



**Young Bible Scholars...** This past Sunday was the Third Grade Bible Sunday at Marlborough Congregational Church. The third graders participated in the service by reading Bible passages, playing Bible trivia and receiving their first copies of the Bible. From left are Adeline Concodello, Lorelai LaBarre, Nolan Mahoney, Sydney Johnson and Kenzley Banks.

## Bobcats Head to State Title Game

By Josh Howard

After winning a conference championship at the Mohegan Sun Arena on Feb. 26, the girls basketball team from Bacon Academy will return to the home of the Connecticut Sun for a shot at a state title this weekend.

The No. 2 seed Bobcats will play top-seed Windham for the Class M state championship this Saturday, March 15 at 10 a.m.

To secure a return trip to Mohegan, the championship-bound Bobcats soundly defeated the Wildcats from Seymour High School, 63-30, in the state semifinals at Maloney High School on Monday.

Following the latest victory, senior captain Katelyn Novak said the team is ready to tackle the next challenge.

"I'm so excited – I can't believe this," added Novak. "Our goal was to go to Mohegan twice, and we've achieved that goal."

It was a thoroughly dominant performance on both ends of the court for a Bobcats bunch that led wire to wire in the 33-point semifinal blowout.

Sophomore point guard Kayleigh Engle scored a game-high 23 points, controlling the tempo and sparking an offense that notched 17 points in the opening quarter and 23 more in an electrifying third quarter.

Head coach Kevin Fennell was impressed with his team's ball movement throughout the game and credited senior Veronica Smith for her lockdown defense on Seymour's Victoria

Michalczyk.

Michalczyk entered the semifinals averaging 12 points per game, but was limited to five points, none coming in the second half.

"It allowed our team to relax and settle in offensively," expressed Fannell. "We were poised and I loved how our shooters made shots."

Bacon Academy drained eight shots from beyond the arc, with Novak knocking down four of those triples.

The Bobcats shared the ball and scored at will against a Seymour team that had limited their previous three state tourney opponents to an average of 31.6 points per game.

"We were moving the ball and it really allowed us to have success on offense," noted Novak, who finished with 19 points.

Junior Skyelyn Schoen-Rene added 13 points, including eight in the first four minutes of the game, as Bacon Academy surged out to an 11-4 lead and never looked back.

Leading 27-19 at the half, the Bobcats ended any doubt by outscoring the Wildcats by 16 points in the third quarter.

Engle and Novak combined to score 21 of the team's 23 points in the frame.

Including the ECC tourney, it was the sixth straight elimination game the Bobcats have won by double digits.

"A lot of us have experience and we've been here before," stated Novak. "We tell each other before the game to leave it out on the court."

The victory improved Bacon Academy to 24-2 overall.

See Bobcats, page 33

## Hebron Maple Fest Returns This Weekend

By Michael Sinkewicz

This weekend, thousands of residents will swarm Hebron to enjoy the town's historic sugarhouses, a plethora of tasty treats and fun activities, including a tractor parade, capped with unrivaled community spirit. Of course, it's time for the Maple Festival.

The two-day extravaganza will be held on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the center of town, with activities spanning along Main Street.

For 35 years, the festival has marked the coming of spring and is embedded as an essential tradition for local residents and maple enthusiasts alike.

"It means community pride and love," said Holly Habicht, the president of The Town Center Project (TTCP), the group overseeing the festival. "When you stop and think about it, it brings 10, 15, 20 thousand people to town that are prospective taxpayers, prospective business owners, investors."

This year, patrons will be able to enjoy Maple Festival classics — including "sugar on snow," found at the Hebron Interfaith Human Services

booth. Two sugarhouses will have their doors open: Wenzel Sugarhouse (located at 522 East Street) and Woodyacres Sugarhouse (located at 80 Cone Road).

In addition to touring their operations and showcasing how maple syrup is produced, Ron and Joyce Wenzel were named the "Maple Marshals" of the festival.

"We're honored," Ron Wenzel said. "It won't sink in until afterwards."

This will be second time TTCP is hosting the festival, after it took over the reins from the Windham Chamber of Commerce following a seven-year run. Last year was largely billed as the rejuvenation of an event that some people thought had departed from its intended local emphasis. The theme, therefore, was "Bringing it Home."

"There was a lot of controversy" about the Windham chamber's handling of the Maple Fest, Habicht recalled. "Everybody needed to come and see what we were about, and we appreciated that. We hope that they come again."

The focus of the weekend was recalibrated to-

wards Hebron's nonprofits, businesses and artisans — a shift both Habicht and Wenzel believe was successful.

"The energy is phenomenal," Wenzel expressed, highlighting an abundance of volunteers who stepped up this time around.

There were a few hiccups last year, Habicht said, noting that "last year taught us a lot." One systemic change entering this year's festival was the delegation of different tasks. Before, a core of TTCP members handled nearly every maple-related question that popped up, which was impractical.

"Quite honestly, we got burnt out last year," Habicht explained.

This time, though, TTCP has broadened its oversight, establishing subcommittees led by different community leaders, which has resulted in a much smoother process. And people have responded to the call; there were roughly two-dozen residents in attendance at a weekly status meeting last weekend, all chipping in with unique insights and reports.

See Hebron Maple Fest, page 33

### Inside...

#### Marlborough

Time Capsule Opened.....pg 9

#### Portland

'Anything Goes' Coming to PHS.....pg 11

#### Hebron

UConn Professor Arrested.....pg 15

#### East Hampton

Council Considers Car Tax Change ...pg 25

#### Colchester

Town, School Budgets Presented.....pg 27

#### Regional

Obituaries .....pgs 31 & 32

Crossword Puzzle...Pg 30  
sponsored by  
Carl Guild & Associates

# THE REAL ESTATE MARKET IS BLOOMING!

SPRING BRINGS NEW BEGINNINGS – AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN REAL ESTATE!  
DON'T MISS OUT ON THE SEASON OF SOLD SIGNS! LET'S GET YOU MOVING!

860-474-3500 WWW.CARLGUILD.COM

OFFICES IN: GLASTONBURY • MIDDLETOWN • COLCHESTER • EAST HAMPTON

## CARLGUILD & ASSOCIATES

THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE





# MEMORY CARE SERVICES FOR YOUR LOVED ONE.



We offer enhanced support and specialized services to address memory impairment in our EGIS program. High-quality memory support and innovative solutions for residents with dementia. Limited availability.

**Call us today to arrange a tour!**

**55 John E Horton Blvd**  
Hebron, Connecticut 06248

**860-801-1114**  
colebrookvillage.com

**Colebrook Village**  
at Hebron

An Everbrook Senior Living Community

## Accepting New Clients

open 7 days a week

MONDAY - FRIDAY 6AM-8PM  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 6AM -12PM



Wellness Visits   Urgent Care   Emergency

### Colchester Veterinary Hospital

364 OLD HARTFORD RD. COLCHESTER CT (860)537-3435  
WWW.COLCHESTERVET.NET

Buy or sell with me... Use my truck for free!



THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

4 LOCAL OFFICES  
100+ REAL ESTATE AGENTS  
INVESTED IN THE COMMUNITY



www.carlguild.com  
(860) 474-3500





# Vaping is a *trap*



## Don't get sucked in

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



east hampton  
prevention partnership



THE TOWN CENTER PROJECT (TTCP) WAS INCORPORATED IN 2017 AS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION WITH A MISSION TO CONNECT COMMUNITY AND BRING A VITALITY TO HEBRON'S DOWNTOWN WITH ACTIVITIES TO "SEE, EAT, AND DO"

JOIN US AT THE NEW COUNTRYSIDE REALTY LOCATION  
105 MAIN STREET (ROUTE 66)



SEE!







DO!





105 Main St., Hebron, CT 06248

**Let Our Family Take Care of Your Family**

— Family Owned & Operated Since 1994 —  
(860) 228-8512 • www.countrysiderealtyct.com







From the Editor’s Desk

# Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

The future of Medicaid has been a hot topic across the country in recent weeks – and Connecticut is no exception. In fact, last week the governor and other state officials gathered in Hartford to discuss potential impacts of any possible cuts to Medicaid.

As the news outlet *CT Mirror reported*, it likely will be months before states will know how deeply Congress and President Donald Trump will cut into Medicaid, the federal program that funds health care for 1.2 million Connecticut residents.

But, the *Mirror noted*, the U.S. House of Representatives has a goal of \$880 billion in overall federal budget cuts – and that figure can’t be reached without major reductions in Medicaid, according to a report last week from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

And while it’s true no one yet knows how steep cuts to Medicaid might be, the fact of the matter is the state received \$6.6 billion in federal Medicaid grants this year – an amount that, as the *Mirror* noted, is equal to around 25% of the entire state budget.

“We cannot possibly replace what we have been getting from the federal government,” State Comptroller Sean Scanlon said last week, according to the *Mirror*. “And that is something that I think worries all of us.”

So with that in mind, I thought it might be interesting this week to take a look at just how many folks in the *Rivereast* towns are on Medicaid. And the numbers may surprise you.

The state Department of Social Services has an interactive data dashboard that lets you go

town by town and see how many people in each municipality are receiving government assistance, such as Medicaid, or SNAP (formerly known as food stamps), or social work services.

For 2025, in Colchester there are 2,466 residents on Medicaid; in East Hampton, 1,695; in Portland, 1,464; in Hebron, 926; in Marlborough, 677; and in Andover, 534.

So, as you can see, there are a lot of people on Medicaid in each of our towns. This is despite the fact that each of our towns had a median household income of over \$100,000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Indeed, there are folks in all 169 Connecticut municipalities on Medicaid – even in our storied “gold coast.” For example, in Westport – which has a median household income of a whopping \$250,000 (come on, are you surprised?) – there are 1,699 residents on Medicaid.

But, to go back to our *Rivereast* towns, there are scores of people here on Medicaid. You may know some personally – or perhaps are on it yourself. Indeed, I have several friends and family members who depend on Medicaid to get by. There’s absolutely no shame in it.

So, in the coming months, it might be worth it to follow the news coming out of Washington regarding Medicaid’s future – and if you’re concerned, perhaps reach out to one of our senators or congresspersons. Hopefully the cuts aren’t too severe, but if they are – well, that’s an awful lot of people who could be impacted.

\*\*\*

Editor’s Desk continued on page 5

## Bulletin Board

As we (hopefully) move seamlessly from winter to the delights of an early spring, I feel compelled to look back on recent months with all the wisdom of a crochety old coot who believes no worthwhile music has been made since about 1973.

In this case, though, I’m referring to winter.

In case you hadn’t noticed (or you’re young enough to have better things to do), winter sure isn’t what it used to be. First of all, it seems to me that we got a lot more snow when I was a kid. People like to say, “No, it just seems that way because you were so much smaller.” Well, they’re wrong. We did used to get a lot more snow. I know. I was there and I distinctly remember that we had a major blizzard about every other day.

Not that anybody ever paid much attention. They never canceled school when it snowed. Well, hardly ever. Nowadays, you get a little dusting of snow and the weathermen incite panic-stricken mobs to rush out and buy batteries, bottled water and special booties for the dog and school gets canceled for a week—I mean it’s downright embarrassing.

In my day, they didn’t cancel school unless penguins were lined up trying to book trips to Miami Beach. You’d be standing out there in snow up to your keister and the school bus would come right on time just like it always did. Of course, those were also the days when your mother could dose you with paregoric without benefit of a prescription, which may have something to do with my memories of those happy winter mornings in utopian suburbia.

In those days, kids organized their own winter activities—which, I am afraid, has become a lost art in modern-day structured childhoods. There was no need for a paid Recreation Director. One of our favorite recreational activities was throwing snowballs at passing cars and trucks. Eventually, a police cruiser would come along and the officer would admonish us to knock it off or he’d notify our parents. Inevitably, as he pulled away from our outwardly chastened but inwardly incorrigible band of mischief-makers, some miscreant would feel compelled to hurl a snowball at his car, whereupon we’d all scatter (as if the police back then didn’t know us all by name and where we lived). Today, I suppose, this kind of thing might land you in juvenile court, inspire politicians to make snowball fights a Class C felony and lead to home visits from social workers, church outreach representatives, personal injury lawyers and similar undesirables. Back then, nothing ever came of it.

A couple of other things stick in my mind about those long-ago winters. You may recall those pre-Thinsulate times when your mother spent 20 minutes pushing you into various layers of clothes and snowsuits. And, of course, you’d no sooner get out the door than you’d realize you had to use the bathroom.

Then there was the legendary case of the kid up the road (I swear this is absolutely true) who (at the urging of his older brother) touched his tongue to his metal snow coaster one wintry afternoon. To get him off with tongue intact, they had to bring him in the house, snow coaster and all, and apply warm water to the metal. His misfortune provided considerable grist for stories for many winters to come, the general consensus being he was darn lucky he hadn’t tried to lick the hood of his father’s car.

One more thing about winter back then: Snow meant money. After every snowfall, the neighborhood would be crawling with kids carrying snow shovels looking to make some extra money shoveling driveways. There was an early run on the homes of the old and infirm, excepting the well-established tightwads of course. (They were pretty much homebound until spring.) As I recall it, the going rate for driveways ranged from about \$2 to \$4. One particular driveway in the area was a \$6 job, but that driveway was about as long as the Massachusetts Turnpike and generally ended up with some kid who’d rolled out of bed too late to grab the plums.

