the anticipated lull, energy at the park actually increased, Alessio said, as the Ghost Notes Drumline weaved through a packed field of vendors, drawing large crowds as their notes echoed throughout the confines.

For the parks and recreation department, the event was a welcome spark for the summer season and a strong indication of what's in store for future festivities. Even residents who didn't attend the kickoff over the weekend have begun reaching out to see what's next on the schedule.

"It's encouraging to see so many people with genuine interest in our programs," Alessio expressed.

Juneteenth Celebration

The Coalition on Diversity and Equity (CoDE) took advantage of the weekend event to sponsor its third annual Juneteenth celebration at the Peters House — located towards the front of the park — drawing in heavy foot traffic for residents looking to mark the national holiday. (Juneteenth was officially celebrated earlier this

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OLD HOME DAYS

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Softball Standouts... The 2024 girls softball team at Bacon Academy Softball had an outstanding year, finishing with an 18-6 record. They produced four Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) Division II First-Team All-Stars in Sammi D'Atri, Reina Hill, Jazlyn Small-Yu, and Riley Stolzman, along with a Division II Sportsmanship Athlete selection in Jaime Filbert. They also had one Division II Scholar Athlete (D'Atri) and one All-state athlete (Small-Yu). In the Class M State Tournament, the Bobcats knocked out the top-seed in the quarterfinals and finished top four in the state. They also finished the season undefeated at home for the first time in a decade. Pictured, top row from left; assistant coach Dennis Reid, assistant coach Cindy Hardy, Reina Hill, Jazlyn Small-Yu (Captain), Talia Ramos, Meghan Walsh, Natalia Vernali, Reagan Reid, Julia Cavaliere, Riley Stolzman, and manager/head coach Anna Diperro. Bottom row, from left; Jaime Filbert, Madison Brown, Sammi D'Atri (Captain), Audra Putorti, and Lily Gould. Not pictured: Kellen Conelly

Bulletin Board

If you're tired of all the doubletalk and general baloney we're subjected to these days from everyone from politicians and TV "pundits" to the fast-talking guy on your phone trying to get you to renew a car warranty you never had in the first place, you may find the following collection of "cowboy" sayings refreshing. They're from a book called "Don't Squat With Yer Spurs On!—A Cowboy's Guide to Life" by Texas Bix Bender, whose real name was Stephen Cook Arwood.

Turns out Tex (or Stephen) was actually from Nashville, Tenn., which I'm not sure qualifies as cowboy country, but I'll give him a pass because his homespun sayings took me to a time when simple honesty and plain old common sense still had value—virtues that seem to be in short supply these days. Hope you enjoy them as much as I did—and like the man says, "Don't squat with your spurs on!"

- Never take to sawing on the branch that's supporting you, unless you're being hung from it.
 - he biggest liar you'll ever have to deal with probably watches you shave his face in the mirror every morning.
 - Never ask a barber if he thinks you need a haircut.
 - After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him. The moral: when you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut.
 - If you get to thinking you're a person of some influence, try ordering somebody else's dog around.
 - Talk low, talk slow, and don't say too much.
 - Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
 - Always drink upstream from the herd.
 - Telling a man to go to hell and making him do it are two entirely different propositions.
 - Never drop your gun to hug a grizzly.
 - No matter where you ride to, that's where you are.
 - If you're gonna go, go like hell. If your mind's not made up, don't use you spurs.
 - Anybody can pretend to care, but they can't pretend to be there.
 - A lot of good luck is undeserved, but then so is a lot of bad luck.
 - There's two theories to arguing with women. Neither one works.
 - The quickest way to double your money is to fold it over and put it back in your pocket.
 - Never miss a good chance to shut up.
 - If you're gonna drive cattle through town, do it on Sunday. There's little traffic and people are more prayerful and less disposed to cuss at you.
 - Always take a good look at what you're about to eat. It's not so important to know what it is, but it's critical to know what it was.
 - Don't get mad at somebody who knows more 'n you do. It ain't their fault.
 - Nobody ever drowned himself in his own sweat.
 - No tree is too big for a short dog to lift his leg on.
 - Only a buzzard feeds on his friends.
 - Never lie unless you have to, and if you don't have a damn good lie, stick to the truth.
 - It's best to keep your troubles pretty much to yourself, 'cause half the people you'd tell 'em to won't give a damn, and the other half will be glad to hear you've got 'em.
 - The length of a conversation don't tell nothin' about the size of the intellect.
 - When you're picking a working horse, look for one named Screwtail, Stump Sucker, Pat's Ass, Pearly Gates, Liver Pill, or Darlin' Jill. Leave the Champions and Silvers for the show ring.
 - Never get up before breakfast. If you have to get up before breakfast, eat breakfast first.
 - After weeks of beans and taters, even a change to taters and beans is good.
- And finally:
- If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging.
- Amen.

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.

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Thank You

To the Editor:

Thank you to everyone that took the time to sign my petition to primary for the Republican Registrar of Voters. I look forward to the primary on August 13, 2024 and am confident with your support I will be able to continue to serve the voters of our wonderful town.

Sincerely,

John F. Richmond – Hebron

Special Thanks

To the Editor

A special thanks to Portland's First Selectman Ryan Curley who approved the request and the Department of Public Works which picked up lawn debris from the May 19th God's Work ~ Our Hands project. Several property owners welcomed church members to their homes who assisted with lawn work, property maintenance and some household chores. The town pick-up of the yard debris and disposal of other items was appreciated by all involved. This project was coordinated by the Missions Board with The First Congregational Church of Portland.

Sandie Lavoy – Portland Resident and Secretary of the Missions Board

Hebron's Living Legacy

To the Editor:

Thank you to all those that came out to Hebron's Juneteenth Celebration and to the Coalition on Diversity and Equity (CoDE) for hosting such a remarkable event. The bright sunshine perfectly matched the spectacular array of performers, vendors, volunteers and visitors, each one bringing something special to the festivities.

Without doubt the highlight of the day was meeting the descendants of Cesar Peters. This delightful family is a vibrant link to Hebron's diverse history and a powerful living legacy. The saga of Cesar Peters' enslavement and emancipation offers unusual insight into the intriguing dynamic between enslaved African Americans, free Black people and the white community in Hebron in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

It is time the town of Hebron recognizes the importance of Cesar Peters and his significance to the story of slavery and freedom. I can think of no more fitting tribute than to preserve the farm fields and stonewall laneways where Cesar, his sons and grandson worked and strived for a better life. These fields are the centerpiece of 17 Kinney Road, as described by Stefon Danczuk, Archaeological Circuit Rider with Preservation Connecticut, "This site of history presents a unique opportunity for the town to engage

with its past and protect the places that matter to their community." The boundless potential of the area has also been recognized by Dr. John Demos, Professor of American History at Yale University, who stated "There are so many different parts: geology, environment, indigenous people, colonists, enslavement, even the present. It could well be a history park, an outdoor museum."

The Cesar Peters History Park could be an exceptional educational center and unique tourist attraction that offers visitors the chance to explore Hebron's unique and diverse history. For more information, please visit Save Hebron Center on Facebook and #Save17.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

Scenic Delight

To the Editor:

"Sky rockets in flight, afternoon delight..." Starland Vocal Band.

All over Connecticut June means flowering shrubs and trees. Every year we spend a delightful afternoon in Old Lyme enjoying the state flower. Last year we timed it perfectly and the Mountain Laurel were in full bloom. It was a cracker of a year for them as well as for the invasive flowering trees on Kinney Road. Like them or not, they can be really pretty. But this year our timing was off, and the Mountain Laurel seemed to be passed peak. Some said it was an off year for this plant, proving, once again, that nature is predictably unpredictable.

On our way home we came up Church Street and began to smile. Pulling into Kinney Road we both exclaimed how we had just driven to Old Lyme for great flower peeping and Hebron was more lovely than anything we had seen all day. Lovely because the multiflora wild roses were in full bloom and quite spectacular. Creamy, pure, white flowers against a backdrop of deep green mature leaves, all surrounded by prickles, highlighted by a wonderful soft scent, there is much to enjoy. These hearty plants are invasive but also offer good cover for birds and bugs while enhancing the rustic charm of one of the oldest and most scenic roads in Hebron, Kinney Road.

Sometimes we don't know what we have until it's gone. Before ripping out the roots of Kinney Road, with development of any kind, let's take a moment to stop and smell the roses and appreciate what we have. Clean air and water, abundant space for man and beast, quiet harmony in a mellow well-loved neighborhood full of scenic delights is something many believe to be far more important than "progress". #save17

Jean Tulimieri – Amston

RIVEREAST

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

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

Too Much Trash

Dear Editor:
Once-pristine lands are now being cluttered with plastic bottles and fast-food wrappers. The reality of littering in the state of CT is not going away. Although there are laws in place to combat such an issue, citizens are more inclined to do what is more convenient over what is right.

I am writing to you to express my concerns for the health of our environment. Not only does littering affect the visual appeal of the state, but more importantly the function of nature and its creatures. According to the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), the amount of litter is polluting our bodies of water. This directly endangers both the quality of the water and the life living in it. It belittles the natural beauty of the land around us and threatens local organisms. Littering, especially near highways and roads, creates unsanitary conditions that could potentially lead to public health and safety concerns. This could include when such amounts of trash and debris are blocking storm drains and pose hazards to anyone on the road.

By addressing these issues, we can reduce litter along our highways and waterways and protect our natural resources. Thus, creating an environment that is not only cleaner, but safer as well. There are so many ways to get involved, join an environmental clean-up initiative, avoid using single-use plastics, and promote anti-littering laws. Nature has always taken care of us, now it's our responsibility to return the favor.

Sincerely,
Jazlyn Small-Yu – Colchester

Poll Worker Appreciation

To the Editor:
About 2,250 registered voters participated in the recent budget referendum: more than for last year's budget referendum, but still less than one-fifth of the registered voters. The Board of Selectmen and Board of Education budgets both passed by relatively slim margins... but they passed. There will not have to be another referendum, which would have cost the Town more money, required another round of voter turnout, and possibly brought greater scrutiny by the State of Connecticut.

Whatever you thought of the respective budgets, please consider this: the budget process requires dedication and effort by many elected officials and Town employees. These folks deserve our thanks and appreciation. Another group deserving our appreciation are the people who man the polls for referenda and elections. Connecticut election officials depend on reliable, dedicated poll workers to assist voters in making their voice heard at the polls. These individuals are civic-minded, detail-oriented, patient, and take pride in their work. On June 11, those poll workers were John, Julie, Sara, Ursula, Carol, Amy, Rich, Jim, Peg, Joanne, Lori, Cheryl, and the two ladies who came to count absentee ballots. (I did not get their names. My apologies ladies.) In addition to the day of the vote, our

Registrars of Voters spend time in preparation to ensure that the process goes as smoothly as possible. This includes extensive training and a knowledge of the laws and rules governing voting. The day of the vote begins at 5:15 a.m. and does not end until all votes are accurately tallied and reported. On the 11th this was not until about 10:00 p.m. Thank you to all of the above people for serving Colchester!

John Barnowski – Colchester

Joyful Heart

Dear Editor:
It is with joyful hearts that we write this letter of thanks to everyone who participated in CoDE's third Juneteenth Celebration! It was a beautiful day filled with music, dancing, drumming, and learning! It was truly a community event and we are deeply grateful for the tremendous support we received.

Our supporters included: Craig Bryant and staff of the Parks and Recreation Department, and Rich Marzi, volunteer extraordinaire. Town officials Andy Tierney, Donna Lanza, and the Hebron Board of Selectmen. Karl Jancis, teacher, and RHAM Middle School students, who shared their Witness Stones Project work. MaryAnn Foote and Jon Minard from the Historic Properties Commission; Sue Porter and Mary Ellen Gonci from the Hebron Historical Society; John Baron and Kevin Tulimieri, local historians; Sarah Sportman, State Archeologist; Drusilla Carter and Lida Carroll from Douglas Library. Ed Fournier and Boy Scout Troop 28, Chris and Cathy Gerke, and Tim Kane. Gilead Congregational Church. Performance Physical Therapy.

Funders: The Greater Together Hebron Community Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, Town of Hebron, William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund, FOX61 Making An Impact Foundation, Hochberg Committee for Holocaust and Human Rights Education, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Century 21 AllPoints Realty, Hebron, Northeast Family Federal Credit Union, Berkshire Bank, Hebron Travel.

St. Peter's Church Youth Group Performers: Lisa Clayton Singers, EvaE Peart/Nia Arts (dancing and drumming), Frederick-Douglass Knowles (poetry), Raouf Mama (storytelling), Sisters in Stitches: Joined by the Cloth (quilting)
And to our special guests – more like family now – the Peters family: We are honored that you come back each year to be with us. To Zakiyyah Peters Hasan, who was an integral part of the planning committee and organized a special

performance involving the Peters family depicting the history of their ancestors (Cesar and Lois Peters) – we are deeply grateful.

Thank you to all!

Althea Carr – Hebron

(Althea is a member of the Board of the Coalition on Diversity & Equity (CoDE) and chair of the Juneteenth Committee, along with Carol Geyer and Donna Jolly)

Portland Ethic\$

To the Editor:
At the May 30 Planning & Zoning meeting two members from the BOS stood before the commission to voice their support for the Brainard Place application after being warned by a former Selectman not to use their position to pressure commission members. Commission members are voted on yearly by the BOS. Therefore, pressuring commissioners to sway their vote is an ethics violation. The two BOS members were 1st Selectman Curley and selectman Pelton.

When Pelton was asked why he ignored the warning he stated, "to represent my people." Which was an admission that he was acting as a BOS member for the purpose of swaying votes in favor of the applicant.

This was not the first time Pelton had used his position to influence a vote, or for personal benefit. Over the past 2+ years while sitting on the BOS, Pelton has reaped benefits that no other business has had within the town or schools.

An example of the personal and financial benefits Pelton has reaped over the past 2 years can be seen on the new Portland town website <http://portland.recdesk.com> under Adult & children programs. The web page under "Youth Gymnastics" and "Martial Arts" will take a viewer directly to Pelton's business on Marlborough Street. All other links on the same web page are either town sponsored programs or classes held by individuals providing a service, without a physical address. These same programs are displayed on the Portland Park & Rec Facebook page. I would assume other businesses in town offering children's programs would like their own link on the town website. Although Pelton

says he's giving back to the community, it appears like he's been doing much more taking.

As ethics is ignore concerns mount as the swamp fills in Portland.

Rose Aletta – Portland

Misled

Dear Editor,
The Colchester Budget article accurately reflected the numbers and quotes from Board meetings. It missed a huge story. A story is missing because the Board never put it in public record.

State law and local policy gives the Boards two powerful tools. The first is the ability to transfer money between line items of the voters approved the budget. Town audits that show consistently hundreds of thousands of dollars transferred between line items to cover cost over runs. The second is not being required to spend all the money as presented to the voter. The town audits show millions of dollars over time being redirected from presented community services to the Town coffers.

As a result, as an ex-member of the BoE and BoF, it troubled me to read some quotes in the article. "Injecting new funding into the community" is misleading. Guaranteed after the audit is made public two years from now, all the spending approved by voters will not go where voters approved.

FS Dennler positioned the elections as a choice between increased spending or potential cutting back of town services moving forward. That also was misleading. The operative word was "potential" not "will". He did or should have known there was cushion in the budget. He might as well have said vote yes or risk getting hit by lightning. The odds are about the same.

Lastly, the Superintendent billing the "status quo" budget "to keep a good thing going" is truly misleading. His budget included some hefty increases for himself, administrators and some other educators. For them, it was a good thing going. As for our children being significantly better educated. That is not a given either.

Sincerely,
James D. McNair III – Colchester

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Game of Throws



Classic cars on display on "Hebron Day"

★ *Hebron Kicks Off Summer cont. from page 1* week on June 19.)

According to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, after the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect in 1863, it was not implemented in sections of the country under the purview of the Confederacy.

Enslaved individuals in Texas — the western-most state in the Confederacy — did not receive their freedom until June 19, 1865, when Union forces entered Galveston Bay to deliver the official order; the day became known as "Juneteenth."

Along with a variety of arts and crafts booths, residents also jumped on a narrated bus tour through different historic sites. Inside the Peters House itself, Sisters by Sisters: Joined by the Cloth displayed quilts and highlighted the history of quilt making in the Black community. RHAM Middle School students also presented their Witness Stones projects, and residents provided additional artifacts and stories to highlight the town's history.

Outside on the main stage, the crowd enjoyed numerous performances by Hartford Poet Laureate Frederick-Douglass Knowles II, EvaE Peart and Nia Arts — a West African drumming and dancing troupe — Lisa Clayton Singers, and storyteller Raouf Mama.

"This is amazing," expressed Amy D'Amaddio, president of CoDE, which covers Hebron, Marlborough, Andover and Columbia. She conveyed how the event provided a valuable opportunity for people to appreciate the richness of African culture, which she described as "vibrant" and "resilient."

One of the main goals of the day, she continued, was to increase awareness of the holiday and appeal to residents of all ages. While Saturday's event represented the latest effort made by CoDE to spread its values, its mission is ongoing and the group will continue engaging with local stakeholders by sponsoring additional events throughout the community.

"I do think it makes a difference," D'Amaddio said. "Slowly but surely."

The crowd also learned about formerly enslaved Hebron residents, including Cesar Peters, whose descendants performed a play to capture his unique story.

According to the Hebron Historical Society, Cesar Peters and his family were intended to be separated and sold, but were rescued by a group of his Hebron neighbors — a tale that has become famous throughout the community.

Cesar and Lois Peters were the former slaves of Reverend Samuel Peters, and in 1787, residents attempted to stop the sale of the Peters family by accusing them of theft. The "thieves" were subsequently brought back and after being found guilty, had to work in order to pay the debt for the "stolen" clothes, which spared them from being sold.

For two years, the Peters' family was under the protective custody of Hebron neighbor Elijah Graves, according to the historical society. In 1789, the Connecticut General Assembly freed the family, and Cesar tried to sue his abductors for 1000 pounds, with the case ultimately being settled outside court.

Zakiyah Peters Hasan, one of Cesar's descendants in attendance Saturday, explained that the narrative has been told frequently, but sometimes the storytellers attempt to "smooth it over." Through their reenactment, the true details cannot be "diluted."

"There's a lot to that story," she told the *Rivereast*. "When we speak it, we're going to speak it the way it is."

Hasan also shared her thoughts on June-

teenth and what residents should take away from the plethora of festivities and educational opportunities.

"None of us today was born then when things were happening," she said. "We are living in today's time and all we want to do is make sure that we receive each other with grace, mercy and respect, and recognize that God made humanity. We're all one; you respect me, I respect you."

While Hasan conveyed that she still sees and hears people who haven't embraced that message, it's important to focus on the progress being made.