But all of this uniquely American entrepreneurship ended sometime in the ‘60s with the arrival of that technological marvel, the snowblower. One by one, our jobs disappeared as homeowner after homeowner invested in snowblowers. Things were never quite the same after Mr. Toro’s creation arrived in the neighborhood.

And now, if the past two or three winters are any indication, it seems global warming may be finally putting an end to the Golden Age of the Snowblower as well. I greet this development with mixed feelings. Childhood memories are all well and good, and I do sympathize with the polar bears, but I also have to admit that the less snow I have to clear from my driveway, the better I like it.

Jim Hallas

## Rivereast Hours of Operation

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



**Carpino Reads to Kids...** State Rep. Christie Carpino (R-32) visited Gildersleeve School on March 6 to celebrate Reading Across America Week. Carpino read *Maddi’s Fridge* by Lois Brandt to Laura Winoski’s second grade class. “What a wonderful visit,” she said the next day. “When my kids were little, she [Winoski] read to them. Yesterday, I had the chance to visit her classroom at Gildersleeve – on Pajama Day no less – and read to her kids.”

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

### Burgers and Fireworks

Greetings, Hebron-area Fireworks-goers:

Let it be known, a dynamic duo, Famous Legion Burgers and fireworks, will return in June.

The Hebron American Legion Post 95 will be serving Famous Legion Burgers at the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds during the fireworks display. For those of the Hebron area who experienced a Famous Legion Burger in the past, they will once again enjoy. This is also an opportunity for those who have only heard of the Famous Legion Burger experience to partake.

The Hebron American Legion holds several fundraisers throughout the year, and many feature our Famous Legion Burgers, although the Hebron American Legion also holds a fundraiser featuring “Chicken-to-Fly.” Please refer to the *Rivereast News Bulletin* for events, in conjunction with our large display sign in front of our Hebron American Legion building between Douglas Library and The Flour Girl Café, on Main Street; you are welcome to visit each one of the fundraisers.

Note: The Hebron American Legion is available for rental; if interested, contact Joe Fetta at 203-848-5913.

Experience the fireworks display and our Famous Legion Burgers Sunday, June 29, from 5-9

p.m. Gates open at 4 p.m. Rain date: June 30.

To all, be well, stay safe. For God and Country, respectfully, submitted for the Commander, Senior Vice, and the entire Hebron-area veterans of Hebron Post 95,

**R. A. Bob Mangillo, Adjutant  
American Legion Post 95**

### Time for a Change

To the Editor:

The U. S. Congress recently considered legislation, known as the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2025. The act states it shall be a violation for a recipient of federal financial assistance who operates, sponsors, or facilitates athletic programs to permit a person whose sex is male to participate in an athletic program or activity that is designated for women or girls. Put simply, to prevent trans-gender males from competing against women and girls in programs not designated for males.

Multiple surveys show that 80% of Americans agree with this legislation. 80% of Americans believe it is wrong for males to compete in women’s and girls’ sports. In addition to being unfair, women and girls have suffered injuries competing against males. A woman suffered a brain injury when a male spiked a volleyball

## RIVEREAST

### News Bulletin

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

Published Every Friday by The Glastonbury Citizen  
87 Nutmeg Lane • Glastonbury, CT 06033  
Telephone (860) 633-4691  
Email: [bulletin@glcitizen.com](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com)  
**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 373 • Glastonbury, CT 06033

•  
Email classified line ads to [admin@glcitizen.com](mailto:admin@glcitizen.com).  
Email Legal Notices to [legals@glcitizen.com](mailto:legals@glcitizen.com)  
and call 860-633-4691 to pay with MC or VISA.

Kevin and Pat Rarey, Publishers  
Josh Howard—Office Manager, Sports Editor  
Mike Thompson, Editor  
Staff Reporters:  
London Brazal—East Hampton, Portland  
Michael Sinkewicz—Colchester, Hebron, Marlborough & Andover

Advertising Representatives:  
Jason Baran, ext. 104 • [jason@glcitizen.com](mailto:jason@glcitizen.com)  
Lisa Snietka, ext. 103 • [lisa@glcitizen.com](mailto:lisa@glcitizen.com)  
Art Department  
Jeanne Giovann, Julie Kristoff  
and Julie Misuraca  
PUBLISHER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL ANY ADVERTISEMENT AT ANY TIME  
Standard Mail – Postage Permit #1092 at Hartford, CT • Glastonbury Citizen (USPS-219-360)

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

**Letter Writers:** Letters must be 400 words or less, and must be submitted by Tuesday at noon. Email is preferred; send to [bulletin@glcitizen.com](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com). All letters must include the writer’s town of residence and daytime contact phone number. Letters must pertain to local issues, news or events; letters regarding national issues or national public figures will not be published. 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 bullying or name-calling will be tolerated. There is no guarantee that all letters will be published.

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



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

into her head.

The legislation passed in the House despite ‘nae’ votes by all of Connecticut’s five Democrat representatives. In the Senate, it received 51 ‘yea’ votes which was not enough to overcome the 60-vote filibuster threshold, resulting in defeat. Connecticut’s two Democrat senators, Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy, voted no.

The votes by our members of Congress make it obvious that they have lost their political and moral compasses. It is time Connecticut voters vote for a change.

Doug Sargent – Portland

Thank You, Knights of Columbus

To the Editor:

East Hampton High School’s Unified Sports Team would like to thank the local East Hampton Knights of Columbus for their generous financial contribution to our club. Their donations help in making it possible for the continued success of our Unified Sports program. Some of the things that the club was able to purchase are new medals for our sports competitions, as well as sponsoring an upcoming field trip to the Yard Goats’ “Baseball in Education Day.”

The support from KOC exemplifies what Unified Sports is all about: promoting inclusion through sports and activities.

With much thanks and appreciation,  
Unified Sports Team  
East Hampton High School

Maple-Flavored History

To the Editor:

It is time to embrace all the maple-flavored goodness that is the Maple Festival, especially the local maple syrup and Hebron’s diverse history. Through the discovery of handcrafted stone projectile points it has been documented that Hebron has been home to Indigenous people for nearly 10,000 years. The first inhabitants, the Paleo-Indians, entered a wide-open tundra landscape filled with grasses and low shrubbery. Over the next thousands of years the tundra changed to woodlands, which included the Sugar Maple tree.

With the changing landscape came changes in Indigenous cultures, the Paleo-Indians were followed by Archaic and Woodlands peoples. All the while Indigenous people have been cherishing the gift of maple syrup. As reported in the magazine of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian, Winter 2022 Issue, Indigenous people of the northeastern United States and Canada have been making maple syrup for thousands of years. The required skills were carefully passed from generation to generation, along with the associated ceremonies and respect for the maple tree. According to tribal elder, Otsi’tsaken:ra (Charlie) Patton , a Faithkeeper of the Mohawk people of New York State and Quebec, “We call Wahta (maple) the leader of the trees because it is always the first tree to wake up in the spring... We have a ceremony of Enhatihesestáta to put the sap back in the tree, but only Creation has the power to do this.” Otsi’tsaken:ra Patton also speaks about the importance of knowing our history, “Wahta trees are strong because they have roots. Native people stay strong in the same way, from our roots that reach back through our mothers and grandmothers, all the way back to the Iotsi’tsisen (Sky Woman) at the beginning of creation.”

I look forward to seeing you at the Maple Festival and celebrating Hebron’s strong roots. The Hebron Sugar Houses Co-Op will be set up in the Douglas Library parking lot and offers the unique opportunity to taste Hebron’s delicious history. After you pick up your bottle of fresh local maple syrup, I hope you will stop by the

Hebron Center History table at Booth 79, near the Douglas Library main entrance. I will be presenting a wide variety of documents, maps and artifacts that illustrates Hebron’s remarkable and diverse history. Make sure to ask for your free Hebron Center History postcard and for more information please visit Save Hebron Center on Facebook and #Save17.

Sincerely,  
Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

Don’t Add to the Fray

To the Editor:

The editor has decided to take sides on the magnet school fiasco, it seems at request or behest of the school board, being it is verbatim to what the board espouses. If the editor is not a resident of Colchester and doesn’t pay taxes to this town, he should just report, not opine on this issue.

This added nothing new to the mix, except to stir the pot – and yes the people, and not just 300 online responses, were against.

People complain government doesn’t listen; for once they did and *Rivereast* thinks the board should have done what most elected officials do, i.e. “telling us what’s best for us.” The people who live here know what’s a good fit for this town and it isn’t making Colchester full of apartments and more commercial endeavors. We like it as is, not to become another Willimantic.

It was also mentioned crime was a concern, and it must be, because Commissar Sullivan has asked repeatedly for more security guards for the declining student body. Why?

This whole thing has become an us vs. them. *Rivereast* adding to the fray doesn’t help all involved or change anything. What should change is the school board. They tried to put one over on the public; who’s to say they won’t try again. We shouldn’t have to keep one eye on their shenanigans.

P.S.: This also goes for the BOE.

Frank Grande – Colchester

Walkable Neighborhoods

To the Editor:

Last week I asked about what happened to small-town America and proposed an easy first step for us to take in order to reconnect and rebuild our communities. This week I propose an idea for every neighborhood to address the problem of not having safe places to walk with a lack of sidewalks.

Sidewalks are expensive to build, especially for a small town like us where foot traffic is relatively minor in the expansive neighborhoods that make up Marlborough. But people still walk around the neighborhood. Where do you walk, reader? Probably in the street, but this can put you, your pets, and or your children at higher risk because of cars.

So how can we still walk around our neighborhood without taking this risk and without paying millions of dollars just to install some ugly cement sidewalks? Well, I propose what I am calling the “living sidewalk.” All it requires is a little bit of effort and a tiny portion of your yard that you probably aren’t using anyway. I will be turning the couple feet of grass by the road at my house into a walkable area for my community. By planting just a few flowers, I can turn a boring, dead, ugly sect of grass into a vibrant, living, beautiful area that my neighbors can use to walk without being in the road and posing a danger to themselves, their pets, or the cars that use the street. This is not viable for every house, but I hope that with a little bit of ingenuity, anyone can set up paths for their neighbors that livens up the neighborhood and makes walking safe again.

So this spring go see how you can make your neighborhood prettier, safer, more lively, and more neighborly.

Rob Barstow – Marlborough

Supporting Healthy Aging

To the Editor:

As the warm weather approaches, we are excited to announce that our Senior Walking Club will be starting up again this May, in partnership with the Air Line Trail Committee. This group is more than just a walk in the park, it’s an opportunity for older adults to stay active, connect with nature, and engage in lifelong learning.

Each walk on the Air Line Trail features a unique experience, from learning about local bird species to identifying different types of trees, thanks to knowledgeable guest speakers and nature enthusiasts who join us along the way. It’s a wonderful chance to get fresh air, enjoy light exercise, and socialize with friends, all of which are essential for healthy aging.

Regular physical activity like walking has been proven to improve heart health, mobility, and mental well-being, while time spent outdoors reduces stress and enhances overall happiness. Combining movement, education, and social connection makes this walking group a powerful way for older adults to maintain both physical and cognitive health.

We welcome all seniors to lace up their walking shoes and join us as we explore the beauty of the Air Line Trail together regardless of skill level, as the trail is flat and easy to navigate.

For more details or to sign up, please reach out to the Waverly Senior Center. Let’s make this spring a season of movement, discovery, and community!

Sincerely,  
Sarah Elliott-Caratasios  
Waverly Senior Center Director  
Municipal Agent

Dementia Talks No. 13

To the Editor:

Touch means so much.

Mom and I sat down in two chairs next to each other, which is rare as most chairs are all filled up. I was happy to be able to sit next to Mom rather than hovering behind her, or perched on an arm of a chair.

Mom was holding my hand as we found our seats and sat down. She then kept hold and tucked my hand with hers onto her lap, holding my arm under hers. Almost as if she would never let go. That she was afraid I might go “poof” and disappear. It was a precious moment of need.

Her need to keep someone she feels love for, close and anchored in place, never to leave. And a need, to feel needed, my need. Both emotions

Editor’s Desk continued from page 4

In happier news, the weather appears to finally be getting nicer out – just in time for the always-delightful Hebron Maple Fest! It takes place this weekend and is a great opportunity to get out, see some friends, and indulge your sweet tooth with all things maple.

Much like Thanksgiving or the Super Bowl, Maple Fest weekend is not a time to be counting calories. Don’t even think about it; trust me, you won’t want to know. Just plan to stick to salads for a few days afterwards.

However, if you do want to feel slightly better about all the delectable goodies you know

coming from different places, coming from different humans. Coming together in fingers intertwined together becoming one swirl of emotion.

It was precious and warmed my heart.

My mom holding my hand, reading the closed captions of the movie not realizing the connectedness we shared in that moment. Or did she? Yes, I believe she did.

It was hard to pull away, but in doing so Mom said I Love You. Words, I wait for with every visit. Words to last a lifetime, alongside the simple gesture of holding hands.

Let there be the warmth of touch and of words.

With peace and much love,  
Tonya Maurer – Amston  
Alz Hot Line: 1-800-272-3900

BOE Lacks Fiscal Restraint

To the Editor:

One year ago, on 3/6/24, I spoke to the East Hampton Town Council concerning the BOE’s lack of fiscal restraint that contributed significantly to another increase in property taxes. In case you forgot, 65%+ of our property taxes is spent on the school budget. An estimated 36.6% of the families in EH have school-age children 18 or under, and the majority of the people in EH get bullied into paying the BOE’s demands for more money every year.

On Feb. 7, 2025, the *Rivereast* reported on the tri-board meeting at which schools superintendent Van Tasel told of “unbudgeted” costs in 2023-24 that required the town to provide \$887,000 in addition to the budgeted \$35,858,655. The BOE received another increase of \$1,866,000 in the budget for 2024-25. Each year we hear the same old story that more money for the schools will attract more residents, yet Mr. Van Tasel stated the district is “seeing declining enrollment.” That decline would reduce the number of staff (which is 84% of the budget) or replace them with lower-cost teachers.

In fairness, Mr. Van Tasel mentioned the undetermined lower cost funding from the state that would impact the town budget. Still, his request for a 7.3% increase in the school budget seems to be out of line, when the state average is 5.26%. Current inflation rate is running 3%, the USDA predicts food increase of 2.2%, the average wage increase in Connecticut is 4.3%, Social Security benefits will increase by 2.5%, and investors can expect to lose 2-3% of purchasing

See Letters, page 6

HEALTHCARE SERVICES



Better Dental HEALTH  
by George M. Mantikas, DMD

CHOOSING AN ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSH

Many electric toothbrush models provide a deeper clean than manual ones. Choosing an electric toothbrush is, in some ways, much like choosing a manual toothbrush: the head size should be small enough to reach your back teeth, the bristles should be soft and contoured instead of hard and straight, and the handle should provide a firm grip. But when it comes to head and bristle vibration, an oscillating motion is best. Bristles that simply vibrate provide no benefit over a manual toothbrush. Another feature to look for is a range of settings, such as different cleaning modes, a pressure sensor, and a self-timer. Without these personalized settings, electric toothbrush oscillations may feel uncomfortable or even painful.

There is no magic to achieving optimum dental hygiene success. Almost everyone can do it with a modest amount of time invested daily in brushing and flossing. Keeping up with home dental care as well as scheduling periodic cleanings and wellness exams are two important steps toward accomplishing the goal of a healthy mouth. For full-service dental care for all members of your family, please call us for an appointment.

P.S. If you use a battery-powered toothbrush, be sure to change the batteries often or whenever you notice the oscillations begin to slow.

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



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

★ *Letters cont. from page 5*

power due to inflation. All numbers that do not support a 7.3% increase.

The CT Department of Education 2023 reports East Hampton spent \$19,146 per student, whereas the state average is \$16,186, and the U.S. expended \$12,383 per student. The pupil-to-teacher ratio in EH was 12.5 versus 16.8 nationwide. Constantly increasing taxes (the majority of which goes to the school budget) will also serve as a deterrent to people looking at East Hampton as a home.

What is it going to take for the citizens of East Hampton to realize the BOE lacks fiscal restraint? The BOE should be lowering costs, not increasing, and certainly should not be putting the burden of irresponsible spending on the taxpayers of East Hampton again.

I hope our Town Council will stand up to Mr. Van Tasel and say NO, you can't have the

money; tighten your belt like the rest of us.  
**Bob Yenknor – East Hampton**

Women’s History II

To the Editor:  
“..It doesn't matter where you come from or whatever else, I think everything is possible, and everyone who has a dream and a passion should go for it. Nothing can really hold you back if you really want to go for it and work hard for it.” Inspiring words from equestrian Julia Krajewski.

For decades, women have worked with horses right alongside the men. From baling and stacking hay to veterinary care, stall-mucking, hauling livestock and running farms. As kids, they were our inspirations. As adults, they became our mentors. Daily agricultural chores are physically and mentally taxing often requiring decades of experience and hands on education. The pay is average and generally without

benefits. Mistakes can be devastating but the rewards are endless. This week #save17 honors our unsung and often invisible female equestrians everywhere.

Until 1956, women were not allowed to compete on Olympic Show Jumping teams. However, this didn't stop Mary Mairs-Chapot and Kathy Kusner from becoming the first women to ride on a USA Show Jumping team at the 1964 Olympic Games. These women rode with such skill and accuracy they not only qualified for the team, they broke the glass ceiling paving the way for others to follow. Their high standards didn't begin or end with Tokyo, they continue to this day. But the fight wasn't over. It would take seven years, two Olympics, clearing the Puissance Wall (seven foot, two inches), a law suit and three denied applications before Kusner would obtain her jockey's license. When she did, she became the first woman to ride in

the Maryland Hunt Cup, the toughest timber race in the world.

Some considered these courageous women to be nuts. Others believed these “nuts” deserved the chance to compete at the highest levels. Either way, these exceptionally talented women stood their ground and held their com-poser even in the face of harsh, and often, bitter judgements. The stigmas, surrounding women might actually remain the toughest hurdles left to clear. From Robyn Smith to Hilda Gurney to Margie Engle, we commend you.

Hebron itself has been blessed with talented, well-educated and successful horsewomen. They're devoted and continually defend their high standards while encouraging others to do the same. As Rosa Parks once said, “Stand for something or you will fall for anything. To-day's mighty oak is yesterday's nut that held its ground.”

**Jean Tulimieri – Amston**

Bernie Raises Car Taxes

To the Editor:

Remember when the state did something good for once? Yeah, me neither. But shock-ingly, they actually threw us a bone last year and passed a law to reduce car taxes – one of the most painfully regressive taxes out there. You know, the one that punishes regular folks just for owning a beat-up Honda while rich people in Teslas barely notice? It's such a bad tax that nearly half the states in America don't even bother with it.

But don't worry, local Connecticut Demo-crats saw this rare moment of taxpayer relief and thought, “Wait... people might actually save money? We can't have that!” So, in record speed, they lobbied for, and the state passed House Bill 7067, a sneaky little gem that gives towns the option to jack those car taxes right back up – you know, in case local politicians were feeling underfunded.

Cue Colchester First Selectman Bernie Den-ner, who wasted no time rushing this new “op-portunity” straight to the Board of Selectmen. Did the whole board even realize they were vot-ing to increase car taxes? Who knows! But they did. And now, just like that, your wallet is feel-ing a little lighter.

So if the first selectman tries to tell you this was about “fixing an error,” don't buy it. This was about one thing: grabbing more of your money. And guess who feels it the hardest? It's lower-income people who will be hit hardest by this extra tax burden. For them, every penny counts – and now they're the ones footing the bill for this reckless grab. Classic tax-and-spend politics at its finest, hurting the people who can least afford it.

Sincerely,  
**Michael Dubreuil – Colchester**

Medicaid Cuts Threaten Our Communities

To the Editor:

Your publication has long been a trusted voice for our multi-town community, deliver-ing fact-based reporting that has helped us navigate challenges – from local policies to the COVID-19 crisis. Today, we face another urgent moment that demands the same level of atten-tion: the proposed elimination of \$6.6 billion in annual Medicaid funding for Connecticut.

This is not just a budget cut. It's a direct hit on the services that hold our towns together. Medicaid supports vital programs that many of our neighbors rely on – SNAP benefits that keep families fed, early childhood education, senior care, disability services, and Meals on Wheels for homebound residents. If this funding disap-pears, the impact will be immediate and cata-strophic. Nursing homes may close, local clinics will be forced to turn people away, and thou-sands could lose access to basic healthcare.

For towns like Marlborough and the sur-rounding communities, this is not an abstract policy debate—it's a matter of survival. With-out Medicaid funding, more families will face impossible choices between rent, food, and medical care. Schools will struggle to support students with disabilities. Our elderly residents may be left without the care they need to stay in their homes.

During COVID, the crisis had an end in sight – a vaccine brought hope. This crisis of-fers no such solution, only suffering. We know people turn to various sources for information, but local journalism remains essential in shap-ing a shared reality. I implore you to use your platform to bring these facts to light, ensuring our communities understand the stakes – while there's still time to act.

Thank you for your commitment to informed, engaged communities.

**Karen Wilkinson – Marlborough**

ENTERTAINMENT



**Gina Marie's**  
Restaurant & Catering Service

Pizzas • Gluten Free Items  
Beer/Wine • Catering  
Outside Dining  
— Online Ordering —  
[www.ginamariesct.com](http://www.ginamariesct.com)



**Try one of our freshly ground in-house**  
**Steak Burgers**



**\$2<sup>00</sup> OFF** Any Large Pizza

Offer good w/ this ad till 3/31/25. Pick-Up & Takeout Only.  
Try one of our other 10 Gourmet Pizzas

71 Main Street, Rt. 66  
Hebron, CT  
Sun 8am to 7pm; Tues to Thurs 8am to 8pm; Fri & Sat 8am to 8:30pm

**860-228-9375**



**OZN BONES**  
SOME KINDA KICK ASS BBQ AND SIDES

**43 Hayward Ave.  
Colchester, CT**

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

**BBQ BRUNCH SATURDAYS**  
**11AM-2PM**

Live Music w/Matt Sperzel  
Thurs. March 20<sup>th</sup>, 5PM-8PM

**BOOK NOW!** Private Room Rental Available Upstairs

**Dine In • Take Out • Lunch • Dinner • Catering**

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

**(860) 537-3355**  
**oznbonesbbq.com**

  @oznbonesbbq

*Adriatic Restaurant*

Featuring Italian & Balkan/Mediterranean Cuisine

Brought to you by the owners of  
*Portofino's in Berlin*

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



**Weekly Specials\***  
— For Dine-In Only —

**Military Mondays**  
15% Off Food. Active & Veteran.

**Well-Done Wednesdays**  
Free side of mashed potatoes & Caesar Salad with your choice of Steak

**Thank You Thursdays**  
15% Off Food. Police, Fire, Medical & Teachers

Must provide work ID

\*Ask server for more info if needed

Adriatic Restaurant | 577 Franklin Ave., Hartford | 860-726-4155

**Portofinos**  
Italian Restaurant

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

**You Deserve a Great Meal!**

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



Shrimp & Pasta



Salad



Filet Mignon

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

Lunch & Dinner menu  
**[www.portofinosrestaurantct.com](http://www.portofinosrestaurantct.com)**

- **Dine In**
- **Outside Patio Open**
- **Take Out**

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



Pizza

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



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

MES Kindergarten Screening

Marlborough Elementary School is excited to welcome incoming kindergarten students for the 2025-26 school year. Any child who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2025, and meets all residency requirements is eligible to attend. To ensure a smooth transition, families are encouraged to pre-register their child as soon as possible.

Kindergarten screening will take place on May 7 and 8 at Marlborough Elementary School, located at 25 School Drive. Screening time slots will be emailed to registered families in April.

Additionally, families seeking early entrance to kindergarten for children who do not meet the age requirement must submit a waiver request by March 14. These children will participate in an early entrance screening on March 26, with acceptance or denial notifications sent by April 4. If approved, parents must confirm their child's enrollment by April 18.

For more information about kindergarten entry requirements, visit [tinyurl.com/ypca-j3uw](https://tinyurl.com/ypca-j3uw).

If you have any questions, contact the school at 860-295-6620 or email [vsamolis@marlborough.k12.ct.us](mailto:vsamolis@marlborough.k12.ct.us).

Congregational Church News & Notes

**Sunday Worship and Sunday School** at Marlborough Congregational Church, located at 35 South Main St., is held at 10 a.m. The service is also broadcast live every Sunday at [mcc.marlconchurch.org](https://mcc.marlconchurch.org) and recorded for later viewing. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided downstairs in the nursery but children are always welcome at the worship service. After Sunday worship all are invited for snacks and refreshments in the Thienes Lounge. Sunday school is available for children ages 3 through grade 8, and all children in the community are welcome. For more information, contact Elizabeth Kukich at [ekukich@marlconchurch.org](mailto:ekukich@marlconchurch.org).

**Sunday, March 16** is Boy Scout Sunday, with the scouts "Presenting the Colors" at the start of worship. This second Sunday in Lent service will be led by pastor the Rev. Valerie Seaver and will include the Chancel Choir's rendition of "Nearer My God to Thee."

**Outreach:** The church collects non-perishable food items year-round for Marlborough Food Bank with a basket located in the narthex for donations. March mission-giving will go to Marlborough Food Bank. The monthly luncheon for residents at Florence Lord Housing will be Sunday, March 16. The Drive Thru Café for Marlborough Food Bank clients and their families with tickets will be March 30.

**Second Blessings Thrift Shop**, located on the ground floor with access from the parking lot, is open for sales and donations Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, contact the church office. The shop also sells year-round through eBay at [bit.ly/MCCebay](https://bit.ly/MCCebay).

**General Information:** Marlborough Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming faith community and all are welcome. The church does not pass a collection plate; however, free-will giving boxes are found by the doors in the sanctuary. For more information on the church or its programs, call Seaver's direct line at 860-295-0432, email her at [pastorval@marlconchurch.org](mailto:pastorval@marlconchurch.org), or contact the church office at [office@marlconchurch.org](mailto:office@marlconchurch.org).