"The idea is not to go towards the negative but stay with the positive."



Soccer Success... The RHAM Youth Soccer U12 Girls team won the Southeast Connecticut Division (CJSA) this spring, going undefeated in the division, after defeating Groton 2-0 this past Sunday. This team also placed first in the Newtown Memorial Day Soccer Tournament, for the second year in a row, playing against some strong competition from the western side of the state. For any children looking to play soccer this fall, please check www.rhamyouthsoccer.org for registration opening soon.

Free Developmental Screenings

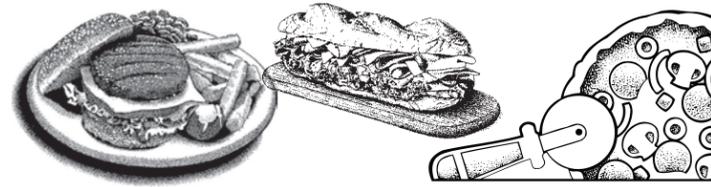
The AHM Family Resource Center offers free developmental screenings to anyone with a child ages 4 months-3 years in Andover, Hebron, Marlborough and Columbia.

Through activities and use of the questionnaire "Ages and Stages," AHM will learn how your child is doing in different domains of development (communication, motor, and

social-emotional skills).

The screening takes about an hour, and can be done in your home or in the Family Resource Center room at Gilead Hill School in Hebron. After the screening, you will get a copy as well as a sheet with ways to encourage your child's development in the different domains.

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Standout Swimmer Headed South

By Josh Howard

After years excelling in the local pools, recent Portland High School graduate Abbey Pickel will now cruise down the coast to compete at a Division I level.

“I am so excited to announce my verbal commitment to continue my education and swimming career at East Carolina University,” Pickel stated last fall. “I am endlessly grateful for my family, friends, and teammates for pushing me to get to this point.”

On May 28, Pickel made her commitment official at the athletic department’s college signing ceremony at PHS.

For Pickel, who was born and raised in Portland, relocating to Greenville, North Carolina will be a big change — but one she sought out.

She originally looked at a few schools located in the Northeast, but soon expanded her search by reaching out to swimming programs that were further away from her hometown and East Carolina reached back out with open arms.

“The coach got back to me within a day and within two weeks I was on my official visit. I just

got the feeling that this was the place for me. It was a great school for what I wanted to do,” recalled Pickel, who will enter the nursing program at the large public university as she joins the Pirates swim team.

Pickel noted that the pool has been her happy place since she first started competitive swimming at the age of seven. When club swimming was hampered by the pandemic in 2020, Pickel added running to her athletic resume where she would compete with the Highlanders cross-country and track teams for her first two years at PHS.

But during her junior year, Pickel put her running career on the backburner to put all of her energy into her desire to swim at the next level. The strategy worked as her times in the pool began to drop dramatically.

“I had been on a plateau for many years, but once I just focused on swimming, I started seeing a difference,” recalled Pickel, also an honor student who was member of National Honor Society at PHS.

It has helped that Pickel has been supported



Recent Portland High School graduating senior Abbey Pickel is pictured at the school’s athletic college signing ceremony with her dad David (left), mom Karen, and coach Bill Evison (right).

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.

Advanced registration is required for all programs. Visit portland.recdesk.com or call (860) 342-6757 to learn more and sign up.

Summer Fun Runs: Wednesdays, June 26 – July 24, (July 31 is a rain date) 6:00 p.m. at the Portland Recreational Complex. This free program is open to runners of all ages. Ribbons will be handed out to the top three finishers in each age group each week. Trophies will be handed out to the top runners of each age group at the last session of the summer.

Inspire Youth Girls Basketball: Girls ages 6-13 are invited to participate in a week-long basketball program at Gildersleeve School starting on June 24. Breakfast, lunch and snacks are provided. Registration costs just \$20.

Summer Concert Series at Riverfront Park: Presented by the Parks and Recreation Department and The Brownstone Quorum, Portland’s free concert series is back. Join us at Riverfront Park on Tuesdays, July 16 – August 13 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. for an evening of live music. Our 2024 concert schedule is as follows: July 16 - Small Town Roots, July 23 - Johnny Nonsense, July 30 - Juice Box, August 6 - Great Hill Mountain Band, August 13 - The 70’s Project

Slamma-Jamma Basketball Camp: Led by Coach David Bradbury, campers will learn the fundamentals of basketball. Camp is held Monday-Friday between 9:00 am - 1:00 pm in the Portland High School gym. The first summer session is June 24 June 28; the second summer session is July 15-29; the third summer session is August 5-9.

Summer Quest Kiddie Camp: Monday-Friday, June 24 – August 9, 8:45 am – 1:00 pm at Portland High/Middle School. Join us for seven weeks of Summer fun.

Summer Quest Base Camp: Monday-Friday, June 24 – August 9, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm at Portland High/Middle School. Extended am and pm care is available. Join us for seven weeks of Summer fun.

Summer Quest Teen Camp: Monday-Friday, June 24 – August 9, June 24 – August 9, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm at Portland High/Middle School. Teen Campers go on multiple field trips each week.

Ladies Summer Golf Clinic: Wednesdays, July 3 – 31, 6:00 – 7:00 pm at Portland West Golf Course.

Junior Golf Workshops (Grades K-8): Mondays, July 8 – 29 at Portland West Golf Course. Grades K-2 is held from 4:00 – 5:00 pm; grades 3-5 from 5:15 – 6:15 pm; grades 6-8 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm.

Tiny Tumblers: Mondays, July 8 – August 12 from 11:45 am – 12: 15 pm at The Inner Circle. Kids ages 2-4 will learn the basics of gymnastics, rolling, balance beam, high bar, creative movement and more.

Kid’s Karate: Tuesdays, July 9 – August 14 from 4:00 – 5:00 pm at The Inner Circle. Kids ages 6+ will learn the basics of traditional karate. Martial arts is proved to improve focus, concentration, dedication and effort.

Little Ninjas: Thursdays, July 11 – August 15 from 3:45 – 4:45 pm OR 4:45 – 5:45 pm at The Inner Circle. Kids ages 3-6 will explore obstacle courses, board breaking, sword fighting, challenges, games and much more.

Kid’s Gymnastics: Saturdays, July 13 – August 17 from 11:30 AM – 12: 30 pm at The Inner Circle. Kids ages 6+ will learn floor exercise, balance beam, some bar work and creative movement. It is Ideal for gymnasts as well as cheerleaders and dancers that need to learn more difficult moves.

Skyhawks Tennis Camp: Monday – Thursday, July 15 – 18 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Portland High School Tennis Courts. Open to kids ages 7 -12, this Skyhawks program will help tennis players of all experience levels improve their game.

Tai Chi: Wednesdays or Saturdays, 9:30 - 10:15 am on Wednesdays and 10:30 - 11:15 am on Saturdays at Riverfront Park.

Kids’ Blast: Membership for the 2024-2025 school year is now open for registration. Kids’ Blast is an affordable childcare program available to students enrolled in grades K - 6 in the Portland Public School System. a.m. (7:00-8:15) and p.m. (3:00 – 6:00) care is available.

by many of the same coaches for her entire career. She has been training and competing with Middlesex Aquatics Club under the tutelage of coach Bill Evison.

“My coaches are the same people that have been coaching me since I was ten, they are almost like parents to me,” noted Pickel, who added that she feels the same way about her swimming mates at the club. “I love the team aspect. I’ve always been super close with my teammates — they have been my best friends.”

Along with the challenge of swimming at the highest level, Pickel expressed that she immediately felt at home during her initial visit to East Carolina.

“I love being in the south, I love the warmth,” she added. “I’m a little nervous to leave parents because they have always been there for me and supported me through swimming and they ob-

viously won’t be able to be there for every meet, but I’m excited and my team at East Carolina will turn into my new family.”

She is joining a college program led by Matthew Jabs, who guided the Pirates to a 10-1 dual meet record last year before finishing fourth in the 2024 American Athletic Conference (AAC) Championships.

Although the adjustment from high school to college might take a while to get used to, Pickel said that the sport of swimming is like “home” for her and that she is looking forward to competing in some of the huge venues the team will visit.

“I’m excited to get to compete against those teams, it’s a step higher,” she added. “I just love the competitiveness of swimming and the thrill of the end of the race.”

But for Pickel, her next race has just begun.

Portland Exchange Cornhole Tournament

The Portland Exchange Club is holding an Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, June 22 at the Portland Exchange Grounds. There will be 2 types of formats. The first tournament is our social event for kids, friends and family and those who play backyard cornhole. The second tournament is our competitive event and open to competitive players and offers a higher pay out of prizes. Prize money will be determined based on the number of teams that participate.

Part of the proceeds will benefit HELP the

Kids; a Connecticut based organization that has partnered with the National Exchange Club in their mission to prevent child abuse. For more information and to pre-register go to the Exchange’s website at www.portlandexchange.org. Pre-Registration is preferred by June 20. After the 20th teams can register at the Exchange grounds the day of the event. The event will be held rain or shine.

Lawn Irrigation Inspections

Beginning in May, Portland’s town inspectors will conduct inspections of irrigation systems on the public water supply.

In order to do this your system must be activated. If for some reason it is not activated, call the Public Works office at 860-342-6733 to schedule an appointment for a different time. If the inspector comes out and your system is not activated, you will still be charged the \$75 inspection fee.

Summer Kick-Off

Families are invited to join Portland Youth & Family Services on Thursday, June 27 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. on the Town Green by the gazebo. There will be a mobile petting zoo from Farm on Wheels, free ice cream from Ice Cream Emergency and face painting. The Library, Parks & Recreation, and local businesses will have tables too.



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by George M. Mantikas, DMD

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The most common form of gum disease is gingivitis. It causes redness, irritation, and inflammation of gingiva, the area of the gum at the base of the teeth. Commonly caused by poor oral hygiene, gingivitis can be avoided by regular daily brushing and flossing. These simple routines prevent the plaque build-up that causes tartar to harden below the gum line, creating a barrier that promotes bacterial growth and causes gingivitis. Aging, vitamin deficiencies, hormonal changes, medications, genetics, and compromised or weakened immune systems also contribute to gingivitis. Promptly treating gingivitis avoids more serious oral health issues including periodontitis and eventual tooth loss. Routine dental checkups are essential to prevent and expedite reversal of this unpleasant oral health condition.

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P.S. In 1815, New Orleans dentist Dr. Levi Spear Parmly first introduced flossing by encouraging his patients to floss with waxed silken thread.

George M. Mantikas, DMD, PC

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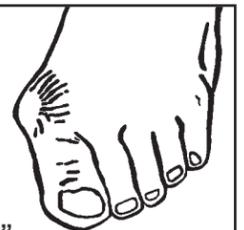
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Hey, Hey, Hey... John and Gail Phillips of East Hampton and Jim and Pat Phillips of Moodus recently visited Yogi Bear Jellystone Park in Williamsport, Maryland. Yogi was interested in the *Rivereast*.



Chasing Waterfalls... Vicki and Alan Wasserman of Colchester brought along the *Riviereast* as they visited Montmorency Falls in Quebec, Canada

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.



Pilgrimage to Poland... Jeanne Bishop of Portland and Maryann Wall of East Hampton traveled to Poland and stopped at The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw. Of course, the *Rivereast* travelled with them.



Riding the Rails... The *Rivereast* joined Hebron's John and Susan Ostrout for a "cozy" one night adventure aboard Canada's VIA railroad during a Tauck Canadian Rockies journey from Vancouver to Banff.

Where in the World?

**Going on a trip?
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The Worship Center News & Notes

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

Worship: Services are Sundays at 10 a.m. and are also broadcast on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheWorshipCenterConnecticut and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@theworshipcenter9733.

Life Group: Meets the first and third Wednesday of every month from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Swensons' home in Columbia, for worship, prayer, Bible study and fellowship.

Journey Group: For high schooler youth! The mission of the Journey Group is to support the youth of Hebron and surrounding towns in their spiritual development. Let's walk through the awesome journey of discovering and knowing Christ together! For grades 6-12. Meets every other Sunday directly after the service during the school year. Lunch Provided! Upcoming meeting: June 16

Youth Group: First Friday Fellowship: Typi-

AHM Family Resource Center

Summer Programs:

First Steps in Music Class for children Birth-5 and Adults, held at the AHM building, 25 Pendleton Drive in Hebron. We have room in the second 3-week session to be held from 9:30-10:15 on 7/24, 7/31 and 8/7. The program is a researched early childhood music program taught by music teacher Mallory Kokus with singing, movement, rhythm, and instruments. The cost is \$50/Family for the 3-week session.

Play and Learn Groups for adults and children ages Birth-5 will be held at Gilead Hill School on Tuesdays from 9:30-10:45. The program starts on 6/25 and continues until 7/30. The program includes crafts, free play with materials in the Family Resource Center, (trucks, train table, play kitchen, puzzles), circle time, snack, and information about parenting and child development. All enrolled families will be offered a free developmental screening for their child. The cost is \$48/family for the 6-week session.

Your Baby: The First Year! Will be held on Tuesday, 7/16 and Tuesday, 8/16 from 11:00-12:00. We will discuss milestones during the first year and parents can share their experiences, joys, and challenges of the first year. Babies are welcome and snack will be provided. Families attending will receive a gift for their baby. Parents, grandparents, and caregivers are welcome. This program is free, but please register.

A workshop on Positive Discipline will be held on 7/24 from 7:30-8:30 PM through Zoom. Facilitators will discuss various skills including using empathy and encouragement, dealing with

Douglas Library News & Notes

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

The Douglas Library is showing newly released films as follows: June 21st-Anatomy of a Fall-R: June 28th-Boys in the Boat-PG-13. Bottled water and popcorn will be provided. These are all shown on our 80" 4K TV with surround sound speakers.

The Sporting Events that Changed America -June 24, 6 pm- This program with Martin Gitlin features exciting videos of sporting events through more than 100 years that greatly impacted society and/or the sports themselves. Included are the sale of Babe Ruth to the Yankees that kicked off the greatest dynasty in American sports history to the Magic Johnson-Larry Bird rivalry that brought the NBA back to life and much more. This presentation features a lot of fun trivia questions for patrons to ponder as well.

Book Purse Craft- June 25 - Learn the art of making a purse from a book with our Director Drusilla. Materials will be provided. Registration is required.

Book Folding Art - June 29, 10 am-Come and learn the art of book folding with Carol Gregiore. Materials will be provided. Registration is required.

Teen Finger Loop Braiding - June 19, 5 pm-Learn all about finger loop braiding to make bookmarks, belts and more with Castle Nitor! Registration is required. Ages 12+ Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Teen Make & Mend - June 26, 5 pm - Lost a button? Split a seam? Learn how to solve these clothing repair problems and more to make your clothes last longer! Bring in your damaged clothes and we'll help you bring them back to life! Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Learn to Crochet -June 25, 2pm - Have you ever wanted to learn to crochet? Now is the time

held the first Friday of each month from 6-9 p.m. at the church.

Virtual Prayer Night: Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., via Zoom. Contact the church office or website for a link and meeting ID.

One-to-One Confidential Christian Care: Provided by Stephen Ministry to people in difficult life situations. If in need of help, call the church office. The church is currently running an in-depth training for people who feel called to serve others in this way. Call the church office if interested.

HIHS: Hebron's food pantry is in critical need, and the church is helping to collect monetary, food, toiletries, and paper goods donations. Drop off at the church on Sunday mornings, or donate directly to 26 Pendleton Dr., Hebron, Tuesday/Thursday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., and Friday, noon-5 p.m. Contact HIHSCT.org to give, or hsfoodpantry@gmail.com for more information.

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

temper tantrums, helping children deal with emotions, and discussion of natural and logical consequences. This program is free, but please register to receive the Zoom link.

Please register for any of these programs here: <https://ahmyouth.recdesk.com/Community/Home>. For a full listing of AHM programs, here is the summer brochure: <https://ahmyouth.org/ahms-programs-services-events-brochure/>

Free Developmental Screenings offered: The AHM Family Resource Center offers free developmental screenings to anyone with a child ages 4 months- 3 years in the towns of Andover, Hebron, Marlborough and Columbia. Using a questionnaire, Ages and Stages, we can look and see how your child is doing in different domains of development (communication, motor, and social-emotional skills) through activities and talking to you and your child. The screening takes about an hour. We can come to your home, or do the screening in our room at Gilead Hill School in Hebron and can plan according to your schedule. After the screening, you will get a copy as well as a sheet with ways to encourage your child's development in the different domains.

Sparkler App from the CT Office of Early Childhood: Families are encouraged to download the free Sparkler App from the CT Office of Early Childhood. The app has the Ages and Stages developmental screenings as well as information about child development, parenting tips and activities! You can access the App from the Google Play Store or Apple App store. Our code is GileadFRC. Please go to <https://playsparkler.org/> for more information.

to learn the basics and then you can make your own hats, scarves, animals...whatever you can think of. Ideally for ages 8 to Adult. Please register for the first session. Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Children's Lunch & Story Time - June 26, 12 pm - Join Ms. Lida for stories, songs, and a take home craft while enjoying your lunch! Bring your picnic blanket!

Make a Musical Instrument - June 21, 12-2pm - Create your own musical instrument from recycled materials, then you can join in with the town on Make Music Day. Ages 3-12.

Crafternoon - June 24, 1-3 pm - Come and create art! There will be a variety of items available to use. Ages 4-12.

Paint a Pot - June 25, 11 am - Each person will get their own mini pot to decorate however they wish. Ages 4-12. Registration is required.

Solar Oven - June 27, 1-3 pm - Use a pizza box to make a solar oven, then you can cook a variety of foods in the sun! Ages 5+. Registration is required. Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Baby Goats - June 28, 2-3:30 pm - Baby goats from Aussakita Acres in Manchester will be here for you to learn all things about goats then you will be able to hold them! Outdoor event. Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Chess Nights- Pickup games every Thursday starting at 3:00 in the Community Room. All skill levels welcome.

Knitwits - Our Knit-wits knitting circle meets on Mondays, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm. Crochet and needle pointers are welcome as well as all skill levels. No registration required, bring your project or your questions.

Creativebug - Looking for craft ideas? Check out this site from the Resources tab on our website and login with your Douglas Library Card to stream thousands of fine art and hand-crafting classes including amigurumi tutorials.

Board of Selectmen Statement

The Board of Selectmen met on March 21st and conducted its annual evaluation of Town Manager Andrew J. Tierney. The outcome of this evaluation was a positive endorsement of Mr. Tierney's work over the past year, which include his efforts in securing \$10 million in grant funding for infrastructure improvements -- in turn, alleviating the burden on Hebron taxpayers.

In recognition of these efforts and for the quality of work rendered, the Board voted unanimously to approve a 3% raise for Mr.

Tierney, effective July 1, 2024. In addition, the Board increased Mr. Tierney's monthly car allowance, which brings this into better alignment with current standards.

The Board looks forward to a continued positive working relationship with Mr. Tierney by supporting his professional endeavors and serving the Hebron community.

Signed by all members: *Peter Kasper (chairman), Daniel Larson (vice chairman), Tiffany V. Thiele, Keith Petit and Cladia Tejada Riley.*

Parks and Recreation News

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

Outdoor Sound Healing: Join The Calming Corner at Grayville Falls Town Park for a powerful mindfulness experience that combines different healing sounds, music, and special sound instruments. Enjoy the outdoors while immersing yourself in vibrations that will take you into a deep meditative state. "Creation begins with vibration and sound." Deep relaxation, improved focus, accelerated healing, pain management, enhanced mood, stress reduction, lowered blood pressure, and more. Saturdays, June 8 - July 13. 1:00-2:30 p.m. Grayville Falls Town Park. Want to try out a session without committing to each day? Not a problem, register only for the days you wish to attend! Register for the first session, and if you like, feel free to register for other days. \$40 per session.

RHAM Softball Camp: "Softball is for everyone, fastpitch is for athletes." Come and join us in learning fastpitch softball from coach Raymond Bell. Learn the fundamentals of the sport and build your skills as well as play games during this four-day softball camp. **Camp t-shirt provided** July 29-August 1. 9:00am - 12:00 p.m. RHAM Softball Field. \$100.

NEOS Basketball Camp: Hosted by New England Officiating Services and Development, this camp will have a heavy emphasis on skills training and development. There will be daily league play for seeding in the March Madness tournament with contests on the last day. NEOS camp will also cover all aspects of the basketball industry and supply a unique view of all the opportunities the game of basketball has to offer both on and off the court. The staff of NEOS has

Senior Center News & Notes

Russell Mercier Senior Center has announced the following programs. For more information and full program descriptions, and to register, call the senior center at 860-228-1700. Pre-registration is required for all programs. The senior center newsletter is online at hebronct.com/seniorcenter.

Wanted: Sunshine Singers on Thursday mornings from 10:15am to 11:45am. The Sunshine Singers welcome any and all who enjoy singing and would love to share their talents with others. Join the Sunshine Singers who are a group who love to sing. This is a free program, but pre-registration is required if it's the first time attending class. Please call 860-228-1700.

Dedicated Transportation Line: We are happy to announce we now have a dedicated transportation line. When you call this number it will go directly to transportation. If a live person is not available to answer at that moment, please leave a message as you always have. The new TRANSPORTATION PHONE LINE IS 860-228-5977. We ask EVERYONE who has anything related to transportation, to now call THIS number 860-228-5977. Thank you

Mindful Meditation: Monday's starting at 11:25 a.m. The class is free. Mindful meditation is a mental training practice that teaches you to slow down racing thoughts, let go of negativity, and calm both your mind and body. Led by Mandy Rocznik who has been practicing mindful meditation for 17 years. To register call 860-228-1700.

Congregate Meals: Congregate meals will again be available Monday through Thursday. Meals are served at noon and with a suggested donation of \$3. The updated menu is available on the Senior Center page website, hebronct.com/town-departments/senior-center/. You must sign up by 9:30am the day before or 9:30am on Friday for Mondays, 860-228-1700.

Weekly Shopping Trips: Pre-registration is required by Thursday at 10 a.m.; June 21st Big Y. Pick-ups will go back to spring/summertime and begin at the general time of 9:00am based on where pick-ups will be— To sign up, please call 860-228-1700.

Massage Therapy: Massage therapist, Beverly Williams will be here every Monday and Thursday. Appointments on Monday are available from 9:00am - 3:00pm (last appointment at 2:00pm for 50minute) and on Thursdays she will be here 9:00-3:30 (last appointment at 3:00pm - 25 minute or

over 30 years of experience in all facets of basketball from coaching, playing, and officiating. August 12-16, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. RHAM High School Gym. \$200.

Basketball Scrimmage Camp: Join coach Lee McPeck for a four-day Basketball Scrimmage Camp. Each day will include a warmup as well as mini fundamental lessons. Then, spend the rest of the day playing scrimmage games. These will be full court games with fouls called and in-game instruction. To add to the fun there will be a daily half-court contest to win a free basketball. All basketball skill and ability levels are welcome. Grades 6-9. Boys Session 1: July 8-12, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (no session Wednesday). Boys Session 2: July 22-26, 9:30-12:30 (no session Wednesday). Girls Session: August 5-8, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Hebron Elementary School, Main Gym. \$119.

Field Day and Playground Games Camp: This camp is an active program that gets kids moving and having fun outdoors. Led by our energetic instructors, the camp offers a mix of classic playground games like tag, hide and seek, four corners, as well as field games such as kickball, hula hoop challenges and relay races. With a focus on teamwork, sportsmanship and active play, campers can learn new games, make friends, and enjoy the great outdoors. This camp provides a safe and inclusive environment where children can run, jump, and play. Grades K-4. August 5-9. Burnt Hill Park Pavilion. \$130.

Crafty and Messy Camp: This camp is designed for children who are ready to get wet and messy! Each day the children will be engaging in a variety of art and science activities that involve painting, gluing, water, slime, playdough, and hands on games. Dress for a mess each day to learn and explore. Grades K-4. August 12-16. 8:30-11 a.m. Hebron Elementary School. \$130.

2:30pm if you want 50 minute). She offers 25minute or 50-minute chair or table massage or hot stone massage for \$25/\$50 accordingly. To make an appointment, please call 860-228-1700.

Bus transportation to Mobile Food Truck and the Food Bank: Every other Tuesday (call the center for dates) Pick-ups start 10:30-10:45, food truck arrives 11:15 at the Church of Hope/Red barn Corner of RT 85 & Rt 66. Food bank arrival approximately 11:00am. Please bring your own bags. You must sign up by 10:00am Monday, the day before, 860-228-1700.

Senior Transportation: Offered to ages 60 and up and all adult disabled individuals, for medical care, personal needs care, grocery shopping, or other pre-approved needs. Transportation available Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Appointments must be scheduled a minimum of 24 hours in advance, but 48 hours is recommended - and required for new riders. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call the center.

Recurring Daily/Weekly Happenings: Some programs have a fee, and some are non-cost, most require pre-registration. Detailed information in the monthly newsletter or at the senior center.

Monday through Friday - Exercise Equipment Room - 9:00-3:00 (Fridays 9:00-Noon)

Tuesday & Thursday only - Community Café (Pre-registration required, suggested donation of \$3), **Mondays** - Enhance Fitness via ZOOM with Paul Smith 9:00-10:00, Massage 9:00-3:30, Yoga 10:15-11:15am, Mindful Meditation 2x per month 11:25-noon (call for dates), Movie Monday (twice per month call for date & title), **Tuesdays** - Knitting/Crocheting/Needle Group 10:15-11:45, Mobile food truck & HIHS Food Bank transportation 11:00am, Hand and Foot Canasta (cards) 12:45-3:15, Card Making 1:00-2:15, **Wednesdays** - Enhance Fitness via ZOOM with Paul Smith 9:00-10:00, Yoga 10:15-11:15am, 1st & 3rd 10:15-11:15, RHAM Bingo 3rd Wednesday of the month (October through May) 2:30-4, **Thursdays** -Massage 9:00-3:30, Sunshine Singers 10:15 - 11:45, Mahjongg 12:45-3:15, Bingo 1:00-3:00, **Fridays** - Enhance Fitness via ZOOM with Paul Smith 9:00-10:00, Grocery Shopping (varies between Big Y, Stop & Shop, and Walmart) 10:00, Fun with Stitches Open Quilting Group & Created to Create Open Arts Group 10:15 - 12:15.

Christ Episcopal Church News

Christ Episcopal Church, 66 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam, holds in-person and Zoom services at 10:00 on Sunday. All are welcome for worship. In order to connect electronically, go to www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com for directions. The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated with Rev Diana Rogers, Priest-in-Charge.

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

East Hampton Public Library

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

Adult Programs:
Cookbook Club Summer Picnic at Sears Park: Tuesday, July 2, 6:30 p.m. Cookbook Club changes things up this summer at Sears Park! This month's theme is Patriotic Potluck. Bring a prepared dish and 12 copies of the recipe to share. Food should arrive ready to eat and the Library will provide the plates and forks.

Oh, the Places We Go! A Travel Discussion Group: Tuesday, Jun. 25, 6:30 p.m. Whether you are a travel enthusiast or just getting started, this discussion group is for you! While each month will have a guest traveler with a story to tell, everyone is invited to share their travel memories or future plans.

Teen Programs:
Bookshelf Breakout: Grades 8-12: Tuesday, July 2, sessions at 4:30, 5:30, and 6:30 p.m. Test your library knowledge! Help your team navigate the Library's puzzles to win the prize. Grades 8-12, one registration per patron.

Together We Read: Tuesday, July 2, 5:30 p.m. Readers in grades 6-8, along with an adult partner, are invited to join our newest book club. This new program kicks off in July with Roller Girl, by Victoria Jamison. Copies are available to borrow from the circulation desk or via the Libby app. Registration is preferred but not required.

Children Programs:
Teacher Read-Aloud Series: Grades K-5: Monday, June 24, 4:00 p.m. Want to meet your new teacher before the first day, or say hi to

and cans are collected in cans by the shed.
Sunday School: Sunday School will resume in the fall.

Bible Study: The last date for Bible Study will be June 26. If you are interested in becoming a participant, contact Rev. Bobette at bobette@khan.com to discuss fall classes which will begin September 11.

Information/Assistance: Contact the Senior Warden, Donna Hyrb at 860-633-0472 or donnaadubehyrb@gmail.com.

an old favorite? Come and listen to stories read by Memorial School teachers Mrs. Val Ballek & Ms. Heather Vigue, Center school teacher Mrs. Kat Langdon, and incoming Superintendent of Schools Mr. Tim Van Tasel. No registration required.

Touch-a-Truck Storytime at Seamster Park: Ages 2-6: Friday, June 28, 10:30 a.m. Explore different construction vehicles at this hands-on storytime event at Seamster Park. Brought to you in partnership with East Hampton Public Works.

All Age Programs:
Summer Reading Kick Off: Friday, June 21, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Head over to the fields at Center School to sign up for this year's Summer Reading Program. Enjoy a free donut from Dude's Donuts, face painting by Epoch Arts, an inflatable obstacle course, adorable goats from Circle K farm, and a Ticket Tornado. No registration required, all ages welcome.

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

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Senior Center News & Notes

The East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St. East Hampton is open. All participants are asked to pre-register for programs prior to the event at the Senior Center. Please register on-line thru myactivecenter.com or call the center at 860-267-4426 and/or e-mail seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov. Senior Center Hours are Monday- Thursday, 8:30am - 4:00pm, Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm. www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center See the program schedule as follows:

Weekly Events: Quilting Group- Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Quilters bring their own projects and guide each other as needed; Mexican Train Dominoes- Mondays at 9:30 a.m. Bible Study- Tuesdays at 1 p.m. This non-denominational group shares and studies scripture. Wii Bowling - Begins again on Tuesdays starting in June at 11 a.m. BINGO- Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. In person. Meditations and Reflections - Wednesdays at 10:45 a.m. As a group, practice the art of meditation and then reflect on the experience together. Led by a volunteer from the Senior Center. Please register in advance.

Yoga with Kitch - Wednesday at 1 p.m. Stretch your limbs and build energy with this gentle session of chair yoga. Current Session Full. Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts- Two groups, Thursdays, 10-11:am, or every other Thursday 11:15am-12:15pm. Lead by our very own, Elizabeth Thomas. If you would like to sharpen your pencil and your brain with creative writing, this is the opportunity for you.

Setback - Mondays at 1-3 p.m. & Thursdays at 1-3 p.m., in person. Please call in advance to register.

Textile Group - Fridays at 1 p.m. This group brings in their own quilting, knitting or crochet projects. Cribbage Anyone: Friday mornings, 9:30-11 a.m. Let us know if you are able to join us, in advance. Myactivecenter.com or register at the front desk. Mahjong- Fridays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, in person. New members welcome. Call if you are interested in putting your name on a list to learn how to play.

Monthly and Special Events: Wonderfully Wicked Women's Group (WWW)- First and third Mondays at 10 a.m. This is a low-key opportunity to meet others and share resources. The group determines the topics for discussion for the next

month. Please sign up in advance.
Chatham Health Chat - Tuesday, June 25 at 10:30 a.m. Features a discussion on Diabetes with a representative from Chatham Health. Please register on centerwenter.com or at the Senior Center.

Cooking Demonstration with Mary Brody - Thursday, June 27 at 1 p.m. featuring Strawberry Yogurt Parfaits from Scratch. Cost is \$5. Please register in advance.

Bike Rides for Seniors - Friday, June 28 at 10 a.m. featuring a ride at the Hop River Trail, Route 249 in Willimantic. Please call the Senior Center to register.

Line Dancing - Tuesday, July 2 at 10 a.m. Join us for a fun interactive dance class that gets you moving and having fun! Please register at the Senior Center.

Trips: Shopping Trip and Lunch - Monday, July 1, departing the Senior Center at 11 a.m. Join us for a shopping trip to the Windham Walmart and lunch on your own at a restaurant to be determined. Donation of \$4 for transportation is suggested. Please register at the Senior Center. Lunch at Lenny & Joe's Fish Tail in Westbrook - Monday, August 12. Enjoy a delicious seafood lunch in this scenic seaside town. Departure from the Senior Center at 11 a.m. Suggested donation of \$4 for transportation. Please register at the Senior Center.

Announcements: Volunteer Shopping: The Senior Center has instituted a shopping program where a volunteer will shop for you. Call in your list to the Senior Center at 860-267-4426. The shopper will call you before the drop off to let you know the cost of the groceries. Check should be payable to the Town of East Hampton. The volunteer will drop off the groceries at your door and pick up the check in a pre-arranged designated spot.

Please pre-register for all programs, including ones without fees. This allows staff to anticipate how many tables and chairs to set up and allows us to start the programs on time.

You can register on-line on myactivecenter.com. You need to make your own account the first time, then you can sign-up for the activities. If you do not have computer access please call us, we will register you.

Upcoming Senior Trip

East Hampton Senior Center, located at 105 Main St., is offering a trip to Lancaster, Pa., in July, to see *Daniel*. Local seniors are invited.

The trip will run July 17-19 and will feature a visit to the Old Windmill Farm, a quilt shop, dinner in an Amish home, and reserved seats for a performance at the Sight & Sound Theater of *Daniel*, a story of exile, faith and trust.

On the way home, there will be a stop in Philadelphia, where folks will check out the National Constitution Center and the Liberty Bell.

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

Register with payment at the East Hampton Senior Center or call 860-267-4426 for more information.

KENNETH BARBER & ASSOCIATES, LLC



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Johnson Tackles Next Football Challenge

By Josh Howard

David Johnson, a 2024 East Hampton High School graduate, said he has always loved the "brotherhood" that football provides.

He is now set to join a new football fraternity in Maine.

"I am super excited to announce my commitment to continue my academic and athletic career at Husson University," Johnson posted in April. "I want to say a big thank you to my coaches, family and friends for always pushing and believing in me. I couldn't do it without you guys."

For the past three years, Johnson pursued his passion by playing for the Coginchaug/East-Hampton/HaleRay co-op team based out of Coginchaug.

After his freshman season on the gridiron was wiped away by the Covid-19 cancellation, Johnson worked his way onto the field where he played linebacker and running back for the Blue Devils in Coginchaug.

This past fall, he was a defensive captain as the team finished 8-2 in the regular season, tying for the best overall record in Class SS and earning a home playoff game. In the regular season finale, the Blue Devils defeated nemesis North Branford, 42-21, to recapture the "Battle

of Route 17" bragging rights.

"They are our rivals, and they had our trophy for the last few years," recalled Johnson. "It felt good to get our trophy back."

Johnson added that making the daily commute from East Hampton to Coginchaug during the fall was well worth it because he created lifelong friendships with his teammates that extended beyond the field.

"The bonds I made over there were unbreakable, and it allowed me to pursue my dream and be the first in my family to go to college," noted Johnson. "If I was having a bad day in school, going to see my boys across the river made my day better and that means a lot."

Along with playing for the co-op football team in Coginchaug, Johnson also previously wrestled in East Hampton and played all four years for a Bellringers baseball team that just wrapped up a 12-win season this spring.

But it was football that Johnson always knew he wanted to play at the next level. He noted that the "physicality" of the game is unmatched, and it was during junior season on the field that he knew he wanted to play beyond high school.

"I have a lot of passion for football, and I really didn't want to give that up," he stated. "I like knowing that I have other people support-

ing me. I just love the brotherhood in football."

Johnson credited his father, David Johnson Sr., for introducing him to the game and helping him develop as the player as his coach throughout youth, adding "[My dad] taught me to have passion for something that I love."

That passion led him to explore his options at the college ranks where he first considered a few schools around the Northeast before visiting Husson, a private university in Bangor, Maine.

"It felt like a home, and I loved the environment there," noted Johnson. "It has everything I was looking for and it they give me the opportunity to play football."

Johnson will join a college football program that is coming off a 7-3 season under head coach Nat Clark, who has guided the Eagles to a winning-record in the Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) in each season since his arrival in 2019.

Along with playing football, Johnson said he is looking forward to majoring in accounting where he hopes to become a Certified Public Accountant and own his own firm someday.

"I just have to take this opportunity for myself," stated Johnson, "It's a new beginning."



East Hampton's David Johnson signs his letter of intent to play college football at Husson University.

Sears Park Boat Launch Operations

In an effort to stop the spread of invasive plants and organisms in Lake Pocotopaug, all boats, trailers and other watercrafts that are being launched at Sears Park will be inspected. If boats etc. need washing, they will be asked to get them washed at the local car wash or at home before coming back to the park. There is a state fine of \$95 if someone brings a craft with

an invasive and launches it into the lake. Sears Park is a resident-only boat launch and residents are reminded that boat launch passes are available at the Town Hall or the Library for the 2024 season. The fee is \$50 and boat and vehicle registration is required. Boat launch passes are required for all vessels launching though Sears Park.

Middle Haddam Public Library News

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

The library is pleased to exhibit the works of Middletown artist Jackie Peterson for the month of June. Ms. Peterson teaches art and is a graduate of the Hartford Art School. The

exhibit features pastel florals and landscapes. A closing reception will be held on Friday, June 28th from 4 - 6 p.m.

Library Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10 a.m.—2 p.m.; Tuesdays and Fridays 3—6 p.m.

Fiber Arts: Every Thursday, from 10 a.m.—noon. Bring your spinning wheel, knitting, weaving, embroidery, etc. All are welcome!

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

Family Yoga series: Fridays, through May 24 at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$12 to drop in or \$60 for the series. Email zenlotus860-@yahool.com with questions and to register.