Rotary Club Scholarship

East Hampton Rotary Club Scholarship applications are available to any graduating senior in 2025 who resides in either East Hampton or Marlborough who would like to apply.

All students must be residents of East Hampton or Marlborough, must be graduating/have graduated from a secondary school accredited by the State of Connecticut and use the scholarship for expenses at an accredited school. The school may be a 4- or 5-year college or university, a community college, a trade school or a commercial school.

There are multiple single and multiple year scholarships available. Applications are due April 1, and are available online at [tinyurl.com/EHRotaryScholarship2025](https://tinyurl.com/EHRotaryScholarship2025) or through the guidance department of the East Hampton, RHAM, Mercy, Xavier and Vinal Tech high schools.

For more information, call Karen Terry 860-462-6760.

Richmond Memorial Library News & Notes

Richmond Memorial Library, located at 15 School Drive, has announced the following items of interest. **Registration required for all programs unless noted.** For more information or to register, call 860-295-6210 or visit [richmondlibrary.info](https://richmondlibrary.info).

**Crafty Kids:** Wednesdays through April 9, 4 p.m. Recommended for ages 4 and up. Create your own toys, discover what you can make with paper, and more. Held in the Storytime Room.

**Family Escape Room:** Thursdays, Mar. 20 and 27, with time slots from 4-8 p.m. Work together to figure out how to escape. The escape room will have challenges at a variety of levels, so even younger family members can participate. Both days will be the same escape room.

Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up. Held in the upstairs meeting room. Register the entire family together. Limited to two families per time slot.

**Dog Man Party:** Friday, March 21, 2 p.m. Part dog, part man – all fun. Celebrate all things Dog Man with activities including games, craft projects, video clips, trivia, and more. Recommended for ages 6 and up. Held in the upstairs meeting room.

**Babytime:** Fridays through April 11, 10:30 a.m. This baby-centered storytime features songs, rhymes, lap bounces, and a story. For children ages 0-24 months and their caregivers. Held in the storytime room.

Classifieds Pay

The Glastonbury Citizen & Riverast News Bulletin

Call 860-633-4691 or email your line ad to [admin@glcitizen.com](mailto:admin@glcitizen.com)

### ST. PATRICK'S WEEKEND

Serving **Corned Beef Dinners** on  
all day Saturday 3/15 Sunday 3/16 and Monday 3/17!  
*Regular Menu also available on Saturday & Sunday*  
*Reservations for Saturday & Sunday only, first come first serve on Monday.*

**Irish DJs Pete & Chris — Monday 5-8PM**

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

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

Bagpipers on Monday 3:45-4:15PM

ENTERTAINMENT

## The Dublin

### Beef & Seafood Company

★ **RATED TOP 10 RESTAURANTS!** ★

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

**The Dublin... Often Imitated, Never Duplicated**

**Area's Best Burgers & Wings!**

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

JOIN US FOR **the Dublin** ST PATRICK'S DAY WEEKEND PARTY!

**CORNER BEEF & CABBAGE AND LOTS OF GUINNESS ALL WEEKEND!**

**THURSDAY MARCH the 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Piano Stylings of Yves LeBEL 6-9PM

**FRIDAY MARCH the 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Acoustic Stylings of Danny Fleet 7-10PM

**SATURDAY MARCH the 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Acoustic Stylings of Christopher John 7-10PM

**SUNDAY MARCH the 16<sup>th</sup>**  
We Are Gonna Party All Day Long!  
Live Music w/Route 9 3-7PM

**MONDAY MARCH the 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Drink Specials and Giveaways all day long!  
MPBA BAGPIPES 1-2PM  
Live Music with Tim Kearny and The Relative Fools 3-8PM

**SUNDAY 2PM IRISH STEP DANCERS**

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

Gift Cards Available

visit us at [WWW.THE-DUBLIN.COM](https://WWW.THE-DUBLIN.COM) for daily specials & upcoming events

Full Menu Served Daily 11AM-10PM

## GREENLEAF CAFE

Call Ahead for WING ORDERS To Go!

### MARCH EVENTS

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

**Fri. March 14<sup>th</sup> "Dead Rider"**

**Mon. March 17<sup>th</sup> St. Paddy's Day Party with Dave Sadloski**

**Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner \$16<sup>95</sup>**

**Fri. March 21<sup>st</sup> "Ted Band"**

**Grand Opening Party Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>!**

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

LUNCH – HAPPY HOUR  
DINNER & DRINK SPECIALS  
DOWNSTAIRS LOUNGE

**Fornarelli's Goes Irish for the Weekend**

Join us for a festive St. Patrick's Day weekend filled with delicious food and great entertainment!

We're serving up Corned Beef & Cabbage with Potatoes for both lunch and dinner, along with mouthwatering Reuben sandwiches.

Enjoy our fresh fish specials throughout Lent.

Celebrate with us on Friday night with DJ Sadboy, bringing high-energy music to kick off the weekend. Then, on Saturday night, enjoy live blues with the Davey Blues Band.

**Come for the food, stay for the fun—don't miss out on a weekend full of Irish spirit!**

For reservations or more information, contact (860)531-9160  
GIFT CARDS available for purchase in house or on our website  
**www.fornarellis.com • 860-531-9160**  
**112 Halls Hill Road, Colchester**  
**Live Music Thurs. Fri. & Sat.**



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

# New Senior Director Reflects on ‘Dream Job’

By Michael Sinkewicz

When Shoshana Merced attended Windham High School, she found herself procrastinating on a community service project. And to fulfill her hour requirements, she ended up volunteering a whole day with Special Olympics — a choice that immediately impacted her life.

“I absolutely fell in love and was very passionate about working with people with disabilities,” Merced recalled.

She would go on to work for the Access Community Action Agency, a nonprofit based in Willimantic, before joining the Department of Social Services (DSS) in Enfield. About two months ago, Merced was hired as Marlborough’s new senior center director, which she saw as the perfect fit.

“Both of my last careers in social work add up to this one,” she explained. “So this one is literally my dream job. I get to have the interpersonal, long-term relationships with people, while planning trips and programming.”

Officially, Merced’s title is director of human and social services and municipal agent for the aged. Essentially, her job is to oversee the senior center and provide social services for Marlborough residents over the age of 55. She took over

the position following the retirement of longtime director Vi Schwarzmann, who leaves behind a decorated legacy.

“I want to honor and respect that, but I’m really looking forward to my tenure here,” Merced said. “They’re big shoes to fill, but I’m really excited.”

Still, she emphasized that it will take time to build rapport: “I’m new here, I want to have everyone trust me.”

So far, Merced reported that everyone throughout the community has welcomed and supported her. There’s excitement, she added, for what the future holds. As she settles in, the new director has begun updating the senior center’s website and social media accounts, while networking with community partners, including Marlborough’s food bank and health center.

The first months, she acknowledged, have been “exhausting.”

“But I’m telling myself this is the hardest part of what will be my career here,” she noted.

There are programs Merced pointed to that are currently successful, such as billiards (offered Mondays and Fridays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.) and “Not Just Quilters” (held on Wednesdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.).

In her short time at the helm of the senior center, Merced has already created a birthday club, which involves a monthly celebration of all the birthdays taking place at the center. She also established massage days on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., where a retired local veteran, who is a massage therapist, will offer free massages.

Since taking over, Merced has worked on establishing policies and procedures, including a member handbook, to help solidify what the expectations are for the community and what the residents want and need. In the future, she’d like to expand programming, ensuring a booked schedule Monday through Friday, and eventually expand staffing.

“I’m very open,” Merced said. “I want to give everything a try. If we test-drive it and it doesn’t work, we’ll move on to the next idea.”

Merced conveyed that roughly 20 to 25 people take advantage of the senior center’s programming — a number she’s aiming to boost.

“People want senior services,” she stated. “They want activities, they want programs. So they’re going elsewhere.” Some residents are perhaps traveling to East Hampton, Colchester or Hebron to get their senior needs, “and that’s totally appropriate,” Merced said. “But I think those people want to stay in Marlborough — they like Marlborough.”

As the senior center expands and possibly adds grocery store trips and other initiatives, collaboration with other towns will be essential.

“I think that’s what makes a strong community — its ability to make relationships with surrounding areas,” she asserted.

In her previous position, at DSS, Merced would have an extremely large volume of clients. But she said she would only see them on an annual or biannual basis, something she found unsatisfying.

“That wasn’t fulfilling,” she added. “I’m fueled by the relationships that I build with people. This opportunity to be equal parts director, social worker, case manager, was really exciting for me. But I’m hoping in the future, that we can build a staff to break some of those out.”

After growing up and living in the Mansfield



Shoshana Merced

area, Enfield had a different feel, Merced explained. She’s comfortable in the northeastern part of the state, and notably, Marlborough is a much shorter commute.

“It’s been my home,” she said, referring to the region. “I wanted something more local to my community.”

Throughout the winter, Merced has met with residents pertaining to a variety of services and helped with energy assistance applications, amongst other tasks. “It’s important,” she said, “for people to recognize that there are people in their community who are struggling and they have very real problems.”

She added that her approach would be simple: “I’m going to be here for you while we learn how to do this together.”

A full list of programs and senior services can be found on the town’s website: [www.marlbroughct.net](http://www.marlbroughct.net).

The senior center is open daily from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. To become a member, residents can stop by in person and receive a membership key fob.

## Members Art Show

Marlborough Arts Center, located at 231 N. Main St., will open its annual Members’ Art Show Friday, May 9, from 2-4 p.m. – and the center is currently accepting submissions.

All media will be accepted, including paintings, photography, digital art, sculpture, pottery, woodwork, and jewelry. Artist members are invited to bring up to three pieces of artwork to the arts center on Sunday, April 27, between 1 and 4 p.m., or on Monday, April 28, between 4 and 6 p.m. The entry fee is \$10 for one piece, \$20 for two pieces, and an additional \$5 for a third. Membership dues must be up to date.

Over \$1,000 will be awarded in prizes at a reception and awards ceremony to be held on Sunday afternoon, May 18, from 2-4 p.m.

Judging the show for awards will be Jack Broderick, a practicing fine artist, who paints every day in his studio at The Mill Works in Willington. He uses both image and feeling in developing his paintings. He has traveled and painted extensively in Ireland, Argentina, Spain, Cuba and Italy, and has exhibited internationally in Paris, Tokyo, Buenos Aires, Palermo and Tilcara. He is an elected member of the Lyme Art Association.

The Members’ Art Show will be open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons from 1-4 p.m. from May 9 to June 8, including Memorial Day weekend.

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

## Greater Together Community Fund Opens Grant Cycle

The Marlborough Greater Together Community Fund (GTCF) at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has announced the opening of its third grant cycle.

In this cycle, the fund will award grants ranging from \$500 to \$10,000 to support projects that enhance and improve residents’ quality of life. Nonprofit organizations interested in applying should visit [www.hfpg.marlbroughcf.org](http://www.hfpg.marlbroughcf.org) for detailed information on the fund, eligibility requirements, and the application process. Proposals

must be submitted no later than April 11.

Organizations do not need to be based in Marlborough to apply, but their proposed projects must directly benefit Marlborough residents. For additional information, contact the Marlborough GTCF Committee at [marlbrough@hfpgcommunityfunds.org](mailto:marlbrough@hfpgcommunityfunds.org).

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving serves Hartford and 28 surrounding communities. To learn more about the foundation, visit [www.hfpg.org](http://www.hfpg.org) or call 860-548-1888.

## 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 senior deacon retired. Heather Mancini is church secretary and can be reached at 860-295-0001; hours are Monday-Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. People are asked to call before heading over or connect via email at [stjohnfisher30@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnfisher30@yahoo.com). The church website is [www.stjfchurch.org](http://www.stjfchurch.org).

**Weekend Masses:** 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. All are welcome.

**Weekday Masses:** 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.

**Special Lenten Offerings:** Stations of the Cross with Soup Supper – Fridays through April 11: soup supper is at 6 p.m. and Stations are at 7 p.m. Weekly Reconciliation – Mondays through April 7, 5-6 p.m.

**American Red Cross Blood Drive:** Saturday, March 22, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., in the church hall. Register online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

**Drive Thru Café:** Sunday, March 30. March is the church’s commitment month to provide a hot meal to patrons of the Marlborough Food Bank. The café will be held in partnership with Marlborough Congregational Church.

**Faith Formation Programs:** Programs are well underway for this academic year. For in-

formation, access the church website and click on the Faith Formation link in the upper menu. Cindy Bryan leads the active K, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 family-based program, Eileen Gilles leads the middle school program, and Helena Thomas leads the 2nd grade sacramental program and the 9th and 10th grade Confirmation program. For additional information, call the church office.

**Ministry, Social and Parish Community Events:** An active adult choir practices weekly; men’s and women’s prayer groups, Knights of Columbus, Christian Outreach and Prayer Shawl ministry meet monthly; and an active book club meets quarterly. Social activities are planned throughout the year to provide additional parish fellowship.