Pilates: Is cancelled for the rest of the summer.

Mahjong has started up again and meets Mondays at 10:30 a.m.: Players of all experience levels are welcome. Please contact the library for more information.

CommuniTea: Saturday, July 13 at 10 a.m. Join us for tea, coffee, and conversation.

Fly Fishing with Rowan Lytle: Is cancelled for June, but we hope will resume later in the summer.

Old Home Days

Mark those calendars for Saturday July 13 at 11 a.m. when Middlesex County's largest parade takes center stage in this year's Old Home Days 2024 "HORRAY for Hollywood Spectacle". We're shaking things up with a blast from the past—we're adding an exciting twist by awarding prizes to four different parade participants. From Best Overall, Best in Theme, Best in East Hampton Spirit and Best

Band, there's something for everyone to aspire to. Whether you're a marching band, local business, or a community organization, now's your chance to shine and take home the glory. It's not too late to join the parade visit www.ehohd.org to register. For Information, please contact Bo Tinson 860-414-9712 or RLTinson@gmail.com.

Attention East Hampton Taxpayers

Tax bills will be mailed on June 27, 2024 for real estate, personal property and motor vehicles levied on the Grand List of October 1, 2023. Taxes are due and payable on July 1, 2024 and delinquent after August 1, 2024. Real estate and personal property taxes over \$100 may be paid in two equal installments, July 1, 2024 and January 1, 2025. Both installments of the tax bills are mailed in July, there is not a second mailing in January.

Please make checks payable to: Town of East

Hampton. Payments may be mailed to Collector of Revenue, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. Pay online by visiting www.easthamptonct.gov

As owners of property, taxpayers are responsible to see that taxes are paid when due. Failure to receive a tax bill does not exempt the taxpayer from payment of all taxes and interest charges. Taxpayers that did not receive a bill should contact the Tax Office immediately. taxcollector@easthamptonct.gov

Explore East Hampton "History Tree Walk"

On Sunday, June 23 Frank Kaputa, co-chair of CT Notable Trees project, will lead a walking tour of the streets of downtown East Hampton and identify many of the old trees. *Marty Podskoch*

Frank Kaputa will lead a "Tree Walk" in the village of East Hampton on Sunday, June 23, at 1 pm. The event is organized by the Chatham Historical Society (CHS) and is sponsored by the East Hampton Parks and Recreation Dept. The walk will explore the trees on Main Street, Lakeview Cemetery, and Summit Street in East Hampton.

Frank Kaputa is the co-chair of the Connecticut's Notable Trees project. Frank has been involved with the project since 2005, and has been crucial to all aspects of the project, including measuring and photographing trees, public outreach, and the database and website. Frank is a

software engineer who lives in Glastonbury.

The event is part of the "Explore East Hampton" monthly series program. Come and learn about the majestic trees that have graced our town's landscape for hundreds of years. The walk is open to adults and children. Wear comfortable shoes and no dogs please.

The walk will begin and end at The Chatham Historical Society's Museum complex located at 6 Bevin Boulevard. The museum will also be open for tours after the walk. Parking is available by the museum or behind the Center School.

The walk will take approximately 1 and a half hours. Heavy rain will cancel the walk.

For further information about upcoming walks or the Chatham Historical Society, contact Marty Podskoch, coordinator of the "Explore East Hampton" walks at 860-267-2442, podskoch@comcast.net, or visit <https://chathamhistoricalct.org/event-calendar/>

Belltown Open Golf Tournament

The Congregational Church of East Hampton is seeking sponsors and golfers for the 18th Annual Belltown Open Golf Tournament. The tournament will be held on Tuesday, August 6 at the Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. Proceeds will benefit the East Hampton Food & Fuel Bank. Cost is \$135per golfer for the four-person scramble event that includes cart, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. To register contact Cyndi Shirshac at cshirshac123@sbcglobal.net.



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KOCO4Kids Corner



Community Kindness

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koco4kids.org

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EHVFD: Road Closure

With the weather impacting the East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department's completion of the mandatory pressure testing of all its fire hose, another session is now scheduled to be conducted on Saturday, June 22nd in the area of the Fire Department's pump house located at the western end of Walnut Avenue.

As a result, Walnut Avenue will be closed to through traffic between Main Street and Watrous Street beginning at 8:00am and continuing into early afternoon. Residents are advised to utilize alternate routes. The EHVFD apologizes for any inconvenience this road closure may cause to residents and business owners in the area, and the Department is hopeful that this third attempt at completion will be the charm.

Suburban Sanitation Service

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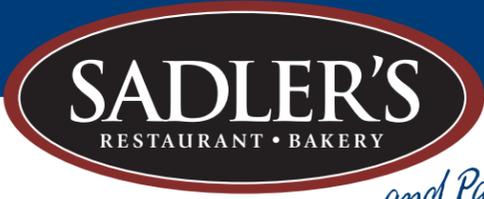
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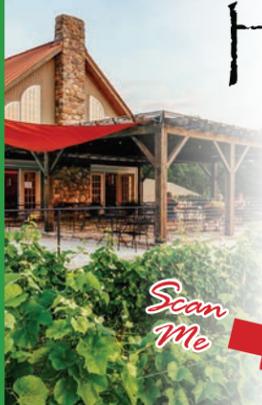
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EHVFD Fireworks: Save The Date

Community residents and friends are cordially invited to enjoy another one of the East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department's spectacular fireworks displays on Saturday, August 17, on the grounds of the East Hampton High School. These fun-filled, family-oriented events feature food and ice cream vendors and provide a unique opportunity to gather with family and friends as the summer season begins to wane. Save the date, with additional information to follow.

East Haddam Farmers' Market

Farmer Market: Wednesdays through September 25 from 3-6 p.m. The location is Shagbark Lumber & Farm Supplies at 21 Mount Par-nassus Rd, East Haddam.

Free Paper Shredding

The Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG) is holding a residential paper shredding event on Saturday, June 22, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Westbrook Town Hall, 866 Boston Post Rd., Westbrook. This event is free to residents of the RiverCOG region, which includes East Hampton and Portland. Please visit www.rivercog.org/household-hazardous-waste for more information.



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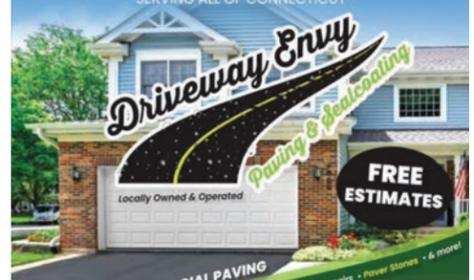
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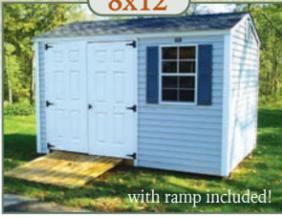
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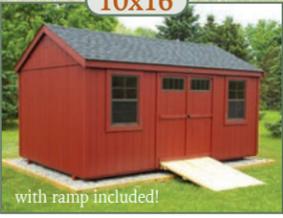
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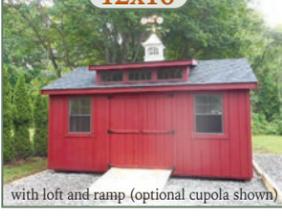
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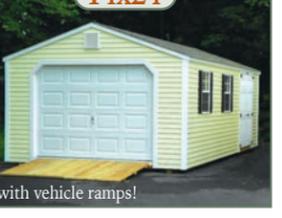
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East Hampton CT Pride Stroll

In celebration of Pride Month, East Hampton CT Pride, in partnership with the Village Merchants, will host the 3rd Annual Pride stroll at East Hampton Village Center on Saturday, June 22 from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

There will be family-friendly activities, resources and merchant specials throughout the day in the Village Center and a 21+ karaoke event at Rule of 3 Brewing (201 W High St) in the evening. All are welcome.

Founded June 4, 2021, East Hampton CT Pride exists as a safe and accepting community for East Hampton CT LGBTQ+ residents and allies to stand unified in opposition against hate and intolerance by celebrating Pride in our hometown. For more Pride resources, visit: [easthampton-pride.com|easthamptonpride.com.

Strawberry Shortcake Festival

The Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam will host a strawberry shortcake festival on Saturday, June 22, 4-7 p.m., take out or eat in, \$10 per order. Please call 860 510-8102 for reservations. The church is located at 52 Middle Haddam Rd, Middle Haddam and is handicapped accessible.

Class of '67 Reunion

The East Hampton class of '67 will gather on Sunday, September 8, 1-5 PM at the Town Tavern, 26 East High Street, East Hampton. We will order off a limited menu, paying as you go. Please contact Helen Curylo at 860 918-2332, Rita Gibbons at 860 267-0425 or GERALYN Yocher at 860 267-9524 to reserve your spot(s).



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New Quartermaster...Fowler-Dix-Park VFW Post 5095 and its Auxiliary are pleased to announce that our very own Chief Domenic M. Guiliano has been elected and installed as the new Department of Connecticut State Adjutant/Quartermaster. The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is a nonprofit veterans service organization comprised of eligible veterans and military service members from the active, guard and reserve forces. Learn more at vfw.org

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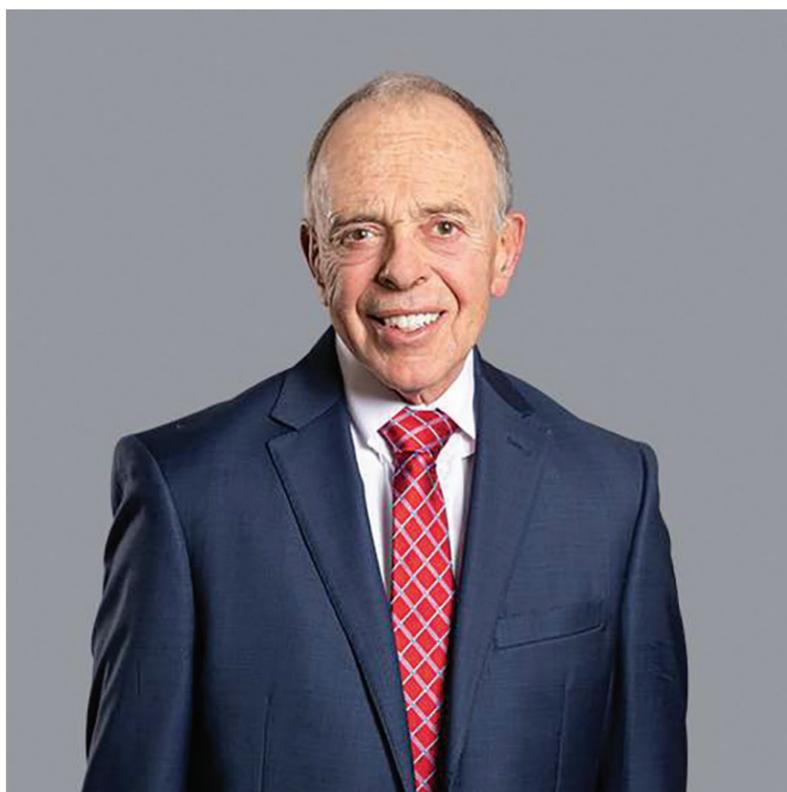
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Belltown Garden Club: Progressive Garden Tour

Three members will host a tour of their gardens and landscape, sharing their experiences and stories of their gardens. On Monday, June 24, we will meet at the East Hampton Library before 5:30 p.m. to carpool and leave promptly for the first tour, returning to the Library at 8:30 p.m. Sandwiches and light refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP by June 17. Drivers are needed to transport passengers from garden to garden. For RSVP, questions or more information, please call Judy at 413-328-8059.

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Obituaries

Colchester

Natalia Rudko

Natalia Rudko (née Horak), 75, of Colchester, CT passed away on June 15, 2024. Born in Ingolstadt, Germany, on May 5, 1949, to the late Anton and Nadia Horak, she was the eldest of five children.



Her family immigrated to the US in 1952 and settled in Detroit, MI. Natalia graduated from Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic High School and attended Mercy College. She remained in Detroit until she met her husband, Ihor Rudko, during the summer of 1971 at the Ukrainian Scouting Plast camp, Vovcha Tropa. She remained very active in the Ukrainian community where she served as a teacher as well as principal at the parochial Ukrainian school in Hartford. Her devotion to the Ukrainian Plast (Scouts) community was undeniable by her decades of service as a den mother and commandant. She also proudly held the title of president of the Hartford chapter of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA).

Natalia enjoyed many hobbies including cooking, baking, and crafting. As a devoted mother she went above and beyond to ensure that her kids were happy, doing everything and anything she could for them. Whether it be to drive hours searching for the last item in stock they needed for camp, helping with a project at midnight the night before it was due, or making snacks for an army of her kids and their friends; her joy was sharing her love with those around her. Friends of her children were welcome as she would happily set an extra place at her table for anyone, even on the shortest of notice. Natalia could always be counted upon to lend a helping hand.

She enjoyed beautifying her home with art she collected from her trips to Ukraine over the years. Her decorating flair was especially prominent during the Christmas season where her love for Santas and nutcrackers was unparalleled. It was a yearly epic hunt for the perfect tall, blue spruce which would ultimately end up spectacularly decorated, giving the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree fierce competition. She loved having her home filled with family and friends; her infectious personality will be greatly missed.

She is survived by her husband, Ihor, of over 52 years. She was preceded in death by her son, Andrij Rudko and is survived by his wife, Sunny and their children, Santino, Andrij (Deeko), and Domenica, all of Colts Neck, NJ; her son, Taras Rudko, and wife, Marli and their daughter, Arianna; her daughter, Motria Grasing (Rudko), and husband, Rob and their daughter, Harper, all of Broom-

field, CO; her sister, Larysa Steier and husband, Dave, of Gainesville, GA. Natalia is also preceded in death by her parents and brothers Adrian, Orest and Myron.

Friends and family may call on the Rudko family on Friday, June 21, 2024 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home, 34 Beaver Road, Wethersfield, CT. Panachyda (Memorial Service) to be held at 6:45 p.m. A funeral liturgy will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. in St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 135 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, CT, followed by interment in St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, New London Turnpike, in Glastonbury, CT. To leave a condolence, or for further information, please visit FarleySullivan.com.

East Hampton/Portland
Thomas Anthony Kunak

Thomas Anthony Kunak, 81, of East Hampton, CT, passed away peacefully at the Hartford Health Care Hospice on Thursday, June 13, 2024. He was born in Middletown on October 19, 1942 and was the son of the late Thomas and Mary Sallak Kunak. He was a 1960 graduate of Middletown High School.



He is survived by his wife Janet Lizotte Kunak as well as their two sons Justin Kunak with his long-time companion Lesley Mitchell, and Christian Kunak. He is also survived by his brother Lawrence Kunak.

Tom started work at the Middletown Rubber Company, later on at Pratt & Whitney (the CANEL Project to develop a nuclear engine in the early 1960's), and finally retiring from Tube Bends in New Britain. He was the "go to guy" for difficult projects at Tube Bends. Tom enjoyed boating, being near the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound, and giving love and getting companionship with his dogs Snoppy, Pedro, and Peanut. Tom and Janet also enjoyed travelling together to Europe, seeing the USA, and other destinations.

A mass of Christian burial was held at the family plot at St. Mary's Church in Portland on Tuesday, June 18th.

Celebration of Life

Joseph J. Keegan Jr, formerly of Hebron, passed away on April 15, 2024.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, June 21 at Colebrook Village, 55 John E. Horton Blvd, Hebron. The hours will be 1:30-4:00 pm.

East Hampton

Huntington "Hunt"
Lambert Voelker

(October 19, 1926 - June 12, 2024)

Born to Evelyn Huntington, and Paul Voelker, a lifelong resident of East Hampton.



Graduating EHHS to an uncertain future he joined the US Army serving his country, as a medic, during WWII. After returning from WWII he enrolled in Connecticut Engineering Institute, (Hartford State Technical College), obtaining an associate's degree in Electronics.

In 1953 Hunt married the love of his life Barbara Clark. Settling into their home on Chestnut Hill, where they raised their two sons, Martin & Pat Voelker of East Hampton, and Gregory & Christine Voelker of East Hampton. Hunt is predeceased by his wife Barbara, and leaves his grandchildren James, Megan, Mara (Owens), and Cody.

Hunt was dedicated to serving his community, as a Scout master in Boy Scouts Troop 8, helping to build Camp Tadmra, in Bozrah. Hunt served local Government as a Selectman for the Town of East Hampton. He also served over 55 years as a firefighter in the East Hampton Vol. FD, Company 2 in Cobalt, where he served as Captain for many years. Hunt worked at several start-ups, Control Circuits and Circuit Power, finally landing at Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, from where he retired in the early '80's.

In retirement he enjoyed vegetable gardening, fishing and hunting, and taking care of the grandchildren, as they grew. He loved golden retrievers, playing bridge and building puzzles at the Senior Center, and he enjoyed his visits to the Public Library. Hunt will be missed by all who know him.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the East Hampton Vol. Fire Department Scholarship Fund. Burial will be at the family discretion at a later date and time.

East Hampton

Paul C. Ryan
(1947 - 2024)

Paul C. Ryan, 77, of Gainesville Rd., formerly of New Hampshire, and East Hampton, CT, died Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at home with his son Jeff at his side. Born in Middletown, CT, he was the son of the late John C. and Beryl (Huntley) Ryan, Sr.



Mr. Ryan worked on various dairy and sod farms throughout his life. He enjoyed tinkering on cars and tractors and snowmobiling.

He is survived by his children, Jeffery P. Ryan and his partner William "Bill" Juzwic of N. Grosvenordale, Paulette Frans and her husband Peter of Groton, Julie Walthers and her husband Nate of Lancaster, NH, and Michelle Verville of Griswold; his brother Thomas Ryan and his wife Rose of VA; his brother-in-law Larry Elliott; his grandchildren, James Arrington, Chadler Mondor. Amanda Abbott, Shelby Atlas, Nicky Frans, Donale Atlas, Alexis Arrington, Gabriele Ryan, Nikita Johnson; and seventeen great-grandchildren. Paul was predeceased by his son, Paul C. Ryan, Jr. and his siblings, John Ryan, Jr., William Ryan, Joseph Rockwell, Edith Mary Elliott, and Elizabeth Cook.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a graveside service for Paul on Saturday, June 29, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. in Skinnerville Cemetery, Young St., E. Hampton, CT 06424. Rev. Dr. Cal Lord officiating. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Valade Funeral Home & Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, CT. Memorial donations in Paul's memory may be made to Central Baptist Church, 16 Elm St., Westerly, RI 02891. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Middletown

Mary (Govone) Johansson

Mary Harriet (Govone) Johansson, 94, of Leesburg, FL, wife of the late John L. Johansson, passed away on November 24, 2023, at her home in FL. Born in Sandwich, MA, she was the daughter of the late Henry and Annie (O'Toole) Govone.

Mary is survived by David L. Johansson and his wife Elizabeth; two daughters Cristal Brown and Teresa Spooner and her husband Thomas; six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Family and friends may call on June 28th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Doolittle Funeral Home, 14 Old Church Street, Middletown. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, June 29th at 10:00 am in the State Veteran Cemetery, 317 Bow Lane, Middletown. To share memories or send condolences to the family, please visit www.doolittlefuneralservice.com.

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Honor Rotary Honor... A Foundation for Colchester, Inc. recently awarded two scholarships to upcoming Bacon Academy graduates. Pictured are recipients Emma Liberty and Luke Torneo along with Nancy Riella of Honor Rotary.

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 westchestercongregationalchurch.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 westchestercongregationalchurch.org, email westcongregationalchurch@gmail.com or call the church at 860-267-6711. Pastor Ron Lake can be reached at 860-428-3460.

Collection for CT Humane Society

Trinity Church, 345 Main Street Portland is collecting new toys, water and food bowls for the CT Humane Society, now through August 1st. There is a collection bin outside the front doors of the church. Adoptive families are given a "treat bag" when they adopt an animal that contains treats, bowls and a thank you note for adopting the animal.

Trinity is also collecting "soft" dog and cat treats to be included in the treat bag. Please drop these off in the collection bins just inside

any church door on Fridays from 2:00pm-4:00 p.m. Please do not leave any treat items outside at any other times.

Trinity has been hosting monthly service projects for the last year that have included. *Book and Blankets for Children's Literacy*, Games for Betances Magnet School in downtown Hartford, Backpacks with games for *Father's Initiative*, and *Valentines for Vets*.

For more information please contact Marjorie at 860-262-3251.

Lasagna Dinner

St. Peter's Episcopal Church will hold its next monthly community dinner on Saturday, June 22, starting at 4:00 p.m. The menu will include choice of spinach or meat lasagna, sausage, salad, Italian bread and choice of dessert. The cost is \$17.

This is a take-out-only dinner with no pre-orders or reservations – first come, first served. Servers will come to your car, take your order and dessert choice, and return to your car to

place them in the back seat or trunk. There is no need for you to get out of your car.

As part of the St. Peter's outreach programs, a portion of each meal sold this month will go to Flying Free Therapeutic Riding Center. The church is located at 30 Church St. (Rt. 85) in Hebron. For more details, please contact the church at 860-228-3244 or visit the church website at www.StPetersHebron.com.

Chicken Barbeque

The Westchester Congregational Church will host a take-out Chicken Barbeque dinner on Saturday July 20 from 4 to 6 pm. The church is located at 98 Cemetery Road in the Westchester section of Colchester. For \$17 each, the meal includes a barbecued half chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, and dessert. Drive-thru only, no ordering ahead. Questions? Email westcongregationalchurch@gmail.com.

Cragin Information

Cragin Memorial Library, located at 8 Linwood Ave has weekly activities and a website. For program descriptions, call 860-537-5752 or visit www.craginlibrary.org.

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.

Colchester Cougars Camp

Colchester Cougars Football & Cheer is open for boys and girls ages 4-14, welcoming residents of Colchester, Lebanon, Bozrah, East Haddam, Salem, and East Hampton. 2024 camp dates are (Monday) June 24, (Tuesday) June 25, (Monday) July 1, and (Tuesday) July 2 from 6-8 p.m. at Cougar Field.

To learn more, visit colchestercougars.org. Early bird pricing has been extended. Register before July to take advantage of a four-month payment plan.

Farmers Market

Colchester Farmers' Market are Sundays through October 13 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. The location is the Colchester Town Green at 97 Hayward Ave, Colchester.

Colchester Giving Garden

The Colchester Giving Garden is up and running for 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 Center. 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.

Special Education Records Disposal

The Colchester Board of Education will destroy any and all special education records of students who graduated or would have graduated with the class of 2018. These records will be destroyed on August 1, 2024.

If any student, as described, would like a copy of their special education records, they must request a copy of the records prior to the destruction on August 1, 2024. Forward all requests to the Dept. of Pupil Services and Special Education, 380 Norwich Avenue Colchester CT 06415, or by calling the Pupil Services Office @ 860-537-3103. Upon request, records will be available for pickup at the Department of Pupil Services.

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CYSS News & Notes

Colchester Youth and Social Services has announced the following programs. Unless noted, registration is required for all programs, at www.colchesterct.gov/yss. For more information, contact CYSS at 860-537-7255 or youthservices@colchesterct.gov.

Colchester Boys Council: This group for fifth-grade boys meets Mondays from 3:15-4:30 p.m. Boys share their experiences, questions and concerns. Space is limited.

Meeting Childhood Challenges: In this program, a continuation of "Supporting Your Anxious Child," parents of children ages 8-12 can come together for a discussion on supportive ways to respond as a parent and to learn methods to navigate childhood challenges. There will be time for questions as well. The program will meet from 6:30-8 p.m. each night, at Cragin Li-

brary - Norton Room A.

After 2: This afterschool program for middle school-aged students meets Tuesdays from 2-4:30 p.m. throughout the school year. This program provides time for kids to have homework help, or just some quiet time to complete their work, small social-emotional learning group time, as well as a safe place to hang out. Registration is required in advance.

Drop In @ the Youth Center: Mondays and Wednesdays, 2-4 p.m., for grades 6-8. In this program, kids can drop in to the youth center for a snack and play some games. You do not need to pre-register to attend the Youth Center. However, students will receive instructions for online registration at their first visit, as they must be registered online to attend again. Call CYSS for more information.

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 under the Worship tab. Updated information is also on the church's Facebook page.

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.

Vacation Bible School: Registration is open Now - July 1st for our annual Vacation Bible School program. VBS will be held Aug 5-9, 9 a.m. -12 p.m. This is a FREE program for youth ages 4 - 5th grade. Registration can be found on the church's website under the "Upcoming Events" tab.

Church Car Wash: The church will hold a car wash on July 13 (rain date July 20) to help raise funds to maintain our historic church.

Church Tag Sale: The church will hold its Annual Tag-Sale on Saturday, July 20th from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Parks & Rec News & Notes

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

Register for the Town Wide Tag Sale by July 29 and pay the \$25 fee. Your address and tag sale hours will be placed on a map that will include all of the local tag sales being held on 8/3/24. Maps will be available July 30, 2024, at www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department

Anyone and everyone can print out the tag sale map and visit all the tag sales in Colchester. All tag sales will be held on Saturday, August 3, 2024 - (Rain Date August 10, 2024)

Archery Camp: Coach Bill is excited to be back in Colchester. With over 30 years' experience as an archery coach, having taught thousands of individuals from beginners to National Champions, he is a 6-time National Championship medalist, a certified Professional Archer, and an Olympic trials finalist. This is a wonderful opportunity for the Colchester community. Classes meet one hour per day for 5 days. All skill levels are welcome to join. This program is not just for children, there is equipment for all ages, and adults are welcome to participate, especially parents and guardians. Archery is a GREAT family activity! Coach Bill will bring professional equipment for students to borrow during class. Every student will participate at times, no sharing of equipment and no one sits "on the bench". Fees:\$75.00 per person, \$80.00 per nonresident; 6/24/24-6/28/24 from 8:30-9:30 a.m.; Open to ages 8 and older

SPT Soccer Camp: Join us for the third year of SPT soccer camp! Every player will get a t-shirt! SPT camps are designed to help players develop technically and tactically. The SPT Soccer Camp will have you involved in the game of soccer whilst giving you the kind of focus, intensive training essential to improvement, no matter what your ability level. You will improve not only on the field but off of it also, with increased confidence and self-belief. We bring in some of the best coaches in the state! All coaches are local to Colchester- Andrew Storton, Winner of a National championship; Skip Starks, Bacon Varsity boys coach; Lee Elliot, Girl's Academy coach,

Connecticut College assistant coach and UEFA B licensed coach; Ashley Gaedt, former college player and strengthening & conditioning coach; current and former Bacon Academy players. Fees: \$150.00 per player, \$155.00 per nonresident; Instructor: Lee Elliott; Dates: 6/24/2024-6/28/2024, Monday- Friday from 9am -12pm; Open to ages 5-15

Summer Volleyball Clinic: This summer volleyball clinic is a program designed to introduce students to the exciting world of volleyball. Led by two experienced coaches, the clinic focuses on developing fundamental skills such as serving, passing, setting, and hitting. Participants engage in a series of fun and challenging drills that cater to all skill levels, from beginners to advanced players. The clinic emphasizes teamwork, sportsmanship, and providing a supportive environment where every participant is encouraged to improve and succeed. With a strong emphasis on skill development and a positive atmosphere, this clinic offers a rewarding experience for young athletes looking to learn and play the game of volleyball. All levels of experience are welcome. Fees: \$170.00 per player, \$175.00 per nonresident; 6/24/2024-6/27/2024 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; Open to those in grades 5-9 in the fall of 2024

Touch A Truck event: Register today to bring your truck or vehicle to the 2024 Touch a Truck event on the Town Green! Join us August 1st from 6-8 p.m. We are looking for local businesses and companies to bring a truck or two for families to look at, climb on, and ask questions about! You will need to remain with your vehicle during the event. Load in by 5:30, load out after 8pm to ensure the Town Green is safe for walking by the time the event starts. There is no fee to participate. August 1, 2024 from 6-8 p.m. on the Town Green

Senior Yoga with Anne: Online with Facebook Live- Gentle Yoga is perfect for age 45 and over to explore yoga postures, breathing techniques and meditation. Yoga improves your balance and strength, stretches your entire body and focuses your mind and calms your emotions. All levels of fitness or yoga experience are welcome. Once you register you will be emailed a link to the private Facebook group where the live Yoga class will take place. Fees: \$35.00 per person; 6/17/24-7/8/24 from 4:45-5:45 p.m. (Mondays); Age(s):45 - 99



Giving Back.... The men of the Knights of Columbus Francis Cardinal Spellman Council #6107, affiliated with Guardian Angels Roman Catholic Church and with St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Colchester, recently made monetary donations to support two local Special Olympics programs. The Knights donated checks for \$800 each made out to the Colchester Special Olympics and to The Willi Wellness Special Olympics programs. The funds were entirely from the generous contributions made by area residents during the annual K of C Tootsie Roll Drive undertaken during the 2023-2024 fraternal year. Council 6107 is grateful to our community for their continued support for this special program. Shown in the photograph from left to right are Father Richard Bretton with Guardian Angels Parish, the Tim Wren Family with Colchester Special Olympics, Tom and Katy Moreno, and Council 6107 Grand Knight Bill Pilotte.

Christian Life Chapel News

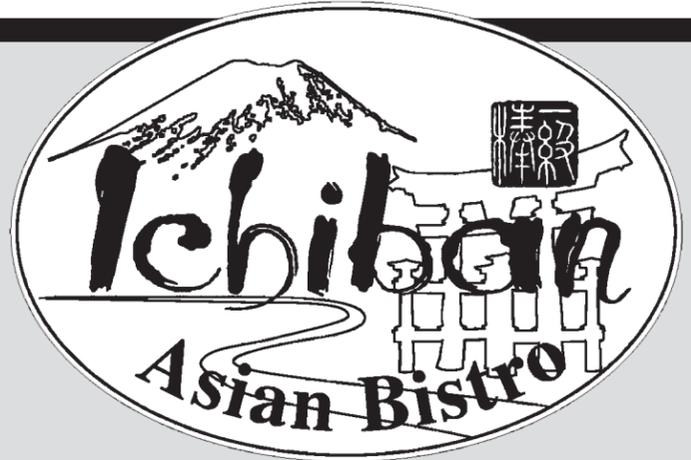
Christian Life Chapel, located at 392 S. Main St., holds worship in person at 10 a.m. Sundays. Follow the church on Facebook for the livestream. For more information, call Pastor Don Rivers - the church's bi-vocational pastor, who also serves as president for "Racing with Jesus, Inc." - at 860-398-9119 or visit christianlifechapel.org.

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

Community Bible Study and Prayer: Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

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

VBS - Vacation Bible School: Building Olympic Spirit. "Celebrating the Victory Through our Savior" - Monday, July 22 to Wednesday, July 24 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Wednesday Evening Picnic: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.



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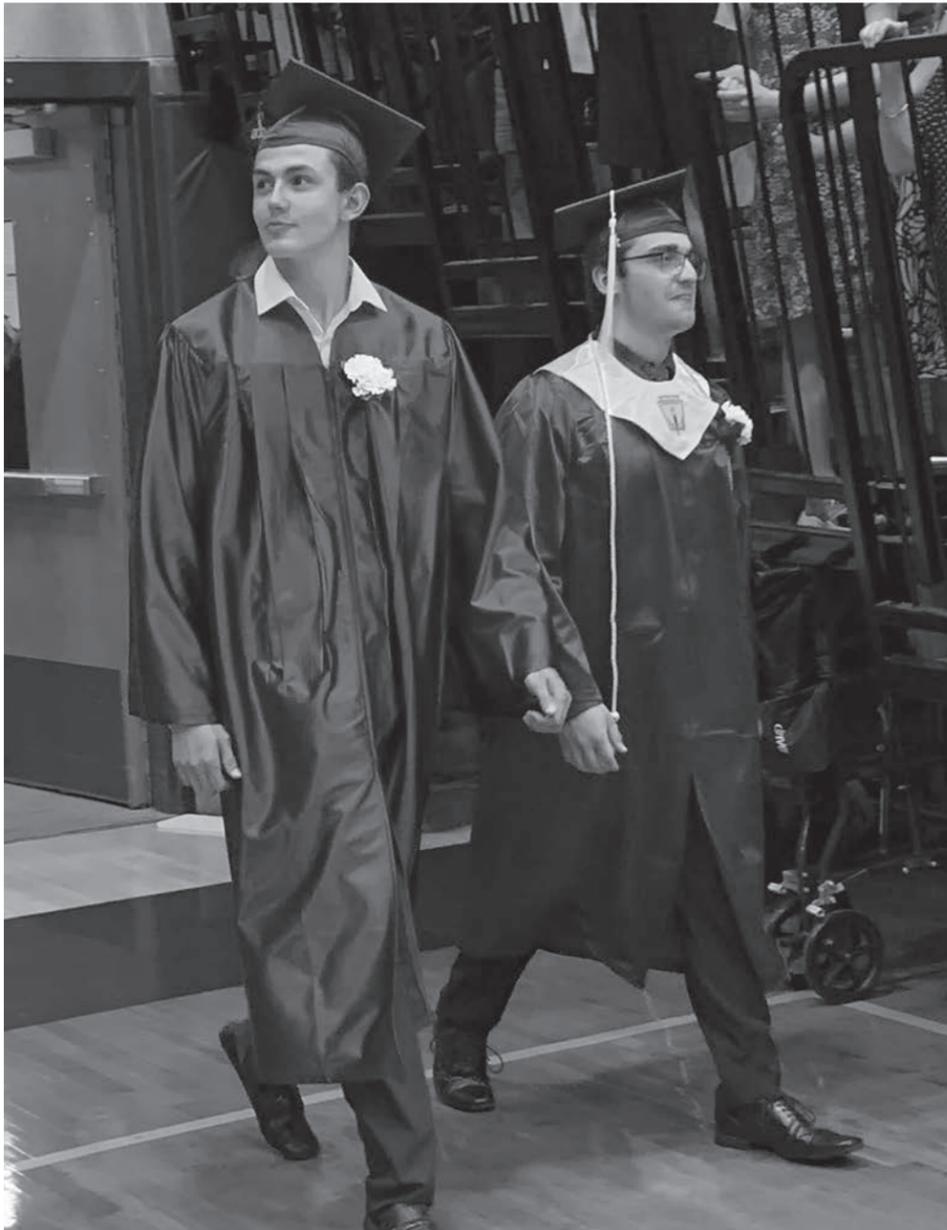
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Cover Story • Cover Story



A Pair of 2024 graduates walk into Dave Shea Gymnasium for Bacon Academy's graduation on June 14.

★ **Bacon Graduates** cont. from page 1

"We possess the capacity, the knowledge to experience life differently than any other animal and from each other," the valedictorian conveyed. "We possess the consciousness to choose our own clothes, to choose our own interests, to set us apart. We have the brain power to live life consciously without relying on instinct, why shouldn't we take advantage of that?"

Her message was pulled from her own life experience: working hard and distinguishing yourself from the pack — a mindset she hopes her classmates adopt moving forward.

"You can't be afraid to deviate from the herd, to challenge the status-quo, to go past all the traffic on the highway of life. Be your own person, otherwise you'll spend your entire life acting like a sheep when you should've spent it being human."

During her speech, Belding asked her peers to embody an unexpected role model.

"Toddlers," she said, "know valuable things we somehow forget and lose overtime."

They stand up and fall, stumble, get up and then fall again, Belding explained, connecting those actions to those of her fellow graduates, who will undoubtedly make mistakes and slip along the way.

"But just like toddlers do, we all need get back up again and keep going, to keep trying and failing and then getting back up again," she expressed.

The salutatorian also credited a young child's ability to live in the present moment, asserting that the "lens they view the world through it pure, untainted by stress and anxiety."

While she surmised that many of her classmates are eager to enter their next chapter, too much anticipation can often obscure what's immediately in front of you. To escape that rut, she offered a list of instructions to take under advisement.

"Cherish life as much as toddlers do — the road trips with friends, the spare moments with family, the time doing your hobby," she said. "Keep your loved ones close to you; lean on them when you need to. Make those mistakes. Smile often. Live in the present moment. Enjoy the little seemingly insignificant moments and above all, embrace your next first steps — the steps we take into our new lives — taking the memories we've made together as we all toddle into adulthood."

Following the ceremony, the parents of Bacon's top academic students caught up with the *Rivereast*, highlighting the effort their children went through to arrive at a peak few will ever reach.

"We're just so proud of her," said Robert Baehr. "She's worked really hard for this. I knew a long time she had a chance of being a valedictorian."

He recalled how his daughter would excel during math conceptions and teachers would report "off the charts" scores.

"I told her, 'It's in your grasp, go get it,'" Baehr recalled.

Looking ahead, his daughter will join the UConn Honors Program to study mathematics with a focus on physics.

Jason Belding recounted his own "proud dad moment" as he described his daughter's exciting journey through invention conventions and winning a state championship with Bacon's robotics team.

Abigail Belding will attend the Worcester Polytechnic Institute to study biomedical engineering.

"I can't wait to see what she does," conveyed her mom, Karen Belding. "She's always been incredibly self-motivated and has always pushed herself. We can't be more proud of a kid that has always just been like that."

'Words of Wisdom'

Besides being the class president, Belcamino was also honored as the Gilbert Lamb Essayist.