**Community Outreach and Service:** Food drives are held weekly for the 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 continues the last Thursday of the month for St. Vincent de Paul in Middletown. Various collections supporting Caring Families in Willimantic, House of Bread, ImmaCare and Catholic Worker in Hartford are a few of the other organizations supported. Community Garden volunteers are always welcome with fresh produce provided for the local food bank. Other scheduled service opportunities can be found on the church website and are scheduled monthly.

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

## Blood Drive

There will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive Saturday, March 22, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at

St. John Fisher Church (enter through the back entrance), 30 Jones Hollow Rd. Donors can enjoy fresh baked goods and refreshments afterwards.

Register by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter “Marlborough” to schedule an appointment.

MARLBOROUGH COUNTRY



St. Patrick's Day

Monday, March 17, 2025  
Open till 6PM

FOOD

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner \$18.99  
(2 Dinners for \$36.00)

Corned Beef Reubens \$10.99

Irish Soda Bread • Seeded Rye

Baileys Irish Cream Cheesecake • Baileys Cake

Beer • Wine • Cocktails

ALL DAY – EAT IN OR TO GO!

PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Drop off your email address to receive our daily hot & cold lunch specials

SEE OUR EVER-CHANGING MENU ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Open Mon.-Fri. 6AM - 6PM; Sat. & Sun. 6AM - 3PM

8 Independence Dr., Marlborough

(860) 295-9251

RE3-14-25

Volunteer. The Benefits Are Extraordinary!

PROTECTORs of ANIMALS

Extraordinary Benefits:  
You'll feel really, really good!  
You'll meet delightful dogs, fabulous felines, and some pretty special humans, too!

Volunteer Positions  
Day & Evening Hours:  
East Hampton & Wethersfield facilities –  
Dogs: walking, clean & feed; socialization  
East Hartford facility –  
Cats: clean & feed; socialization; medical & placement teams

860-569-0722

www.poainc.org

BOUC'S

BARBER & STYLING SHOP

9A South Main St., Marlborough, CT  
FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED

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

 VISA 860-295-9366  

RE2-28-25



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

# Time Capsule Opened After 25 Years

By Michael Sinkewicz

A quarter-century ago, a group of students at Marlborough Elementary School hoisted a time capsule into the ceiling of Deb Bourbeau’s fifth-grade classroom.

On Feb. 28, exactly 25 years later, a handful of the former students — who are now adults in their mid-30s — returned to MES to pop open the air-tight bucket, which had remained undisturbed above of a generation of their peers, to review its contents.

Waves of nostalgia swept through the school’s community room as retired administrators and faculty who roamed the halls more two decades ago reminisced about the past. The afternoon occasionally felt more like a reunion as the group swapped stories and reflected on their journeys.

It was also an opportunity to bridge the gap between two eras of schooling, with a class of fourth-graders who now occupy Deb Bourbeau’s old territory of room 222 joining the festivities as well.

As Bourbeau unsealed the capsule and began sifting through the items, the audience was immediately transported back in time. A pennant marked the UConn men’s basketball team’s first

championship in 1999; newspaper clips highlighted rising oil prices; an abundance of Legos and Pokémon cards reminded students of their childhood passions.

When Bourbeau pulled out a copy of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*, the crowd erupted in excitement, likely recalling the craze the book series caused when it first came out. But in stark contrast, only a couple of current elementary school students said they’d explored the novels.

Matt Ferony, a 10-year-old student in Bourbeau’s 1999-2000 class who attended the gathering with his wife, joked as he thought back to his youth, “I turned out okay!”

Ferony, who’s now 35 years old, said it was “fascinating” to comb through what his classmates left behind. He noted that some of the items seemed like antiques, gesturing to a beeper resting beside the capsule.

“You’re like, ‘Oh my gosh, I forgot those existed,’” he expressed.

While some students’ recollection of the time capsule project was fuzzy, Ferony distinctly remembered donating a Pokémon card and a penny. He also knew their plan was to someday revisit the capsule — which happened a bit sooner than he expected.



Five of Deb Bourbeau’s former students recently gathered at Marlborough Elementary School to open a time capsule they’d “buried” 25 years ago. From left are Emily Turcan, Matt Ferony, Bourbeau, Abby Grover, Katelyn Gregor and William Cairnduff.

“I just was more shocked that it’d been 25 years,” Ferony exclaimed.

Bourbeau couldn’t recall exactly how her class landed on the idea of doing a time capsule, but once the concept was introduced, it gained momentum. The students wanted to do something to commemorate the “new millennium,” although she noted that it technically began in 2001.

“I remember the day we put it up into the ceiling,” Bourbeau conveyed. “They were so excited.”

The “burial” took place on Feb. 28 — a date chosen by Bourbeau because it was her aunt’s birthday — and the capsule was raised on a pulley above room and chained to the steel girder above the ceiling.

A special tile marked the capsule’s location and the names of the student contributors, but during a subsequent school renovation, it was removed. The capsule could’ve remained hidden, a lost treasure left for future explorers to uncover.

“Luckily, I described where it was,” Bourbeau joked.

The items donated in the capsule were meant to capture a bit of what life was like in Marlborough at the turn of the century.

“This has just been so much fun to listen to their reactions as they pull things out,” Bourbeau said. Her takeaway from the capsule: “Kids are still kids.” While the specific movie stars or albums that students are obsessed with may evolve, “their interests really don’t change a lot.”

“And that was the best part about teaching,” Bourbeau continued. “Kids are just kids, and every day, you just never knew what to expect.”

Bourbeau retired from teaching in 2008, and stuck around in Marlborough; she’s currently the chairman of the town’s Board of Selectmen.

## Parks and Rec. Spring Programs

Marlborough Parks & Recreation has announced the following spring and summer programs. For full program descriptions, or to register, visit [www.marlboroughct.net](http://www.marlboroughct.net). For more information, call 860-295-6203.

**Special Events/Trips: Easter Egg Hunt:** Saturday, April 12, at Blish Park. Ages 2 and under are at 11 a.m., ages 6-8 are at 11:15 a.m., ages 3-5 are at 11:30 a.m., and ages 7-10 are at 11:45 a.m.

**Kids Fishing Derby:** Saturday, May 10, 9-11 a.m., at Blish Park. This event is held for anyone from 4 to 15 years of age. Registration is \$10. Prizes will be awarded for biggest fish, smallest fish and first fish caught.

**New York Yankees vs. Tampa Bay Rays:** Saturday, May 3, game time at 1:05 p.m. Trip includes ticket to the game, charter bus, and games and prizes on the bus. Registration fee is \$175 (200-level seating) or \$135 (400-level seating). Bus picks up/drops off at Putnam park and ride in Glastonbury.

**Youth Programs: Tiny Twirlers Dance Class:** For ages 2-3 with caregiver. Tuesdays, 5-5:30 p.m., March 25-May 27 (no class April 15); or Saturdays, 9:30-10 a.m., March 29-May 17 (no class April 19). Classes held at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Fee for Tuesday class is \$135, and fee for the Saturday class is \$108.

**Little Limelights Dance Class:** For ages 5-7. Tuesdays, 6:30-7 p.m., April 1-May 13 (no class April 15), at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Fee is \$80.

**Kids Klub Dance Class:** For ages 4-7. Saturdays, 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m., March 29-May 17 (no class April 19), at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Fee is \$108.

**After School Co-Ed Dodgeball League:** For grades 5 and 6. Mondays, March 17-April 29, 3:15-4:15 p.m., at Marlborough Elementary School (MES). No dodgeball on April 8. Fee is \$30 for residents.

**After School Co-Ed Handball League:** For grades 5 and 6. Wednesdays, March 29-May 1, 3:15-4:15 p.m., at MES. No handball April 10. Fee is \$30 for residents.

**Kids Sewing – Beach Tote/Clutch/Hair Accessories:** For ages 6 and up. Saturday, April 5,

9-11:30 a.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Fee is \$75/resident, \$80/non-resident.

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

**Soccer Shots Mini:** For age 2. Saturdays, April 12-June 6 (no session May 24), 3-3:35 p.m., at the West Road Memorial upper field. Fee is \$102/resident, \$107/non-resident.

**Soccer Shots Classic:** For ages 3-5. Saturdays, April 12-June 6 (no session May 24), 3:45-4:30 p.m., at the West Road Memorial upper field. Fee is \$108/resident, \$113/non-resident.

**ART-ventures- Artist’s Passport Travel the World Through Art:** For grades K-6. Tuesdays, April 22-May 27, 3:15-4:15 p.m., at MES. Fee: \$132/resident, \$137/non-resident.

**Spring Into Yoga – Kids Yoga & Mindfulness Series:** For ages 3-10. Tuesdays, April 22-May 13, 5:15-6 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Parent/guardian must attend to observe or participate with their child. Fee is \$65/resident, \$70/non-resident, or a \$17 drop-in fee.

**Mad Science-Mad Medley:** For grades K-6. Thursdays, April 24-May 29, 3:15-4:15 p.m., at MES. Fee is \$132/resident, \$137/non-resident.

**Skyhawks Multi Sports Tots:** Thursdays, May 8-June 12, at MES. Ages 2 and 3 are 5-5:45 p.m., and ages 4 and 5 is 6-6:45 p.m. Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger. Registration fee is \$85/resident, \$90/non-resident.

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

**Adult Programs: Adult Tap:** Thursdays, 8-8:45 p.m., March 27-May 29 (no class April 17), at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. Fee is \$180.

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

**Zumba:** Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the conference room at Fire Station No. 2 and virtually. Fee: \$50/residents, \$55/non-residents, or a \$12 drop-in fee.

**Adult Drop-In Volleyball:** Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., at MES. Drop-in fee is \$5 per week. Session runs until June 2.

**Adult Drop-In Basketball:** Sundays, 8-10 a.m., at MES. Drop-in fee is \$5 per week. Session runs until April.

## Marlborough Lawn & Tree

**Got Dead Trees? CALL US TODAY!**

**Call for Tree Removal**

**Senior Citizen Discounts**

**Stump Grinding**

**Lawn Expansions & Landscape Rejuvenation**

**Bucket Truck Service Available**

**Fully Insured**  
30 Years Experience

MasterCard

Visit us at:  
[www.marlboroughlawnandtree.com](http://www.marlboroughlawnandtree.com)

**860-220-3786**

VISA

RE3-19-20

Thinking of where to go for your summer vacation?

Call Hebron Travel...We'll plan your next adventure!

- ✦ All-Inclusive Resort Vacations
- ✦ Ocean & River Cruises
- ✦ European Tours
- ✦ Eco Adventure Tours

**Hebron Travel** SINCE 1994

61-B Main Street, Hebron, CT 06248

**860.228.8221**

Toll Free 888.881.3545 • [hebrontravel@cs.com](mailto:hebrontravel@cs.com)

RE4-13-23

## PIANO TUNER

Tuning, Repairs & Cleaning

Contact **TED WILLIAMS**

Certified by  
Hartt School of Music

**(860) 228-0309**

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

CT10-22-20

*Where Tradition Meets Innovation!*

## ST. PATRICK’S DAY SPECIALS!

*Come celebrate with us on*

**Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**  
and  
**Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinners**

**Corned Beef Reubens and other specials!**

**St. Patrick’s Day Drink Specials, too!**

**DELIVERY AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE**

**(860) 295-8181 • Marlborough, CT**

**[www.marlboroughpizzact.com](http://www.marlboroughpizzact.com)**

RE3-14-25



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

From the Town Manager’s Desk

**Editor’s Note:** For his column this week, Town Manager David Porter is ceding his space to the Board of Finance chair and vice chair. Porter will be back with his regular column next week.

Marlborough Budget Process Update

Three elected boards – Board of Selectmen (Town), Marlborough Board of Education (MES), and Region 8 Board of Education (RHAM) – are responsible for the three parts of the annual budget. Beginning in February, the Board of Finance met weekly to hear presentations about the RHAM, MES, and Town budgets, ask questions, and discuss each proposed budget.

On March 5, the BOF scrutinized and debated several scenarios before directing the Board of Selectmen and the Marlborough Board of Education to cut their budget by \$65,000 each, or \$130,000 total. RHAM had already identified savings, so their budget is set. The BOF is committed to bringing forward a budget that strikes a balance between funding the quality schools and town services our community wants while presenting a tax increase our residents can afford. To meet those objectives, the BOF will need to supplement those cuts with an offset from the Undesignated Fund Balance.

What is the Undesignated Fund Balance (UFB)? Municipalities are encouraged to have a UFB for use in emergencies. For example, if Marlborough experienced a major storm that damaged roads, the school, or other town facilities, we would use the UFB to make emergency repairs while also filing claims with our insurance and seeking appropriate state or federal assistance.

The UFB is one of the indicators ratings agencies use to ascertain the fiscal health of a town. Marlborough will need to bond in the coming years for culverts, other infrastructure projects, and school renovations. Marlborough has worked hard to maintain our UFB at or above 14.5% of our annual budget. At that level, we have adequate resources to respond to emergencies and to qualify for a favorable bond rating.

The BOF has not yet decided how much to offset with the UFB. If the BOF supplements the \$130,000 in cuts with \$170,000 from the UFB, the balance would decrease from 15.0% to 14.4% of our annual budget and the proposed property tax mill rate would be 37.82, a 4.22% increase over last year. That figure is NOT a useful one.