She referenced the sound advice one given by Ferris Buller, who famously told moviegoers: "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

"So sure, maybe we didn't stop to look around enough," Belcamino expressed. "But that does not mean we won't hold our memories together. That doesn't mean we won't continue to look back at our high school years and remember the valuable lessons we have learned alongside our peers."

The class of 2024 received wisdom from its teachers, administrators and those who passionately look after, and take pride in, Colchester's flagship school.

Andrew Norton, chairman of the Bacon Academy Board of Trustees, reminded the students that they now join an elite family tree of alumni, including Stephen F. Austin, a major contributor in the creation of Texas.

"Be proud, and remember while you are often asked to aspire to greatness, first and foremost, aspire to goodness; that's what's most important," he said.

Alexander Oliphant, chairman of the Board of Education, accurately pointed out that the gymnasium was quite hot. (Luckily, many of the graduates had water bottles and staff were able to point a giant fan in their direction.)

But he took time in his speech to predict many future accomplishments from the departing seniors.

"All of you have demonstrated that it takes hard work, dedication and a certain amount of resiliency to achieve one's goals, regardless of whether those goals are academic or athletic," he conveyed. "If you continue to persevere, you will go far in life."

Sullivan laced his remarks with several pop-culture references, using lyrics from Megan Moroney, Kenny Chesney and Zac Brown to help illustrate his points. One piece of advice was to be mindful of the pitfalls of social media. He urged graduates to seek genuine and honest feedback from people invested in their success.

"But I assure you, you will not find them in the comment section of Instagram," he added.

Unlike other school districts, Bacon Academy's commencement tradition is not to invite an outside guest speaker. Instead, a compilation of personalized messages from the students' teachers are played over the speakers, providing one last lesson from the individuals who may have had the most integral role in their education.

It's also a moment for some beloved teachers to break some fun news. For example, social studies teacher Angie Parkinson volunteered: "For those who have been asking over the years, you may now friend request me on social media."

Some were saying their final goodbyes after ushering generations of students into the future. Band Director Thomas Kessler, English teacher David Williams and art teacher Paula Berglund retired at the end of the school year.



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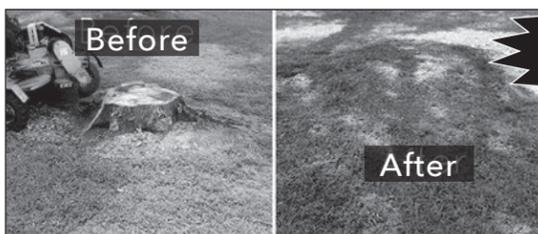
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Colchester Giving Garden Fundraiser

The Colchester Giving Garden has been chosen by our local Stop and Shop store to be the June recipient of their "Bloomin' 4 Good" program. Through the month of June, a dollar will be donated to the Colchester Giving Garden each time a specially marked, \$10.99 flower bouquet is sold at the Linwood Ave. store. This is a great way to support the garden as

well as brighten someone's day!! The Giving Garden grows and donates all of its fresh produce to our town food bank and area soup kitchens and has donated over 14,000 lbs. of food since it started 12 years ago. Please consider the "Bloomin' 4 Good" bouquet during the month of June.

Senior Center News & Notes

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

Daily: Monday, June 24: 9:00 Making Memories; 9:00 Exercise w/Anne; 10:00 Sittercize; 10:00 Stich & Fix; 11:00 Learn to Sign; 12:30 Mah Jongg; 12:30 Bridge; 12:45 Setback; Tuesday, June 25: 9:00 Making Memories; 9:45 Tai Chi; 10:00 Shrinky Dink Repeat; 10:30 Book Club; 12:30 In the Know; 12:30 Pinochle; 1:30 BINGO; 7:00 SCBC Meeting Zoom; Wednesday, June 26: 9:00 Making Memories Program; 9:00 Walking Group meetup at the Airline Trail in Amston; 9:30-11:00 AARP Smart Driver TEK; 10:00 Adult Coloring; 10:00 Sit & Be Fit; 11:30 AARP Driver Safety; 1:00 Sewing Circle; 1:30 Cardio Drumming; Thursday, June 27: 9:00 Exercise w/Anne; 9:15 Newport Trip Departs; 10:00 Sittercize; 10:00 Wii Bowling; 11:00 Yoga; 12:00 Chair Massage; 12:00-3:00 Sr. Benefits Counseling by appointment only; 12:30 Dominos; 1:00 Knit & Crochet; Friday, June 28: 10:00 Sit & Be Fit Video; 10:00 Choral Group; 11:00 Yoga; 11:00 Lunch Bunch to Maggie Mc-

Fly's in Manchester; 1:30 BINGO.

Shrinky Dink Repeat: Tuesday, June 25 10:00 a.m. Back by popular demand. Join Jodi as she shares the resurgence of this popular toy of the 1980's. It is now being used to create creative jewelry (earrings, brooches, and pendants), ornaments and plant stakes. No Experience needed. The cost of this program is \$5 per person and includes two sheets of shrink plastic per person, colored pencils, jewelry findings for up to three pieces, a sealer, and the use of the oven to shrink your creations. Open to all. Space is limited.

4th of July Luncheon: Wednesday, July 3 11:00 a.m. In July our monthly luncheon will take place on Wednesday, July 3 and will be a 4th of July Picnic. Join us for beef burgers on buns with cheese, lettuce, sliced tomato & onion, potato salad, coleslaw, lemonade, and ice cream treats. We will enjoy some patriotic songs from our Senior Serenaders, partake in picnic-style games and enjoy each other's company. The cost is \$9 per person, Space is limited. Must register by June 26

Visit us on the town web site at www.colchesterct.gov or call 860-537-3911 for more information.

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.

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.

Naugy Scenic Train: Naugatuck Railroad Friday, September 13 at 9:30 a.m. Start your day at Black Rock Tavern in the heart of Thomaston, CT for a full course lunch of your choice (Chicken Marsala, Salmon with Lemon, or Pork Tenderloin) with vegetable, potato, dessert, and

beverage. Take a scenic ride on a vintage diesel pulled locomotive, The Naugy. Enjoy a ride through the Naugatuck River Valley over bridges and along the river. In Waterbury the train will make a stop at Fascia's Chocolate Factory where you will learn its history and purchase some treats before the train returns to Thomaston Station. (Please note the platform at Fascia's is not suitable for guests with wheelchairs or walkers) The cost is \$129 per person. Sign up before August 13th.

Covered Bridges of New Hampshire: Tuesday, October 1 at 7:45 a.m. Enjoy a family style lunch at the Inn at East Hill Farm, a working farm and Inn in the shadow of Mount Monadnock in Troy, NH. Delight in homemade soup, fresh breads, fritters with maple syrup, hot entrees, sides, and delicious desserts. Then grab your camera and explore several covered bridges (kissing bridges) in southern NH with a guided tour with a local experienced guide. The cost is \$134 per person. Sign up before September 1st

New Summer Art Camps

The Color House creative arts studio is excited to announce the kick-off of their first Summer Art Camp program series. The camps will be held weekly, and each week will feature a different theme. Themes for 2024 include Sand & Sea, Fantasy & Dreams, Nature, Magic & Curiosities, and Animals. Campers will experience a variety of creative opportunities from clay to painting, crafting, and even slime making. There will be 2 sessions each day with a morning session for kids ages 8-12, and an afternoon session for teens ages 13-16. Camps will be held for 3 weeks in July and 2 weeks in August. Each session costs \$225 and will be held at The Color House's new location at 738 Middletown Rd in Colchester. Sign up online at www.cohoct.com/summercamps

Troop 72 Collecting Recyclables

Colchester Boy Scout Troop 72 is still accepting recyclable containers that can be redeemed in Connecticut. If you are in the Colchester area and you would like to donate recyclables to Troop 72, leave your donations at the left-hand side of the Polish Club pavilion at 395 South Main Street, Colchester. Or you can provide contact information at letendrej@sbcglobal.net or leave a message at 860-917-8391.

Standout Student

On May 21, William J. Johnston Middle School 7th grade student Charlotte Bunting received the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering Award for her Connecticut Invention Convention project: The Safety Seat.

Charlotte, her family and her Innovations teacher, Kristina Ngai, were invited to attend the annual CASE meeting and dinner where Charlotte was able to present her project to scientists and engineers from the State of Connecticut and hear a keynote speech from world renowned immunobiologist and Yale Medical School professor Dr. Akiko Iwasaki. Charlotte's invention "The Safety Seat," provides a portable and comfortable solution to help younger children with physical disabilities safely remain in their school chairs throughout the day.

Charlotte created her invention as part of a class project in her 7th grade Innovations elective class. She plans to continue working on and improving her invention in order to help younger children within her community.



Charlotte Bunting

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.

Abundant Life Church News & Notes

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

Sunday Services: Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. and the main service is at 10:30 a.m. There is also Children's Church available for ages 4-11. All are welcome. The main service is also broadcast live each week on Facebook. Visit www.facebook.com/groups/abundantlifeCT or look

for the church on Facebook. For more information, call the church.

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

Resident Graduates

Torye Seidler of Colchester received a Bachelor of Science in Human Environmental Sciences degree from The University of Alabama.

Doreen's Dance Center

711 Middletown Road, Colchester, CT

Summer Camps!

For more information and to register, visit:
DoreensDanceCenter.net

ACROBATIC CAMPS 9:00am – Noon

- Galactic Acro | June 24-28 | ages 3-5
- Beginner Acro | July 8-12 | ages 5-7
- Tumbling | July 15-19 | ages 10+
- Intermediate Acro | July 22-26 | ages 6+

THEMED CAMPS 9:00am – Noon

- In My Sparkle Era | July 8-12 | ages 7-10
- Barbie Land Extravaganza | July 15-19 | ages 5-7
- Disney Days | July 29- August 2 | ages 3-5
- It's a Swifty Summer! | August 19-23 | ages 10-12

— TRY ALL STYLES OF DANCE AT THESE CAMPS! —

9:00am – Noon

- Gotta Dance | July 22-26 | ages 6-8
- Dance Explorers | August 19-23 | ages 3-5

— FULL DAY CAMPS 9:00am – 4:30pm —

June 24-28 & July 1 | ages 5-10

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Marlborough • Marlborough

Marlborough Budget Finally Approved at Referendum

By Michael Sinkewicz

Marlborough residents last week approved a 2024-25 fiscal year budget at referendum — the third attempt at adopting a new spending plan — concluding what became a challenging budget season.

Last Thursday, June 13, the community voted 470-295 in favor of the revised proposal, a sizable margin of support after the two prior blueprints were both rejected.

Beginning July 1, the bottom-line budget will be \$27.65 million — a \$551,700, or 2.04%, increase from current year spending. The Board of Education (BOE) budget is \$8.69 million — a \$174,396, or 2.05%, increase from the 2023-24 fiscal year. The overall town budget is \$6.69 million — a \$257,328, or 4%, increase.

The RHAM levy — which represents the remaining slice of the budget — was cemented in May after being approved at the first referendum. (Marlborough residents voted against regional school budget, but were ultimately outnumbered by the support from Andover and Hebron.)

This week, after press time, the Board of Finance was expected to set the new mill rate at 36.29 — an increase of 1.56 — resulting in a 4.49% tax increase.

For properties assessed at \$250,000, the tax bill will go up by \$390 for a new total of \$9,072; with an assessment of \$650,000, the bill will increase by \$1,013 for a total of \$23,587. Accordingly, properties assessed within that range will see a tax increase in-between those two amounts.

Although elected officials had trimmed both the town and school budgets throughout the budget season, Town Manager David Porter warned that another failure at the ballot box likely would've resulted in "painful" and "no-

ticeable" cuts.

Advisory questions included on the second referendum ballot concluded that residents believed the budget proposal was still too expensive.

The majority of respondents said the school capital budget was appropriate and most felt the school operational budget was also appropriate, but an option of "too high" was a close second choice. But for the town, most residents submitted that the operational and capital budgets were both "too high."

The final adopted budget appeared more palatable than the original figures advanced by the local boards. Initially, residents were presented with a proposed 37.83 mill rate — a 3.10 increase that would've resulted in a 8.92% tax bump. Over the last two months, officials slashed that increase nearly in half.

"I'm very grateful for the community support of the budget," Porter told the *Rivereast*. "We're going to be able to provide high-quality services."

There were big-ticket items eliminated to save costs, Porter continued. Perhaps most notably, a substantial project to repair the culvert on Johnson Road was postponed, reducing the capital expenses for the upcoming fiscal year.

While Porter conveyed that he wouldn't have supported axing the item if there was a serious public risk, he acknowledged that the project was overdue.

"We are taking a risk," he said.

Overall, though, Porter believes he's been given the resources to adequately maintain the town moving forward.

"We're going to do our very best," he asserted.

The 2024-25 fiscal year budget season represented a series of "firsts" for the community.

Porter officially took over last August as Marlborough's first ever town manager, and helped lead the budget process, specifically regarding municipal matters.

Still, Porter said the experience was new for him as well, mainly because his previous management role was in a town that did not adopt budgets through a referendum system. He was "impressed" by "how involved our community is" with crafting and approving a spending plan. Next year, Porter said he'd like to draw residents into the process even earlier in order to make the budget season more efficient.

During a town meeting earlier this month, residents supported a transfer of \$100,000 from the capital non-recurring fund intended for the elementary school roof replacement to further the South Buckboard culvert replacement project, which lowered the mill rate without drawing from either the BOE or town budgets.

Deb Bourbeau, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, and Kerri Barella, chairman of the BOE, also read a joint statement urging residents to support the revised budget proposal at the third referendum.

"On behalf of both the BOS and the BOE, we ask you to vote in favor of the budget for both the Town and the school district. The overall budget has been reduced based upon voter feedback from the first two referendums and is now at a 4.49% increase. Further cuts will impact our community."

They added, "We urge all voters to cast their

votes on June 13th and hope that with these important adjustments, a better voter turnout will also lead to the budget passing."

Leading up to the first referendum, local officials penned a letter to Marlborough residents outlining the plethora of conditions that contributed to a spiked mill rate and asking the community to support the budget. That letter was signed by the boards of selectmen, finance and education, as well as the RHAM school board.

Early in the budget season, some residents and elected officials spotlighted potential savings in the school budget following the imminent retirement of longtime elementary school principals Dan White and Kim Kelley. However, after conducting an extensive search, the school district moved ahead with hiring Paula Graef and Kristen Trahan as co-administrators, which resulted in a slight increase in the administrative budget-line.

While some community members suggested that the district transition to a one-principal model, Superintendent of Schools Holly Hageman consistently dismissed the idea, conveying, "It's simply not a one principal job."

"There was never a question on the Board of Education's part that the two retiring administrators were going to be replaced," she previously said. The district, she added, has featured two administrators for over 40 years.

Parks and Rec Upcoming Programs

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

Youth: Skyhawks Tots (Soccer, Baseball and Basketball) – Age 2, Tuesdays, May 21 – June 18, 5:00 pm – 5:45pm at the Marlborough Elementary School. This multi-sport program is designed to introduce young athletes to a variety of different sports in one setting. Athletes will learn the rules and essentials of each sport through skill-based games and scrimmages. Registration fee \$89.00 residents/\$94.00 non-residents.

Skyhawks Tots (Soccer, Baseball and Basketball) – Age 3&4, Tuesdays, May 21st – June 18, 6:00 pm – 6:45pm at the Marlborough Elementary School. This multi-sport program is designed to introduce young athletes to a variety of different sports in one setting. Athletes will learn the rules and essentials of each sport through skill-based games and scrimmages. Registration fee \$89.00 residents/\$94.00 non-residents.

Netto Summer Day Camp – Grades K-7, June 24 – August 16 at Blish Park. Campers will enjoy camp games, arts & crafts, swimming, sports, field trips and special events. All campers are supervised by counselors and lifeguards trained in CPR/First Aid. Registration is \$175.00 resident/\$185.00 non-resident.

Swim Lessons – These classes are designed to allow swimmers to develop good habits in the water, become comfortable in the water, learn and refine new strokes, and become stronger, safer swimmers. Lessons will begin the week of June 27. All lesson levels are offered. All lessons are held at Blish Park. Registration fee is \$65.00 resident/\$70.00 non-resident.

Mad Science-Red Hot Robots With Coding – Grades K-6, June 24 – June 28, 9:00 am-12:00 pm in the MES cafeteria. Registration fee is \$128.00 resident/\$133.00 non-resident.

Lego – Minecraft Engineering – Ages 5 - 7, June 24 – June 28, 8:30 am – 11:30 am. Venture into the world of Minecraft in our unique LEGO® experience. Get ready to build your base, craft your tools, use your Minecart to harvest raw resources, and battle to stop the Ender Dragon from ending the world. Come explore the endless possibilities of LEGO® with a trained Play-Well instructor. Class is held in the Elmer

Thienes – Mary Hall Cafeteria. Cost is \$145.00 resident/\$150.00 non-resident.

Lego – Minecraft Master Engineering – Ages 8 - 12, June 24 – June 28, 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Bring your favorite Minecraft adventures to life with our enthusiastic Play-Well instructors. In a Minecraft world powered by LEGO® resources, we will build shelters to keep out Creepers, craft mystical items that only true masters can wield, and perfect our crossbow skills to stop the Wither from taking over! Class is held in the Elmer Thienes – Mary Hall Cafeteria. Cost is \$145.00 resident/\$150.00 non-resident.

Skyhawks Basketball Camp - Ages 5 & 6, June 24 – June 28, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Marlborough Elementary School gym. This fun, skill intensive program is designed for beginning to intermediate athletes. An active week of passing, shooting, dribbling and rebounding. Boys and girls will also learn vital life lessons such as respect, teamwork and responsibility. Registration is \$139.00 residents/\$144.00 non-residents.

Skyhawks Basketball Camp - Ages 7 - 12, June 24 – June 28, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at the Marlborough Elementary School gym. This fun, skill intensive program is designed for beginning to intermediate athletes. An active week of passing, shooting, dribbling and rebounding. Boys and girls will also learn vital life lessons such as respect, teamwork and responsibility. Registration is \$179.00 residents/\$184.00 non-residents.

Dance Camp – Princess Tea Party – Ages 4-7, June 24 – June 27, 9 am – 12 pm. Join us on a magical journey of dance and crafts. Each day, your little princesses will learn how to dance with elegance and grace while also creating enchanting crafts. Dressing up like a princess is highly encouraged. Each day is dedicated to a different princess, with Monday featuring Elsa and Anna from Frozen, Tuesday starring Belle from Beauty and the Beast, Wednesday showcasing Ariel from The Little Mermaid, and Thursday celebrating your favorite princess of all. Camp is held at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Registration fee is \$215.00.

Horseback Riding Lessons – Ages 5 and up, English or Western style instruction. The lessons are private and are an hour in length. The lessons days and times are flexible. The instructor will contact you upon registration to set up lesson day and time. Instruction provided by Jo-Ellen Lemanski. Registration fee is 4 lessons for \$175.00 residents/\$180.00 non-residents.

Adult: Beginner & Intermediate Tai Chi – Tuesday/Thursdays, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm at the Marlborough Senior Center. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese health practice of slow gentle movements that research shows to help improve your balance, flexibility, physical and mental well-being. Registration fee is \$40.00 resident/\$45.00 non-resident.

ZUMBA – Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 pm in the MES cafeteria. The exciting, simple dance routines done to Latin and International music, will have you moving and grooving. Registration fee is \$50 residents/\$55 non-residents/\$12 drop-in fee. Class instruction provided by Anna Boose.

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.

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.

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.stjfcchurch.org, or look for the church on Facebook (Saint John Fisher Roman Catholic Church).



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Blood Drive

On July 24 from 1:00 p.m. -6:00 p.m., the American Legion Post 197 will be hosting a Blood Drive. Plenty of spots are still open and donors can register by visiting www.redcrossblood.org. Snacks will be provided.

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Juneteeth Recognition Day

Marlborough's Juneteeth Recognition Day will be held on June 22. The day will be dedicated to 41 African American Marlborough residents who were denied burial at Century Cemetery in the 1700s and 1800s. The event will be in three parts: From 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Self-guided viewing of the 41 names at the Marlborough Congregational Church. At 2:30 p.m. a ceremony at Century Cemetery will begin with remarks by Romano Ghirlanda followed by a memorial service given by

Pastor Val Seaver from the Marlborough Congregational Church. At 3:30, the distinguished Dr. Camesha Scruggs will speak at Richmond Memorial Library about the significance of Juneteenth.

A reception at the library will conclude this special day. Richmond Memorial Library will also have drop-in activities all day. Community members are invited to attend any single event or all the events. For more information, please visit www.marlboroughhistory.org.

Pastel Painting Class

The Marlborough Arts Center is pleased to announce an upcoming class in Pastel Painting. Rebecca Moran, art professor at Eastern Connecticut State University, will teach the class, which is open to adults at any level of experience.

The class will run for six weeks, beginning Tuesday, July 16, and ending August 20, 2024, from 10:00 AM to Noon. The fee is \$120.00.

All that is needed is a sheet of rough paper, a set of pastel sticks and a willingness to explore

the world of color in the subject of your choice.

Class size is limited to ten students. Recommendations for materials will be supplied upon registration. Registration forms are available at www.marlborougharts.org and can be printed, filled out and mailed to: The Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main Street, Marlborough CT 06447. It is also possible to register online at the website. For more information, please call the Arts Center at 860-467-6353.

Marlborough Greater Together Seeks Volunteers

The Marlborough Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving is growing and in search of additional committee members to join us to give back to serve our community in an exciting way.

The Advisory Committee is comprised of Marlborough residents who work to identify community needs and ensure that distribution of funds yields the greatest benefit to town residents.

In November 2021 the advisory committee awarded over \$30,000 to six non-profit organizations for projects to support our Marlborough community. In 2024 over \$40,000 was awarded to ten organizations serving the community.

To serve on the committee applicants must be residents of Marlborough, not serve as an elected town official, and be at least 14 years old. Typically, evening meetings are one to two

hours per month as determined by the committee. Occasionally one to two hours of additional work outside the committee meeting is required. Previous experience in community organizations or in grant making is not required.

Anyone meeting the qualifications and interested in joining the committee should submit a simple application form for consideration. To apply visit www.hfpg.org/marlboroughcf. For more information contact the community fund at communityfund.marlborough@gmail.com. Deadline for application is July 26, 2024.

MVFD Woman's Auxiliary Awarded Citation

On May 10, the MVFD Woman's Auxiliary was presented with an "Official Citation" by Connecticut State Representative Steve Weir. This citation was issued by the Connecticut General Assembly for "70 years of dedication and support of the activities, fundraising and needs of the members of the Marlborough Volunteer Fire Company." The Woman's Auxiliary was founded in April 1954. They continue to support both the MVFD and surrounding communities.

President's List

Bryant University is pleased to recognize Mackenzie Donnelly and Max Nylen of Marlborough as students who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to academic excellence and achievement and have been named to the Spring 2024 President's List.

The President's List is an academic distinction reserved for Bryant's highest achievers who earn a GPA of 4.0 for at least 12 semester hours of work.

Arts Center's Event

The Marlborough Arts Center's 4th Fridays @ the Arts Café stars Lara Herscowitz and the Highway Philosophers on Friday, June 28 at the Arts Center. Lara is a folk singer and songwriter who is known for the clarity of her voice as well as the range of her songwriting. It has been said that one can feel the emotion in her vocals and marvel at the creativity that flows through her performances. She has received many accolades throughout her career including a two-year

stint as Connecticut State Troubadour, an honor which she holds dear, and now she brings her art and her Highway Philosophers trio to Marlborough.

The Arts Center is located at 231 North Main Street in Marlborough CT. Admission is \$10 at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the performances starting at 7:30 p.m. The building is fully accessible and there is ample parking.

Marlborough Jr. Ancient Fife and Drum Corps Seeking New Members

The Marlborough Jr. Ancient Fife and Drum Corps is now accepting new members. Children between the ages of 9 and 17 are sought to join the ranks, meet new friends, travel interesting places, and as a team to carry on the American traditions of fifing and drumming.

The Corps has been a source of music, marching, and living history for children in Marlborough and surrounding towns for more than 5 decades. Members will receive free instruction to learn to play the fife or the drum as well as learn to march and work together as a team. Members have opportunities to travel

throughout Connecticut and New England as the Corps performs at parades, musters and other events.

The Marlborough Jrs Ancients meet every Tuesday night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for lessons and marching practice at the Elmer Thienes-Mary Hall Elementary School in Marlborough Connecticut. Feel free to drop by a rehearsal or reach out to MarlboroughJrAncients@gmail.com.

For more information visit MJAFDC's website www.MarlboroughJrAncients.com.

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday Worship and Sunday School at the Congregational Church of Marlborough, United Church of Christ, 35 South Main St., is at 10 a.m. in the newly air-conditioned sanctuary. Worship is broadcast live every Sunday and recorded for later viewing at mcc.marlconchurch.org. Child-care for infants and toddlers is provided downstairs in the nursery but children are always welcome at the worship service. In June, instead of class time, Sunday School students are invited to participate in games, arts, and crafts. All children in the community are welcome.

Sunday, June 23. Reverend Valerie Seaver will lead the worship service. Her sermon title is "Faith in Living or Faith in Dying." Sunday School children are invited to participate in flower arranging for the Care Team, led by Carolyn Aubin.

Saturday, June 22. The Marlborough Congregational Church will participate in the Marlborough Preservation Society's commemoration of Juneteenth. The public is invited. From 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. a self-guided candlelight viewing of the names of 41 black citizens who were denied entry for burial into Century Cemetery during the early 1800s, will be held in the church meeting-house. At 2:30 p.m. a ceremony will be held at the Century Cemetery. The church bell will be rung 41 times, Pastor Val will speak, and a commemorative bench will be dedicated. A program and reception will be held at the Richmond Memorial Library at 3:30 p.m.

Outreach. The Church collects non-perishable

food items year-round for Marlborough Food Bank with a basket located in the narthex for Sunday worshippers to bring donations. The church-sponsored Drive Thru Café for Marlborough Food Bank patrons with vouchers and the monthly meal and visiting with residents at Florence Lord Housing will be June 30. June church mission giving will go the AHM Mental Health Fund.

AA. The church sponsors weekly meetings: Wednesdays and Thursdays at noon in the Youth Room; Wednesdays at 7:30 pm. in the Community Fellowship Hall. ACA meets Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Youth Room.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop, located on the lower level, is open for shopping and donating Fridays, from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm. A June storewide end of season sale continues with everything 50% off. The shop sells year-round through eBay at <https://bit.ly/MCCebay>. As a part of its annual charitable giving, Second Blessings Thrift Shop recently made two donations totaling \$500 to the Richmond Memorial Library and to the Marlborough Junior Ancient Fife and Drum Corps.

General Information. The Marlborough Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming faith community and all are welcome. For more information about the church or its programs, please call Pastor Valerie Seaver's direct line at 860.295.0432 or email pastorval@marlconchurch.org

Marlborough Parks and Rec. Concerts

Summer Concert Series at Blish Park: Windham Concert Band —Tuesday, July 2 @ 6:00 p.m. (Patriotic/Classic); Taste of Sheetrock—Thursday, July 18 @ 6:00 p.m. (Modern Rock); Nightshift—Thursday, August 1 @ 6:00 p.m. (Classic Rock); Judy Pancoast—Thursday, August 8 @ 6:00 p.m. (Children's Show); The Daily Planet—Thursday, August 15 @ 6:00 p.m. (Classic Rock); Seat Of Our Pants—Thursday, August 22nd @ 6:00pm (Folk/Contemporary). For more information call 860-295-6203

MAEVE RHAM'S Senior & Kids Bingo

All are welcome to join this Sunday, June 23 from 2-4 p.m. for bingo at the Marlborough Senior Center. As always, it's free to play and there are some great prizes for all ages. If we don't have a great turnout, we may cancel for the rest of the summer months. So, if you'd like to see bingo continue throughout the summer, be sure to stop on by. To RSVP or ask any questions, feel free to reach out to us at: rham@wearemaeve.org

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LEGALS

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
IWWA**

Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands and Water-courses Agency will hold a meeting at 6:30 p.m. on June 26, 2024 to consider the following:
Application IW-24-008: Lakewood Estates, Lakewood Road, Open Space Subdivision for in Upland Review Area. Map 03A/ Block 44/ Lot 23, Map 03A/ Block 44C/ Lot 94
Chairman Joshua Wilson

2TB 6/14, 6/21

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing**

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a regular meeting on July 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall and via ZOOM Virtual Meeting to consider the following:
PZC-24-006: Lakewood Estates LLC, Lakewood Rd., Open Space Subdivision for 12 Lots in R3 Zone. Map 03A/ Block 44/ Lot 23, Map 03A/ Block 44C/ Lot 94.
Applications and Maps are on file in the Land Use Office 860 267-7450.
Kevin Kuhr, Chairman

2TB 6/21, 6/28

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing**

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a regular meeting on July 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall and via ZOOM Virtual Meeting to consider the following:
PZC-24-007: Academy 21 LLC, 21 West High Street, Special Permit to add boarding and grooming to basement of existing facility. Map 01A/ Block 47/ Lot 5A.
Applications and Maps are on file in the Land Use Office 860 267-7450.
Kevin Kuhr, Chairman

2TB 6/21, 6/28

**LEGAL NOTICE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
TOWN OF HEBRON, CONNECTICUT**

The Hebron Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 7:30 PM, at the Hebron Town Office Building, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT, concerning the following:
1. **Petition 2024-2:** Request of Amy R. Larew, Trustee, for a variance of Section 2.E.5 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, to allow a 5' x 8' accessory structure (shed) to be located 4' from the side property line where the minimum side yard setback is 10', on premise located at 125 Deepwood Drive, Amston Lake District. Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, on this 11th day of June 2024.
Martin Halloran, Chairperson
Interested persons may appear and all written communications will be received.
Legal Notice will be published in the Rivereast News Bulletin on Friday, June 21, 2024 and Friday, June 28, 2024.
Legal Notice will be published on the Town of Hebron Website at <https://hebronct.com/agendas/>

2TB 6/21, 6/28

**MIDDLE HADDAM HISTORIC
DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, June 27, 2024
6:30 P.M. AT TOWN HALL
LEGAL NOTICE**

Public hearing will be held to consider the following:
Application 597 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 2 Knowles Road, Middle Haddam, to reconstruct front stone steps and install wrought iron railing for applicant Donna Roberts of the Middle Haddam Public Library.
Application 598 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 26 Shipyard Road, Middle Haddam, to replace existing path and steps with granite steps and pavers for applicants George and Alannah Coshaw.
Application 599 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 33 High Point, Middle Haddam, to locate a storage building on the property for applicants David and Melissa Baribault.
The foregoing applications are available for public review at the East Hampton Town Hall. At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications will be received.

1TB 6/21

**LEGAL NOTICE
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
HEBRON, CONNECTICUT**

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at a Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, on the following:
1. **Petition 2024-19** – Petition of Dan Bowers, owner, for approval of a Special Permit in accordance with Section 2.E.8 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations to construct a 42' x 56' (2352 sq.ft.) workshop and agricultural building in excess of 1,200 sq.ft. on a 6.16-acre property located at 352 Wall St, Residence-1 District.
Planning and Zoning Commission
June 25, 2024, 7:00–10:00 PM (America/New_York)
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.goto.com/477079133>
You can also dial in using your phone.
Access Code: 477-079-133
United States: +1 (872) 240-3212
Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:
<https://meet.goto.com/install>
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 12th day of June 2024.
Frank Zitkus, Chair

2TB 6/14, 6/21

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF ANDOVER
REVENUE COLLECTOR'S NOTICE**

To the property owners of the Town of Andover:
The First installment of the taxes listed on the October 1, 2023 Grand List becomes due and payable to the Town of Andover on July 1, 2024. Payments must be US postmarked, paid on line, or brought to Town Hall by August 1, 2024 to avoid an interest charge. Interest will be charged starting August 2, 2024 on all delinquent bills at a rate of 18% per year (1½% per month) from the due date of July 1st, with a minimum charge of \$2 for each bill.
View or pay taxes online at www.andoverct.org. Cash, check or money order payments are accepted at the Town Hall during business hours. Payments by check or money order may be mailed to the Tax Collector's office or placed in the drop box outside Town Hall. Typical office hours during collection months are Monday 8:15am- 7pm, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:15am-4pm. Please refer to www.andoverct.org for updated office hours.
Failure to receive a tax bill will not invalidate the tax or any interest which may, by State law, accrue.
If you have any questions, please contact the tax office at 860-742-4035 option 4.
Kate Morrissey, Tax Collector
Town of Andover
17 School Road
Andover, CT 06232

3TB 6/21, 7/5, 7/26

**TOWN OF HEBRON
TAX COLLECTOR'S LEGAL NOTICE**

Taxes levied on the Grand List of October 1, 2023 become due and payable on July 1, 2024. Real Estate tax bills of less than \$250, Personal Property tax bills, and Motor Vehicle tax bills shall be due in a single installment on July 1, 2024. Real Estate tax bills over \$250 shall be due and payable in two equal installments on July 1, 2024 and January 1, 2025.
Taxes received/postmarked by **August 1, 2024** will be considered timely. Payments received/postmarked August 2nd or later will be subject to interest of 1.5% per month or 18 % annually from the due date in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes. Initial interest starting August 2nd is 3% of outstanding taxes with a minimum of \$2.00 per tax account. **State Statutes dictate that failure to receive a bill does not invalidate amount due.**
Please make **checks payable to: Town of Hebron.** Payments may be mailed to: **Tax Collector, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248-0134.** A secured drop-off box is located on the lower level, south side of the building for payments. Please see the town's website www.hebronct.com for on-line payment options.
The Collector's office is located in the lower level of the Town Hall at 15 Gilead Street. Our hours are Monday to Wednesday 8:00am to 4:00pm, Thursday 8:00am to 6:00pm, and Friday 8:00am to 1:00pm. The Tax and Assessor's Offices will close from 12:30 to 1:15 Monday – Thursday for lunch to accommodate a reduction in staff.
Respectfully,
Adrian MacLean
Hebron Revenue Collector

3TB 6/21, 7/5, 7/26

**TOWN OF PORTLAND
LEGAL NOTICE**

Legal notice to the taxpayers of the Town of Portland that the first installment of real estate and personal property taxes if over \$100.00 on the Grand List of October 1, 2023 are due and payable July 1, 2024. If the amount owed is \$100.00 or under the bill is due in full. Motor vehicle taxes are due and payable in full by August 1, 2024.
Taxes not paid in full on or before August 1, 2024 become delinquent and are subject to interest of 1.5% from due date of July 1, 2024.
Minimum interest charge will be \$2.00.
Quarterly Water and/or sewer usage bills are due and payable July 17, 2024. Payment not made in full on or before August 19, 2024 will be subject to interest of 1.5% per month from due date.
Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax nor interest. For tax information or to PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE, visit our website www.portlandct.org. Please contact the Collector of Revenue if you do not have a bill.
The Collector of Revenue and Revenue Collection Assistant are available by telephone (860) 342-6737 or email cgotta@portlandct.org.
The staff will be out of the office on Thursday, July 4, 2024 and Friday, July 5, 2024 in observance of Independence Day.
The normal staffing hours are as follows:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Cynthia L. Gotta CCMC
Town of Portland
Collector of Revenue

3TB 6/21, 7/5, 7/26

**LEGAL NOTICE of SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 6:55 PM
Portland High School Media Center,
95 High Street, Portland, CT 06480**

The electors and those persons eligible to vote in town meetings of the Town of Portland, Connecticut, are hereby warned and notified that pursuant to Chapter XII Section 1203.4 of the Town Charter, a Special Town Meeting will be held by the Board of Selectmen on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 6:55 P.M. in the Portland High School Media Center, 95 High Street, Portland, CT for the following:
ITEM 1. To Approve a supplemental appropriation in line #01-093-000-90012 Transfer out – Cap Non Rec Town of \$360,000; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby approves a supplemental appropriation in line item #01-093-000-90012 Transfer Out-Cap Non Rec Town in the amount of \$360,000; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby approves funding for the supplemental appropriation in line item #01-093-000-90012 Transfer Out- Cap Non Rec Town through an increase in estimated revenue to line item #01-000-000-00401 Investment Income of \$250,000 and an increase in estimated revenue to line item #01-000-000-00011 Prop Taxes-Prior Years of \$110,000; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby approves an increase in estimated revenues #08-141-000-00501 Transfers in General Fund Town of \$360,000 and an increase in supplemental appropriation to expenditure line item #08-141-000-89090 Public Works - Highway Division/Vehicle Maintenance - Road Construction/Drainage.
A copy of the complete resolution to be voted on is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office and on the Town's website at www.portlandct.org. Dated this 18th day of June 2024
Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman

1TB 6/21

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF COLCHESTER
ATTENTION COLCHESTER TAXPAYERS**

Notice is hereby given to the Town of Colchester taxpayers that tax bills on the Grand List of October 1, 2023 are due and payable on July 1, 2024. Real estate, personal property and motor vehicle taxes are due and payable on July 1, 2024. Real estate taxes of more than \$100.00 may be paid in two equal installments, July 1, 2024 and January 1, 2025. There will be no 2nd billing for Real Estate.
If any tax due on July 1, 2024 is not paid on or before August 1, 2024, the tax installment shall be delinquent and interest at the rate of 18% per annum (1 ½ % per month) shall be charged dating back to the original due date of the bill. Taxes that become delinquent on August 1, 2024 shall be charged delinquent interest for the months of July and August, 2024, or 3%. The minimum interest charge for delinquent taxes is \$2.00.
Taxpayers who did not receive a bill should contact the Tax Office **immediately.** Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or any interest charged should the tax become delinquent. Taxpayers may access tax bill information and pay on-line from the homepage of the Town of Colchester website at www.colchesterct.gov and clicking the "View and Pay Tax Bills" link under Online Services – **fees apply.**
Avoid waiting in long lines by paying on-line under Online Services, return your payment by mail or use our night drop box located to the left of Colchester Town Hall's entrance. If a receipt is desired, please send a self addressed stamped envelope and two copies of the bill. Mail postmarked (US Postal Service postmark only) on or before August 1, 2024 will be considered as having been paid on time. **Payments dropped in the town hall's drop box after 4:30p.m. on August 1, 2024, will be considered as having been made on the following business day and will be deemed as paid late.**
Please make all checks payable to the Tax Collector. Checks may be mailed to the Tax Office, 127 Norwich Avenue Colchester, CT, 06415. Questions concerning tax payments should be directed to the Tax Office, (860) 537-7210.
Michele Wyatt, CCMC
Town of Colchester
Tax Collector

3TB 6/21, 7/12, 7/26

**LEGAL NOTICE of SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.
Portland High School Media Center, 95 High
Street, Portland, CT 06480**

The electors and those persons eligible to vote in town meetings of the Town of Portland, Connecticut, are hereby warned and notified that pursuant to Chapter V, Section 503(a) of the Town Charter, a Special Town Meeting will be held on **June 26, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.** in the Portland High School Media Center, 95 High Street, Portland, CT for the following purpose:
ITEM 1. To discuss a Resolution:
(a) To appropriate \$68,000,000 for costs related to the renovation and expansion of Valley View Elementary School into a pre-K-Grade 5 school;
(b) To finance said appropriation by issuing bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed \$68,000,000;
(c) To authorize the First Selectman, Deputy First Selectman, Director of Finance, or any two of them, to determine the terms, conditions, and other details of the bonds or notes;
(d) To declare the Town's intent to finance the project so that project costs may be temporarily advanced; to authorize the First Selectman, Deputy First Selectman, Director of Finance, or any two of them, enter into agreements to bind the Town in connection with financing the project; and to determine that, if necessary, financing of the project on a taxable basis is in the public interest; and
(e) To authorize the First Selectman, Deputy First Selectman, Director of Finance, or any two of them, to apply for and accept or reject grants-in-aid for the project, and to authorize the First Selectman to execute agreements and other documents on behalf of the Town for the project and the financing of the project.
A copy of the complete resolution to be voted on is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office and on the Town's website at www.portlandct.org. Dated this 18th day of June 2024.
Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman

1TB 6/21

**LEGAL NOTICE
HEBRON MUNICIPAL PRIMARY**

**NOTICE OF PRIMARY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
NOTICE OF PRIMARY OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY**

NOTICE is hereby given that a Primary of the Republican Party will be held in the Town of Hebron, on August 13, 2024, for the nomination to the following MUNICIPAL OFFICE to be filled at the Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024:

OFFICE	TERM
Registrar of Voters	1/8/2025-1/3/2029

Notice is also hereby given that the following is the party-endorsed candidate of the Republican Party for nomination to said Municipal Office, together with the street address of said candidate:

NAME	ADDRESS	OFFICE	TERM
Michele R. May	94 Cone Road	Registrar of Voters	1/8/2025-1/3/2029

Notice is hereby given that the following enrolled member of the Republican Party has filed petitions, in conformity with CGS § 9-406, as candidate for nomination to said Municipal Office:

NAME	ADDRESS	OFFICE	TERM
John F. Richmond	276 Hope Valley Road	Registrar of Voters	1/8/2025-1/3/2029

Dated at Hebron, CT this 11th day of June, 2024
John Richmond
Republican Registrar of Voters
The foregoing is a copy of the notice which I received from John F. Richmond, Hebron Republican Registrar of Voters in accordance with CGS § 9-435. As therein provided, a PRIMARY of the Republican Party for the nomination of candidates to the office of Registrar of Voters will be held:

Hours of Early Voting:	Location of Early Voting - for All Hebron Voters
Monday, Aug. 5, 2024 - 10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.	Hebron Town Office Building Upper Meeting Room 15 Gilead Street Hebron, CT 06248
Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024 - 8:00a.m. to 8:00p.m.	
Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024 - 10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.	
Thursday, Aug. 8, 2024 - 8:00a.m. to 8:00p.m.	
Friday, Aug. 9, 2024 - 10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.	
Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024 - 10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.	
Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024 - 10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.	

Poll Hours on Primary Day:
August 13, 2024 - 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location of Primary Day Polling Place for all Hebron Voters :
Hebron Elementary School
92 Church Street, Hebron, CT 06248
Absentee ballots will be counted at the Primary Day Polling Location at the close of the polls.
Dated at Hebron, CT, this 18th day of June, 2024.
Town Clerk, Francesca Villani
Town of Hebron

1TB 6/21

**LEGAL NOTICE of PUBLIC HEARING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Town of Portland, CT**

Pursuant to Chapter XII, Section 1203.4 of the Portland Town Charter, a public hearing will be held by the Board of Selectmen on **Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 6:50 P.M.** in the Portland High School Media Center, 95 High Street, Portland, CT to obtain public comments and questions regarding the proposed supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$360,000 for costs related to road improvements. Public Access also through the Zoom link A – www.portlandct.org
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby approves a supplemental appropriation in line item #01-093-000-90012 Transfer Out-Cap Non Rec Town in the amount of \$360,000; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby approves funding for the supplemental appropriation in line item #01-093-000-90012 Transfer Out- Cap Non Rec Town through an increase in estimated revenue to line item #01-000-000-00401 Investment Income of \$250,000 and an increase in estimated revenue to line item #01-000-000-00011 Prop Taxes-Prior Years of \$110,000; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby approves an increase in estimated revenues #08-141-000-00501 Transfers in General Fund Town of \$360,000 and an increase in supplemental appropriation to expenditure line item #08-141-000-89090 Public Works - Highway Division/Vehicle Maintenance - Road Construction/Drainage.
A copy of the complete resolution to be voted on is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office and on the Town's website at www.portlandct.org. Dated at Portland, Connecticut this 6th day of June 2024.
Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman

1TB 6/21

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
ATTENTION ALL TAXPAYERS**

Notice is hereby given to the Town of East Hampton taxpayers that taxes for real estate, personal property and motor vehicles levied on the Grand List of October 1, 2023 are due and payable on July 1, 2024. The last day on which to pay without penalty is August 1, 2024. Real estate and personal property taxes over \$100 may be paid in two equal installments; July 1, 2024 and January 1, 2025. Real estate and personal property taxes are based on a mill rate of 38.04 mills which equates to \$38.04 in taxes per \$1,000 of net assessed value. Motor vehicle tax is based on the state capped mill rate of 32.46 mills. Tax bills are mailed on June 27, 2024.
Late payments will be subject to interest penalty at the rate of 1 ½% per month or a fraction thereof, 18 % per annum, from the due date of the tax, as required by Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-130, 145 and 146. Payments legibly postmarked by the USPS on or before August 1, 2024 are considered on time regardless of when they are received by the Tax Office. Payments received August 2, 2024 and later, including payments postmarked August 2, and later, are considered past due. The minimum interest charge is \$2 on each tax bill. A returned check fee is \$20.
As owners of property, taxpayers are responsible to see that taxes are paid when due. Failure to receive a tax bill does not exempt the taxpayer from payment of all taxes and interest charges should the tax become delinquent.
Please make checks payable to: Town of East Hampton. Payments may be mailed to Collector of Revenue, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. Pay online by visiting www.easthamptonct.gov Hours of collection are: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Tuesday 8:00 am – 6:30 pm and Friday 8:00 am – 12:30 pm.
Respectfully Submitted,
Kristy L. Merrifield, CCMC
Collector of Revenue

3TB 6/21, 7/5, 7/26

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.

WANTED TO BUY

NOW MAKING APPOINTMENT: to purchase Grandma's old stuff! Costume jewelry, glassbeads, china, pottery, mirrors, glassware, linens. Anything old and in good shape. Call Debbie 860-593-6226.

WANTED TO BUY: All antiques; toys, military, watches, advertising, jewelry, coins, clocks, signs, all musical instruments, guitars, saxophones, keyboards, trumpets, amplifiers, accordions, vintage electronics, hi-fi stereo, amplifiers, pro-audio, radios, ham equipment, tube type equipment, plus more. 1 item or entire estate. Call 860-707-9350.

WANTED TO BUY: loose and bulk change, and old sterling silverware for cash. Also purchasing silver coins and any item made of sterling silver. Will make house calls. Call/text Dom 860-836-5013, email dmbappraisal@sbcglobal.net.

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY MARLBOROUGH TOWN CENTER/LAKE TERRAMUGGUS SEWER DISTRICT NOTICE OF ACTION

The Marlborough Water Pollution Control Authority at its Public Hearing on Thursday, June 13, 2024, took the following actions:
Approving:
2024 – 2025 Operation, Maintenance, & Repair Budget
2024 – 2025 Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) Allocation
2024 – 2025 Fee Schedule
2024 – 2025 EDU Charge \$611
Benjamin L. Levin, Chair, Marlborough WPCA

1TB 6/21

TOWN OF COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION

At the regular meeting of the Colchester Conservation Commission held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, the following action was taken:
W2024-3101 - 91 Lake Hayward Rd; Lake Hayward Properties, LLC - Applicant/Owner; Assessor's ID 03-09-049-000; Proposed 195-Unit Multi-Family Residential Development with proposed activity within the 75' and 100' Upland Review Areas, and direct impact to a wetland/watercourse for a proposed culvert crossing. - **APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS**
Dated June 13, 2024
Conservation Commission
Falk von Plachecki, Chair

1TB 6/21

TUTORING

BOOST YOUR CHILD CONFIDENCE: Free two sessions, Game-based, Hands-on Tutoring Program. Tailored for easily distracted or slightly dyslexic children (4-8 yo). Limited spots available. 860-328-0304.

CASH PAID for any Toyota

Other makes, running or not, crashed ok. Will take other makes and models.

Free pickup. Call any time:
\$ 203-600-4431 \$

CIT-12-23

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EMPLOYMENT

TOWN OF ANDOVER JOB OPENING FOR SENIOR AND COMMUNITY CENTER DIRECTOR

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Town of Andover is hiring a Director for our newly built Senior and Community Center. The individual hired will oversee all aspects of programming for our senior community including senior transportation, scheduling for our community center as well as recreational programming. The position will work with a Senior advisory board, the Recreation Commission and a Community advisory board. The director will be expected to explore a wide range of programming for residents of all ages and activity levels. This is envisioned as a full-time position with health and retirement benefits, but for the right applicant the town will consider a part-time position or other accommodations. A complete job description and Application can be found on the town's website at AndoverCT.org. Please send Cover Letter, Application and Resume to Kate Morrissey, Administrative Assistant at adminassistant@andoverct.org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. EOE

2TB 6/14, 6/21

Westside Manor is searching for Attendants to fill our 2nd Shift 3PM-11PM

Attendant Responsibilities: Housekeeping, Meal Prep and medication administration required for the position. Medication Certification a plus but not necessary.

Benefit of Attendant: Medical (full time) Dental (full time)

Interviews are done by appointment only,
Monday thru Friday. Please call us at **860-267-4401**
to schedule an interview today!

9 WEST HIGH STREET, EAST HAMPTON

Job Type: Full time/Part-time • *Salary:* \$18.00/hr

REE-21-24

TREE & LANDSCAPING

LAWN MOWING: Professional, competitive rates. Call Thomas 860-267-7515.

TREE CARE BY LICENSED ARBORIST: Pruning, disease treatment, consulting, planting and removals. Professional quality service and expertise. LaPila Arborists, LLC at lapilarborists.com or 860-965-5546.

TREE REMOVAL
We Climb
Licensed Arborist
on Staff

YARD EXPANSIONS
FIREWOOD FOR SALE

We Now Accept All Major Credit Cards • Fully Insured

C & C Lawncare – East Hampton
(203) 435-5355

RE10-13-23



**NOW IS THE TIME TO
SCHEDULE YOUR
NEW BACKYARD OASIS.**

PATIOS • FIREPITS • WALKWAYS
**CALL US TO DISCUSS EXPANDING
YOUR YARD AND POSSIBILITIES!**

860-295-9692
Marlborough, CT

REE-18-22

Land Use Enforcement Officer (Part-Time)

The Land Use Enforcement Officer plays a vital role in ensuring compliance with land use regulations and promoting sustainable development practices within our community. Responsibilities include evaluating land use proposals, conducting site inspections, and acting as the enforcement official for violations of land use regulations. Also assist the Planning and Zoning Official. The Land Use Enforcement Officer will collaborate with various departments and agencies to facilitate the permitting process and enforce zoning ordinances. The ideal candidate should have a high school diploma or equivalent plus related experience in construction, architecture, geography, other land use setting or law enforcement. An understanding of land use regulations and proficiency with map and plan reading to identify wetland boundaries, easements, and other land notations along with strong customer service and computer skills including proficiency utilizing Microsoft programs also ideal. A Connecticut driver's license with a clean driving record is required. This is a part-time position consisting of 19.5 hours per week at an hourly rate of \$30.00. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and employment application, no later than July 12, 2024, (or until filled), to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or by email to lseymour@easthamptonct.gov. A job description and employment application may be found at www.easthamptonct.gov. AAM-F/EOE.

1TB 6/21

Planning and Zoning Official (Full-Time)

The Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for a highly motivated and collaborative Planning and Zoning Official to lead a dedicated team of professionals who strive to provide a positive impact on the planning and development of our community. The ideal candidate should have a passion for urban development, possess strong analytical skills, and demonstrate proficiency in zoning regulations and land use planning. The Planning and Zoning Official is responsible for the supervisory aspects of administering and enforcing the zoning and wetlands regulations and other relevant town ordinances, including oversight of a Land Use Enforcement Officer and the provision of staff support to all land use commissions and other boards and commissions, as necessary and work with the public related to land use activities and development in the community. The ideal candidate should have a bachelor's degree or related experience in planning or a closely related field, with supervisory and budgeting experience. Salary range: \$86,143.79 - \$101,345.63 per year, plus benefit package which includes health, dental, vision, 401a defined contribution plan, life insurance and various voluntary benefits, as well as PTO and paid holidays. This is a bargaining unit position. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and employment application, no later than July 12, 2024, (or until filled), to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or email to lseymour@easthamptonct.gov. A job description and employment application may be found at www.easthamptonct.gov. AAM-F/EOE.

1TB 6/21

28 Years in Business

GRASSHOPPER LANDSCAPING LLC

The Right Choice

SUMMER IS HERE!

Yard Expansions & Land Clearing

Now Scheduling All Your Landscaping Needs

Unpaved Driveway Repair & Installations

Millings/ Loose Stone Process Gravel

- landscaping installation – yard expansions/grading
- tree work / takedowns – stump grinding / brush chipping
- grounds maintenance – spring clean ups / mowing / mulching
- mulch / top soil / loose stone for sale & installation
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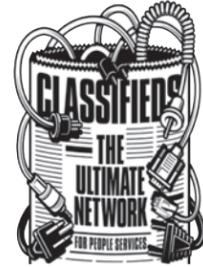
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TAG SALES

TAG SALE: MOVING.
 Sat & Sun 6/22 & 6/23. 75 Brook St. Newington. Cash Only. Tools & household goods.

MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE:
 Sat, 6/22, 8am-3pm, 52-54 Hubbard St, Glastonbury. Beyer Horses, costume jewelry, antiques, tools, household items, brewery items.

MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE:
 to benefit the Hope Valley Church maintenance fund. Sat, June 22nd, 10am-4pm. 17 Reidy Hill Rd, Amston. under the tent or in the church if it rains. NO EARLY BIRDS PLEASE.

MULTI-HOUSE NEIGHBORHOOD TAG SALE:
 Skyview Drive, Colchester. Sat & Sun, 6/22 & 6/23, 8:30am-3:30pm. Lots of used and items. Antiques, tools, building supplies, furniture, camping supplies. Books, baby gear, Children's toys, games, clothing, household items & much more!

NEIGHBORHOOD TAG SALE:
 Saturday, June 22nd & Sunday, June 23rd. 8am-2pm. High Wood, Aspen, Summit Crest, Charlton, Liberty, in South Glastonbury. 10+ households!

TAG SALE SAT, 6/22:
 8am-1pm (Rain date 6/23). 83 Coach Rd, Glastonbury. Kitchenware/glassware, home decor, furniture, picnic table, much more. Good clean stuff.

TAG SALE RAIN OR SHINE:
 Sat, 6/22, 9am-12pm. 317 Waterhole Rd, East Hampton. All kinds of items. Looking to connect with mother. Please stop by.

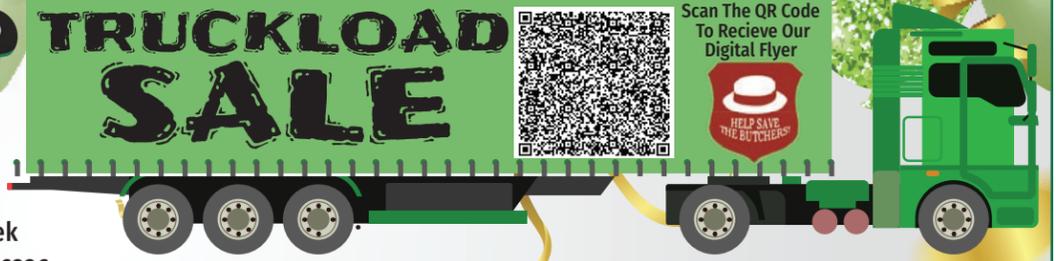
TAG SALE:
 7 Ranney St Cromwell, June 22 & 23rd, 9-2, Kitchen & living room items, pictures, glassware, antiques.

ESTATE SALE:
 321 Cedar Street, Newington. June 22nd 8 AM - 1 PM. Furniture, kitchen & decorative items.

TAG SALE:
 Sat. June 22nd & Sun. June 23rd. 9a-3p Furniture, dinnerware, antiques and misc treasures. 36 Avery Rd, Newington.

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10 Lbs. Chicken Drumsticks
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10 Lbs. Chicken Thighs Bone In
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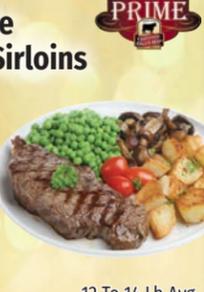
\$248
lb.



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No Additives
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No Additives
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lb.



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