A true apples-to-apples comparison with last year requires that we net out the increase attributable to a change the state legislature made to the way in which cities and towns assess the value of motor vehicles. The new formula reduces the assessed value of motor vehicles in Marlborough by a little more than 7%, which reduces the amount you will be paying on your motor vehicle bills next year. In the above scenario, that reduction in motor vehicle taxes is responsible for 0.28 mills of the increase. After accounting for the motor vehicle tax cut, the true mill rate would be 37.54, which represents an increase of 3.44%.

The next step is for the BOS to meet to decide where their cuts will be made, and the BOE will do the same.

- Key dates to remember are:
- Monday, April 14, 6:30 p.m. – First Public Hearing for the Town/MES/RHAM Budget (MES Cafeteria);
  - Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m. – BOF meets to discuss the public hearing (MES Library);
  - Friday, April 25 – The *Rivereast* will publish the budget on which residents will vote;
  - Monday, May 5, 6:30 p.m. – Second Public Hearing for the Town/MES/RHAM Budget (MES Cafeteria);
  - Tuesday, May 6, 6 a.m.-8 p.m. – Referendum (MES Community Room).

We encourage all residents to vote on May 6. The proposed mill rate tracks inflation closely. The Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for the northeast region increased 3.7% for the 12 months ending in January. When food and energy – traditionally volatile metrics – are removed, the CPI-U for the same period increased 4.1%.

If Marlborough residents do not pass the budget on May 6, both the Marlborough Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen will need to reduce services for Marlborough residents before a second referendum two weeks later.

Mike Nastri, Board of Finance Chair  
Karen Pakulis Paul, Board of Finance Vice-Chair



**New Computers...** Richmond Memorial Library received a grant to replace the computers that are for public use. This grant came from the Marlborough Greater Together Community Fund at the Hartford Foundation. A new grant cycle has begun for grant requests; for additional information, email [marlborough@hfpgcommunityfunds.org](mailto:marlborough@hfpgcommunityfunds.org).

DTC Seeks Candidates

The Marlborough Democratic Town Committee is seeking candidates to run for municipal office in November. There are a variety of positions available depending on your interest and expertise.

If interested, contact the DTC Candidate Search Committee at 781-956-6419 or email [Marlboroughctdemtowncommittee@gmail.com](mailto:Marlboroughctdemtowncommittee@gmail.com).

Vendors Sought for Craft Fair

American Legion Post 197 in Marlborough will host a spring craft fair Sunday, April 6, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. – and craft vendors are sought.

The deadline to reserve a table is Wednesday, March 12. If you make handmade items and would like a space, email [dalejrfran21174@gmail.com](mailto:dalejrfran21174@gmail.com) for an application. Please put ‘craft fair’ in the subject line.

Resident’s Photos in Town Hall Display

Marlborough Arts Center has an exhibit at Town Hall featuring photos by local resident Danny Veilleux. The photos will be on display through July 31.

This exhibit is open to the public during business hours at Town Hall Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and Fridays from 8 a.m.-noon.

For more information, check out [www.marlborougharts.org](http://www.marlborougharts.org), or contact the Arts Center at 860-467-6353 or email [marlboroughartscenter@gmail.com](mailto:marlboroughartscenter@gmail.com).

Like us on Facebook  
RivereastNewsBulletin



**The local band Seat Of Our Pants** – from left, Michael Frantzen, Mark Hall, Carolyn Brodgerski and Jeff Gorman – will perform at Marlborough Arts Center Friday, March 28.

SOOP Returns to Arts Center

The Marlborough Arts Center welcomes Seat Of Our Pants – affectionately known as SOOP – for the next 4th Friday @ the Arts Café series, which will be held Friday, March 28, at 7:30 p.m., at Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main St.

With a combination of folk instruments and rock-infused songwriting, SOOP is an award-winning band; the group’s music video “Hands” received a 2020 Telly Award, which honors excellence in video and television. The band has performed at The Buttonwood Tree, on the grand stage at Mohegan Sun’s Wolf Den,

Podunk Bluegrass Festival, and many other locations around the state. To learn more about SOOP, visit [seatofourpantsmusic.com/home](http://seatofourpantsmusic.com/home).

The 4th Friday @ the Arts Café concerts are \$15 per person payable at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the concert begins at 7:30 p.m. BYOW and nibbles to dine on. Other non-alcoholic beverages are available. There is on-site parking, and the Marlborough Arts Center is handicapped-accessible.

For more information, visit [www.marlborougharts.org](http://www.marlborougharts.org), email [info@marlborougharts.org](mailto:info@marlborougharts.org), or call 860-467-6353.

Senior Center News and Notes

Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Drive, is open for activities. For more information about any senior center program, call 860-295-6209 or email [socialservices@marlboroughct.net](mailto:socialservices@marlboroughct.net). Follow the senior center on Facebook; search for Marlborough Senior Center.

**Senior Center Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Undergoing Renovations:** The center will be undergoing renovations the week of March 17-21. The locations of some events have been changed for that week only; times remain the same.

Bakery Donations will be delivered to the Town Hall conference room on Monday 3/17 and Tuesday 3/18; Billiards: Canceled on 3/17 and 3/21; Bingo on 3/18 will be held at Florence Lord, 155 S. Main St., from 1-2 p.m.; Cards: Monday, 3/17 from 2-3 p.m., at Fire House No. 2, 200 West Rd., and Wednesday, 3/19 and Friday, 3/21 at Fire House No. 2; Coffee & Conversations: Canceled; Not Just Quilters on 3/19 will meet at Fire House No. 2; Tap: Canceled.

**AARP Free Tax Preparation Services:** The center is fully booked at this time. If you need assistance, consider calling other senior centers or 2-1-1 for VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)

**Billiards:** Mondays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon.

**Bingo:** Mondays, 1-2 p.m. Each card costs \$1 and additional cards after are 50 cents.

**Birthday Club:** All are welcome the fourth Tuesday of each month to celebrate your birthday! March birthdays will be celebrated, with cake, on March 25 from 1-2 p.m. Please RSVP.

**Blood Drive:** The senior center will host a community blood drive with the American Red Cross on Thursday, April 4, from 1-6 p.m., at the center. The Red Cross said it is extremely low in O+ and O- blood. For more information or to make an appointment to donate, call 860-

207-4795 or sign up online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) with sponsor code “Marlborough.”

**Blood Pressure Checks and Chatham Health Education Presentation:** Third Thursdays, 10-11 a.m. Next day is April 17.

**Cards:** Monday, 2-3:30 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays, 1-3:30 p.m.

**Chair Massage:** Free, 15-minute chair massage every Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Must RSVP.

**Coffee & Conversations:** Meets the third Thursday of each month at 11 a.m. Each session includes a discussion on a particular topic of interest, activity and sometimes lunch. March 20th will be a Celebration of Women’s Month. Light lunch provided.

**Food Bank:** Located at 3 Wilhenger Drive, and can be reached at 860-295-6008. There is an open house Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-noon and 4-6 p.m. The food bank is in need of: pasta, soup, canned chili, sugar, flour, cereal, instant oatmeal, peanut butter, jelly, deodorant, shampoo, feminine products, and toothbrushes. The food bank is open to qualified residents in need.

**Not Just Quilters:** All skill levels welcome. Needleworkers and other handwork crafters also welcome. The group meets every Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Supplies not provided. Bring your own project or get in on the block of the month.

**Parkinson’s Exercise:** These are specialized exercise classes for those living with Parkinson’s disease. Intervals may vary for each lesson and exercises will be appropriate for the monthly theme. All classes will include boxing and visualization exercises. There is a fee for each class. Visit [www.beatpdtoday.com/class-schedule](http://www.beatpdtoday.com/class-schedule) to register and for more information.

**Mahjong:** Every Wednesday from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Fire Station No. 2, 200 West Rd., and the second Friday of every month (next Friday session is 3/14) from 12:30-2:30 p.m. at Marlborough Bakery, 8 Independence Drive. All skill levels are welcome. There is no fee to play, but players use 2025 Mahjong cards, which they purchase on their own.

**Meals on Wheels:** Provides meals and daily visits. The program serves people 60 years of age and over, and their spouses or caregivers. A suggested donation of \$3 per meal is requested, but no one will be denied a meal if unable to donate. There is no income eligibility requirement. Menus can be modified to accommodate health concerns. You may apply directly with CRT by calling 860-560-5848, or call the senior center for a referral.

**Tap:** The center’s tap dance group is open for new, experienced members. The group meets every Wednesday from 5-6:30 p.m.

**Transportation:** Transportation is available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Rides must be reserved three business days in advance. Reservations are taken Monday-Thursday. Call 860-295-6209 for more information.

Lions Eyeglass Collection Boxes

The Marlborough Lions collect used eyeglasses and hearing aids, which are then provided to people in impoverished countries all around the world.

The Marlborough Lions drop boxes are located at Town Hall, Liberty Bank, the Marlborough Senior Center, Richmond Memorial Library and at the office of Dr. Steven Rafalowsky on Saner Road. The Lions collect the eyeglasses and hearing aids all year long and once a year Lions Clubs from all over Connecticut meet to turn in the collected items. Eyeglass cases are also appreciated.

If you have any questions, or would like to learn more about the Marlborough Lions, call club secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 or club president Jean Paul Bolduc at 860-798-2054.



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

# Set Sail for Laughter and Romance with *Anything Goes*

By London Brazal

Prepare to embark on a thrilling adventure filled with romance, mix-ups, and toe-tapping classics in Portland High School’s production of *Anything Goes* next weekend March 21 and 22.

*Anything Goes* is a comedy musical featuring music and lyrics by Cole Porter, with an original book by Guy Bolton and P. G. Wodehouse, later revised by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse.

Set aboard an ocean liner traveling from New York to London, the story follows Billy Crocker, a stowaway determined to win the heart of heirless Hope Harcourt who is engaged to the aristocratic Lord Evelyn Oakleigh.

With the help of nightclub singer Reno Sweeney and the mischievous “Public Enemy Number 13,” Moonface Martin, Billy embarks on a series of comedic escapades. The show features classic songs that later became jazz and pop standards, including “Anything Goes,” “You’re the Top,” “All Through the Night” and “I Get a Kick Out of You.”

Since premiering in 1934 at the Alvin Theatre, now the Neil Simon Theatre, on Broadway, the musical has been revived multiple times in both the United States and the United Kingdom.

Sam Tucker, the director, is a music teacher at PHS. He said the plot follows a hectic love triangle between Billy, Hope, Reno and Evelyn. While Hope and Evelyn are stuck in a love-less arranged engagement, Billy is set on taking Hope as his own. Including the cast, crew, and a student pit led by fellow music teacher Kristin Novak, about 80 students are involved in this year’s musical.

Tucker noted that rehearsals have been going “very well” and even though there is a lot to do before opening night, the cast is in good shape. Since the show is not ensemble-heavy, Tucker said they are able to focus on making the big

numbers stand out.

Many of the leads are veterans who have been doing shows throughout their high school careers. “They know their way around the stage,” added Tucker. He enjoys seeing the older students serve as mentors to the younger ones, helping teach a new group of lead performers. For the first time, middle school students have joined the ensemble to help fill out the stage. Tucker noted that they are also building mentorships to help them prepare for future high school auditions.

Dylan Cohen, a member of the Class of 2026, takes on the role of Billy, a young Wall Street broker who falls for a girl he met at a party. Cohen said his character will do anything to win over his true love. “He is a man who knows what he wants and no one or thing will get in the way,” said Cohen.

In his first musical, Cohen has enjoyed watching the run-throughs improve with each rehearsal. A longtime fan of singing and an All-State musician, he now hopes to develop his acting skills further.

Cohen believes the audience will get a good laugh, especially adults who may catch some extra jokes. “The jokes are funny, there are lots of music and lots of good singers,” Cohen noted.

Hope, played by senior Maryn Yost, is a beautiful heiress with a strong sense of duty who is willing to sacrifice love and marry to satisfy her mother’s wishes. Yost described her character as someone who doesn’t want to disappoint others and has a hard time putting herself first.

Yost’s favorite part of this show is the comedic timing. “We haven’t really done many comedies in the past,” she noted. One of the challenging aspects for Yost is the character switch from last year’s performance of *Matilda* where she played Miss Trunchbull, the violent headmistress of



The luxury liner S.S. American is stopping at Portland High School next week for its production of *Anything Goes*. With a cast and crew of almost 80 students, everyone is invited to come watch the chaotic comedy. Pictured is Maryn Yost playing Hope, an engaged debutante, and Dylan Cohen playing Billy, a young Wall Street broker.

the school. “I went from the villain to the flighty post girl,” Yost added.

As a senior, Yost has performed in all four musicals. As a freshman, she felt that she wasn’t good enough and had a lot of doubt. However, she thanks Portland for seeing potential in students, knowing they will grow and flourish. Following graduation, Yost plans to continue theater in some manner. “It just brings me so much joy,” Yost said. “It’s great to look back on it, I’ve had so much fun.”

Junior Toby Hunter is playing Lord Evelyn

Oakleigh, Hope’s good-natured but stuffy and hapless fiancé. Hunter said audiences are more likely to laugh at Evelyn rather than with him. Ultimately, the rehearsals have been fun but often stressful, Hunter explained. “The dancing is very fun, especially once you learn it and get to play with it,” he added.

*Anything Goes* will open at Portland Middle School auditorium, 93 High Street, at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 21, and 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 22. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and students, and \$10 for kids.

## Trinity Episcopal News

Trinity Episcopal Church, 345 Main St., invites all to services on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Bible Study starts at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday. The church has a long-term Supply Priest, the Rev. Mary Ann Osborn, who leads worship on most Sundays. All are invited to come one Sunday to meet her. The church schedule can be located online at [www.trinitychurchportlandct.org](http://www.trinitychurchportlandct.org).

The church is open for prayer and meditation, and the church office is open, from 2-4

p.m. each Friday. Anglican Prayer beading sessions are held at this time too; all are welcome – no prior beading experience required. It’s a time for fellowship and socializing.

Check [www.trinitychurchportlandct.org](http://www.trinitychurchportlandct.org) for more information, a calendar of events, to donate, or to listen to past sermons. If you have any other prayer requests to lift up, email the church office at [trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com).

## First Congregational Church News

The First Congregational Church of Portland, located at 554 Main St., holds worship Sundays at 10 a.m.; all are welcome. The next service is this Sunday, March 9.

This Sunday, the Dress a Girl project, which provides new dresses for children around the world, will have a fashion show during worship.

Following the Children’s Message, the Church School children will go to class to explore their faith with active learning. The church’s nursery looks after infants through preschool children.

After worship is Fellowship Hour, which is a time of conversation and refreshments.

**Soup and Substance:** Wednesdays, March 26 and April 9. Soup Supper is at 6 p.m., followed by the program at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to “Soup and Substance,” a Lenten program designed to nourish both body and soul. On three Wednesdays during Lent, gather for a soup and bread supper. Following the meal, attendees will explore various spiritual practices. The Ministry of Spiritual Life is coordinating this Lenten program.

For more information, go to [firstchurchportlandct.org](http://firstchurchportlandct.org) or call 860-342-3244.

## 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 and costs, or to register, visit [portland.recdesk.com](http://portland.recdesk.com) or call 860-342-6757. Advanced registration is required.

**Boating Certificate-Personal Watercraft Operation:** Starts Tuesday and Wednesday, April 1 and 2, from 5-6 p.m., at the Buck-Foreman Community Center. The successful completion of this 8-hour beginner boating class will give you the knowledge and a Completion Certificate needed to obtain a boater’s license/certification.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m., at the Portland Recreational Complex. For families with children ages 1-10. Find the golden egg and win a prize. Golden egg prizes will be provided by Angela Aresco with Carl Guild & Associates. Rain date is Sunday, April 13, at 1 p.m.

**Junior Golf Workshop (Grades 3-5):** Saturdays, April 26-May 17, 1:45-2:15 p.m., at the Portland West Golf Course. The schedule may change. Check the Parks and Rec. website for the most up-to-date information.

**Junior Golf Workshop (Grades 6-8):** Wednesdays, April 16-May 7, 4:30-5:30 p.m., at the Portland West Golf Course. The schedule

may change. Check the Parks and Rec. website for the most up-to-date information.

**Skyhawks – Multi-Sport (Age 2-5):** Saturdays, April 12-May 15, at Riverfront Park. Parent participation required for ages 2-3.5 years.

**Slamma-Jamma Basketball Camp Spring Break:** Monday, April 14 – Friday, April 18, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Portland High School. Led by Coach David Bradbury, campers will learn the fundamentals of basketball.

**Kids’ Blast:** This is an afterschool (3-6 p.m.) child care program available to students enrolled in grades K-6 in the Portland Public School system.

**Tai Chi for Long Life:** At the Buck-Foreman Community Center Wednesdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m., and Saturdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

**Co-Ed Drop-In Volleyball:** Tuesdays, 6:30-8 p.m., at Gildersleeve School. Registration is required. There is no drop-in program when the school is closed.

**Drop-In Basketball:** Mondays for men and Tuesdays for women, from 7:30-9 p.m. each week, at Portland Middle School. Free to Portland residents. Registration required. There is no program when the school is closed.

**Yin Yoga at Riverfront Park:** Tuesdays, May 20-June 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Riverfront Park. Great for beginners and intermediates.



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

Make sure your car is in proper working order! Especially your battery.

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



**\$10.00 OFF**  
*Offer Ends 3/31/2025*

*We also have replacement batteries.*

**We service Prius and other hybrids!**  
Make your appointment online at:  
**portlandautomotive.com**

**We Are An Emissions Test Station!**



**PortlandAutomotive.com**  
**Rte. 66, Portland**  
**860-342-0640**

RE3-25







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

# First Selectman Proposes \$15.9M Town Ops Budget

By London Brazal

First Selectman Michael Pelton has proposed a \$15.88 million town operations budget for the upcoming fiscal year, marking a 3.74% increase over current spending.

Combined with the Board of Education (BOE) budget at \$25.97 million, the total proposed 2025-26 town budget is \$41.85 million, a 4.5% increase from the town budget. The recommended budget would change the mill rate to 35.79 mills, a 1.49 increase.

On Tuesday, the Board of Selectmen hosted the annual public hearing to discuss the general government and BOE budget as well as other special revenue funds. To start, Pelton went through the achievements from the 2024-25 budget including opening the new track at the secondary schools, approving the Nordic Spa project that should break ground next month and tenants have started to move into Brainerd Place.

“As a town, we are within about 30-something million dollars of a billion dollars for total assessment,” Pelton noted. “Projects like the Nordic Spa and [Brainerd Place] will get us over the hump.”

Pelton also shared that renovations to the Waverly Senior Center have brought in a record number of people. “We have a number of other groups and organizations that use this; that

investment in that facility has made a big difference to the quality of life,” Pelton said. “This continues to be a huge asset for the town.”

The goals for the FY26 budget mainly surround completing projects such as sidewalk and road construction, advancing the remediation and redevelopment of 248 Brownstone Ave. and continuing economic development efforts. Officials will also continue on the school facility project and begin work on the 2026 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).

Additionally, the town aims to improve Middlesex Avenue Park, enhance water, sewer, and energy systems, and explore cost-saving renewable energy opportunities. Maintaining strong public safety, public works, and community services remain a top priority, Pelton said.

Pelton outlined the town’s capital spending, highlighting investments funded through various sources, including the general fund and the Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP). The BOE’s capital requests include a vehicle and HVAC upgrades. Other urgent needs prioritized include replacing the fire department’s Hurst tool and AED, installing a new copier for the library, adding traffic cameras for the Police department, and fire system upgrades for Public Works. Pelton emphasized that these expenditures were carefully selected based on necessity

and impact.

### Schools Budget Presented

On Tuesday, Superintendent of Schools Charles Britton also presented the BOE budget, explaining that its budget development starts as early as October. The budget was unanimously approved by the BOE last month. The budget includes an array of programming including academics, athletics, fine and performing arts, extracurricular and co-curricular activities, and student support services.

Britton also shared some accomplishments in the last year. For the second year in a row, the state of Connecticut recognized Gildersleeve as a School of Distinction, scoring in the top 20% of schools. He also shared that the high school had a successful accreditation visit from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

The BOE budget requests \$25.97 million to operate the schools for the next school year, a \$1.23 million increase from current spending. This figure includes the local educational agency’s share of budget contributions, which comes from Portland’s revenue and the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant. The 2025-26 ECS grant is expected to total nearly \$5 million, reflecting a \$220,000 increase.

Additional funding from federal and state agencies, along with other grants – including the IDEA grant, Titles I-IV grants, summer mental health grants, Open Choice funding, Medicaid reimbursements, and excess cost reimbursements for special education – is projected to total approximately \$2 million. In total, local, state, federal, and other contributions amount to \$28.06 million.

Britton discussed staffing and enrollment projections across Portland’s schools. At Valley View, staffing remains stable, but kindergarten enrollment is uncertain. If the number of students exceeds 90, an additional teacher may be needed. At Gildersleeve, two special education positions that were previously grant-funded

are now included in the budget, while all other staffing remains the same. Brownstone will see the reduction of one fifth-grade teaching position due to a smaller incoming class.

At Portland Middle School, the budget increases math intervention support from part-time to full-time. Additionally, a mental health clinician position, previously covered by a grant, has been moved into the regular budget. At Portland High School, the district is restoring partial FTE positions in health and art, which were cut last year due to budget constraints.

Britton added that special education and student support services remain a significant focus, with staffing needs fluctuating based on enrollment and student needs. Multiple programs allow the district to educate students in-house, saving an estimated \$2 million in potential outplacement costs. Since these services are mandated, they must be provided regardless of changes in state or federal funding.

For curriculum, instruction, and technology, the district has not filled the director of curriculum, instruction and technology position, with Britton currently handling those responsibilities. One major concern is the need for a Chromebook replacement cycle, as many devices are aging and warranties are expiring. Britton also emphasized that the facilities and infrastructure remain an ongoing challenge, with aging school buildings requiring frequent maintenance.

### Budget Workshops Scheduled

Budget workshops will continue next week on March 18 and 19, followed by deliberations on March 25 and 26. The four meetings will start at 7 p.m. at the Buck-Foreman Community Room, 265 Main St., and are available on Zoom. The Board of Selectmen is expected to approve the budget on Wednesday, April 2, with a town meeting scheduled for Monday, May 5, and the referendum set for Monday, May 12.

To review the proposed budget, visit [portlandct.org/budgets](http://portlandct.org/budgets).

## Portland Library News & Notes

Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., has announced the following events. Registration is required for all programs unless noted. To register and for full program descriptions, visit the calendar of events at [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org), or call 860-342-6770. The library is also on Facebook and Instagram.

**Hours:** Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Holiday Closing: The library will be closed Friday, April 18, for Good Friday.

**Youth Programs: Health Care Heroes Storytime.** Saturday, March 29, 11 a.m. For children ages 3-10. A Middlesex Health-care hero will read a story featuring a health care provider of color. Youth in attendance get to play surgeon for a day through an interactive activity. Youth in attendance receive a free book that features diverse health care characters. Portland Library is partnering with the Greater Middletown for Equity in Medical Career Opportunities Coalition to host this story time.

**Teen Programs: LGBTQ+ Teen Game Night:** Join QPlus every first and third Wednesday nights of the month, from 6-8 p.m. at the library, for tabletop gaming, crafts and snacks. For ages 13-18. All identities welcome; no registration necessary.

**Edible Birdhouses:** Monday, March 24, 3:30 p.m. Use seeds, fruits and more to create an architectural feast for your feathered friends. Space is limited.

**Adult Programs: Mystery Lovers Book Club:** Tuesday, March 18, 1 p.m. *Death in the Details* by Katie Tietjen will be discussed. **Talk About Books:** Tuesday, April 1, 1 p.m. *Saturday*

## Food Bank Benefit Concert

Portland resident Tony Rome and his band The Excuses will play a concert at Concentric Brewing Company, 91 Main St., on Saturday, April 19, at 2:30 p.m.

The concert will benefit Portland Food Bank. People are asked to bring a non-perishable item to the show, which will be donated to the food bank.

## ‘Lions Roar’ Cycling Event

The Portland Lions Club will hold its second annual “Lions Roar” cycling event, Saturday, May 17 – and the club is currently registering riders.

Routes of varying length have been planned for this event, starting at two locations in Portland and ending at Portland’s Riverfront Park, where a hot lunch will be served to those participating in the ride.

To register for the event, go to [bikereg.com/lions-roar](http://bikereg.com/lions-roar).

REF-17-25



TAX & BUSINESS SERVICES

10% off Veteran Discounts

20% off Senior Discounts

Richard Shonk

860-295-9343 • 860-543-0523 (C)

Div. of RLS Global Consulting Inc., Serving the Community for 40 years.



Member CT BBB 5 STAR BBB RATING

## World War II Veterans Ceremony

The Town of Portland has been asked by Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz to help identify living World War II veterans, for a state-wide recognition ceremony to be held in May.

The town is in process of identifying WWII veterans living in Portland. Call Town Clerk Michael Tierney at 860-342-6743 if you are or know of a living Portland resident who served anytime between Dec. 7, 1941 and Dec. 31, 1946.



De Olde Barber Shop

860-633-1552

882 Main Street South Glastonbury CT 06233

TUES-FRI 8:30-5, SAT 8-2



Roll Off Dumpster Services

40 YARD 30 YARD 20 YARD

15, 20, 30 & 40 yard Dumpsters available for your next job, renovation, or clean up

- Construction & Demolition Debris
- Bulky House Debris (Appliances, Furniture, Boxes, Cabinets, Metal, and more)
- Brush, Stumps, Trees, Wood Chip Debris
- We provide Dumpsters for Steel & Aluminum

Call about our 1 week dumpster special!

860-267-7140

24 Old Coach Road East Hampton, CT 06424

860 267 7140

15 YARD 20 YARD

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



“We Meet By Accident”

FULL SERVICE AUTO BODY REPAIR

1621 Portland Cobalt Rd. (Rt. 66) Portland, CT 06480

Grayson Mountain

860-342-1520

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



DiMauro Oil Company, LLC

Heating Oil – Diesel Fuel – Kerosene

24 Hour Emergency Burner Service

Pre-Buy Price Protection Plans

Service Contracts

Automatic Delivery

Prompt Delivery

Budget Plans

Senior Citizen Discount

Volume Discount

On-Site Diesel Delivery



(860) 342-2969

CT Reg # HOD. 596

Portland

REG-19-20



Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional

RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM



Aidan Peterson (left) earned All-Shoreline Conference first-team for his work on the courts this winter. Peterson is pictured with fellow senior Nico Oliva, who was named All-SLC Honorable Mention.

# Rivereast Standout Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Here are the *Rivereast* Standout Athletes of the Week for the week of March 3-9:

**Aidan Peterson – Portland High School (Basketball):** Peterson was named All-Shoreline Conference (SLC) first-team after helping the Highlanders to a berth in the Division V state tourney where they earned a 50-32 home win over Wheeler in the first round. Peterson, a senior, ran point as Portland won 12 total games during the initial season under first-year head coach Frankie Lee. Peterson now turns his attention to the links where he is also an all-conference golfer for a Highlanders team seeking a fifth straight conference championship this spring.

**Colby Bell – RHAM High School (Boys Ice Hockey):** Bell, a senior captain from RHAM, scored the game-winning goal in overtime as the Northeastern Shamrocks defeated Milford 6-5 last month. The Shamrocks, a co-op team based in Bolton, rallied from a 5-0 deficit after the first period and tied up the game with 18 seconds left in the 3rd period thanks to an assist from Bell. Bell then scored the clincher, finishing his four-point night with two goals and two assists.

**Brady Lynch – East Hampton High School (Basketball):** Lynch, a senior, wrapped a phe-

nomenal career on the local hardware by leading the Bellringers to a total of 18 wins this winter, including two wins in each the Shoreline Conference (SLC) tournament and Division V state tourney. Lynch averaged 19 points, five rebounds, and three assists per game as he earned All-SLC first-team for the third straight season. He finished his career at EHHS as the second leading all-time scorer with 1,597 points. He will next represent the Bellringers by playing in the Senior All-Star game on March 25.

**Marissa Nudd – Colchester/Eastern Connecticut State University (Basketball):** Nudd earned All-Little East Conference (LEC) second-team after starting all 26 games for the Warriors of Eastern Connecticut State University. Nudd, a 2023 graduate of Bacon Academy, finished second on the Warriors in both scoring average (13.7) and points (357), along with third in rebounding (4.9). She had a season-high 31 points against Lasell College on Nov. 13 and posted 10 or more rebounds three times this past winter.

*To nominate a Standout Athlete of the Week, email [joshhowardsports@gmail.com](mailto:joshhowardsports@gmail.com). Please include as many details about the athlete or performance as possible.*

## Student Art Show Returns

The Marlborough Arts Center will once again host the annual Student Art Show next month, featuring works from elementary, middle and high school students in Marlborough, Hebron and Andover.

The show will be open on weekends through March 23, every Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free.

The Marlborough Arts Center is a non-profit regional center for the fine arts, per-

forming arts and fine crafts, and is located at 231 North Main St., Marlborough. Parking is free and the building is fully accessible.

Details about this and other artistic endeavors, rentals, and membership can be viewed online at [www.marlborougharts.org](http://www.marlborougharts.org). Anyone who has questions or would like to speak with a member of the Board of Directors can leave a message at 860-467-6353.

## Chili Cook-Off in Moodus

All are invited to the first Chili Cook-off hosted by the East Haddam/Moodus VFW Post 3336 on Saturday, March 22, from noon-3 p.m., at the American Legion Post 156, 35 Neptune Ave., Moodus.

Sample chili from Fresca Tequila Bar & Grill, Inishmor Pub, The Pattaconk, River Valley Provisions, Higher Grounds Café, Westchester Marketplace, and the Moodus Sportsmen's Club. Other items to tantalize your tastebuds will be hard cider tastings from the Yankee Cider Company, fresh-baked sourdough from Flour & Feather, and hot sauce from Face Melter Brands.

Admission is \$10/person and kids under 10 are free. Cash bar available. Get your tickets now (<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/2025-chili-cook-off-3>) or at the door. This event is held indoors and will be rain or shine.

Vote for your favorite chili and the restaurant with the most votes wins!

Proceeds from this event benefit The Nest Coffee House in Deep River, a program of A Little Compassion Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides authentic and enriching employment and social opportunities for young adults with autism, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and related disorders ([www.thenestcoffeehouse.org](http://www.thenestcoffeehouse.org)).

For more information, call Don at 860-227-3600.

## KinderRHAMa Preschool Summer Camp

Registration for KinderRHAMa Preschool Summer Camp is underway.

Held at the AHM KinderRHAMa classroom and play yard at RHAM High School, the camp is for children ages 3-5. Two early childhood teachers will staff the program along with volunteers.

The program will run 9 a.m.-noon Monday through Friday. Families can choose to enroll for 1-8 weeks. Children must turn 3 by Sept. 1 and must be fully toilet-trained in order to participate.

In camp, children work on social skills, gross and fine motor and school readiness skills in a relaxed atmosphere while enjoying summer recreational activities inside and outside.

Fee is \$120/per week (\$96 for the June 30-July 3 week). Financial aid may be available for families who qualify. The dates and themes are as follows:

Week 1: June 23-27, Cruising Around the World; Week 2: June 30-July 3, Holiday Week (No camp 7/4); Week 3: July 7-11, Locomotion; Week 4: July 14-18, Dinosaur Week; Week 5: July 21-25, Ocean Week; Week 6: July 28-Aug. 1, Pirate Week; Week 7: Aug. 4-8, Fairytale Week; Week 8: Aug. 11-15: Variety Week.

To register, go to [ahmyouth.recdesk.com/Community/Home](http://ahmyouth.recdesk.com/Community/Home).

For more information, visit [ahmyouth.org/programs-services/kinderrhama-preschool-program](http://ahmyouth.org/programs-services/kinderrhama-preschool-program).

If your family is struggling financially and you would like to attend, you can apply for a program scholarship at [ahmyouth.org/program-scholarship-application](http://ahmyouth.org/program-scholarship-application). For more information, contact Becky Murray at [beckym@ahmyouth.org](mailto:beckym@ahmyouth.org), or 860-228-0871.

## KinderRHAMa Registration to Open

Registration for KinderRHAMa Preschool for the 2025-26 school year opens on March 17. Located at RHAM High School, the preschool is for children ages 3-5. Children must be 3 by Sept. 1 and be toilet-trained in order to attend.

Two experienced teachers staff the program and RHAM students assist in the classroom. The program follows the Early Learning Development Standards from the State of Connecticut for preschool-aged children. Regular activities include circle/story time, outside play, science- and math-based activities, and daily arts and crafts projects.

There are part-day and whole-day options. The 3-year-old program is held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m.-noon, and the 4-year-old program is held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. There is an option of 7 a.m.-3 p.m. on the days that your child attends. There are also limited spaces to have your child attend five days a week from 7 a.m.-3 p.m.

The 2-day/week 8:30 a.m.-noon program is \$2,415/year; the 3-day/week 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. program is \$4,332/year, and the 5-day/week 7 a.m.-3 p.m. program is \$7,200/year.

The 2-day/week program with extended day (T/Th from 7 a.m.-3 p.m.) is \$3,492/year, and the 3-day/week program with extended day (M/W/F from 7 a.m.-3 p.m.) is \$5,240/year.

Tuition can be paid in 10 installments. Financial aid may be available for families who qualify.

Initial registration for the public will be online starting March 17 at [ahmyouth.recdesk.com/Community/Home](http://ahmyouth.recdesk.com/Community/Home). Families will be informed as to whether their child has a space within a week. If they have a space, families will be asked to pay a \$45 registration fee and \$150 deposit to hold their child's space.

For more information, contact Becky Murray at [beckym@ahmyouth.org](mailto:beckym@ahmyouth.org), or 860-228-0871.

## Paint Along with Bob Ross

The National Art Honor Society at RHAM High School is hosting a Paint Along with Bob Ross event on Wednesday, April 9, at 5 p.m., at the high school, 85 Wall St., Hebron.

Ross was an American painter and art instructor who famously hosted the long-running PBS series *The Joy of Painting*.

Refreshments will be provided, and there will be a prize for the person who comes dressed in the best Bob Ross attire.

Admission is \$20 and advanced registration is required. Email [carrie.dinunzio@rhamschools.org](mailto:carrie.dinunzio@rhamschools.org) to register or for more information.

## AHM Family Resource Center Programs

AHM Youth and Family Services' Family Resource Center is offering various programs for young children and families. Children must attend with a parent or caregiver. For more information, contact Becky Murray at [beckym@ahmyouth.org](mailto:beckym@ahmyouth.org) or 860-228-0871.

**First Steps in Music Class:** Will be held at the AHM building, 25 Pendleton Drive in Hebron. The eight-week program runs Tuesdays, April 1-May 27, from 9:30-10:15 a.m. This program is a researched early childhood music program taught by Mallory Kokus, with singing, movement, rhythm, and instruments. Cost is \$125/family.

## Middle School Orientation Program

RHAM Middle School's Orientation and Transition Program for parents/guardians of incoming seventh graders will be held Tuesday, April 8, at 6 p.m., at the RHAM High School auditorium.

## Kids vs. Cops Basketball Game

AHM Youth and Family Services, in collaboration with RHAM High School and the Connecticut State Police, will hold the second annual Kids vs. Cops basketball game Friday, March 14, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., at the RHAM High School gym; doors will open at 6 p.m.

This is a free event open to the community. All are invited to help fill the stands and cheer on the RHAM High School students and local law enforcement as they face off in a friendly game of basketball.

## Save the Date for 50th Reunion

All members of the RHAM High School Class of 1975 are advised to save the sate for their 50th Reunion, coming up this fall.

The reunion will take place Saturday, Oct. 4, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Glastonbury.

Stay tuned for more information regarding ticket sales, event registration details, and accommodation options. Also, class members are asked to reach out to their fellow classmates and let them know!

# Volunteer. The Benefits Are Extraordinary!

Extraordinary Benefits:

- You'll feel really, really good!
- You'll meet delightful dogs, fabulous felines, and some pretty special humans too!

Volunteer Positions Available —

Day & Evening Hours:

- East Hampton & Wethersfield facilities  
Dogs: walking; clean & feed; socialization
- East Hartford facility – Cats: clean & feed; socialization; medical & placement teams

PROTECTORS of ANIMALS

Scan for more info

Please call 860-569-0722 or visit [www.poinc.org](http://www.poinc.org)







**By Michael Sinkewicz**

Last month, the Hebron Board of Education adopted a \$14.45 million preliminary budget — a \$786,051, or 5.75% boost, which comprises

The mill rate spike was impacted by a \$12.6 million, or 1.35%, dip in the 2024 Grand List,

Some of the largest expenses include: fire station fire alarm systems (\$74,471), Veteran's Park upgrades (\$65,000) and landscaping improvements at the St. Peter's Field, Gilead Hill School,

The BOF is expected to host a budget hearing on April 10, with a referendum scheduled for May 6.

**Gong Bath with Guided Meditation:** Monday, March 31, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the Douglas

**Kingdom Men: Men's Bible Study:** All men are invited to join the church's study of the Book

**Paint Pouring:** Thursday, April 3, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at the Parks and Rec. office. Paint without a brush! In this session, create your own tree. Amy Ordonez from Studio 13 will take you step by step through this process. No art experience needed. Fee: \$40.

For more information regarding the pancake breakfast, contact Dawn Swagger at Dawn.Swagger@hebronharvestfair.org with any questions.

**RHAM Bingo:** Tuesday, March 18, 2:30-4 p.m. This will be the last one for this academic year. There will be free bingo with prizes (four-card limit). Bingo is called by RHAM National Honor Society members. In the event of school closing early due to weather, bingo would be

**Hebron Maple Fest:** All are invited to stop by the TWC booth and make “maple” slime on Saturday and Sunday, March 15 and 16, from 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

**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 dedicated transportation line at 860-228-5977.



# Town Eyes DPW Project Decisions

**shakealegpetsitting.com**  
**860-368-9125**







## Vacancies on Town Boards, Commissions

There are three newly-created alternate positions on the Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA). The BAA is an official municipal agency designed to serve as an appeal body for taxpayers who believe that the assessor erred in the valuation of their properties or erroneously denied an exemption. The BAA is the first level of appeal from the actions of the assessor.

For more information, visit [hebronct.com/contact-us/volunteer-opportunities](http://hebronct.com/contact-us/volunteer-opportunities).

Email [mergonci65@comcast.net](mailto:mergonci65@comcast.net) for more information.

For more information, contact the church office at 860-228-3077.

**79A Norwich Avenue, Colchester | [www.ColchesterDentalGroup.com](http://www.ColchesterDentalGroup.com)**

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

**SUPERLIQUORSCT.COM**  
• on-line ordering • local  
delivery or pick up at store

 **860-568-3659**  
FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM  
@PUTNAMPLAZASUPERLIQUORS

**PRICES GOOD MAR. 13th thru 30th, 2025.**



<b>GUINNESS DRAUGHT STOUT</b> 18 PACKS 14.9 oz. Cans <b>\$23.99</b> Plus Dep.	<b>MURPHY'S IRISH STOUT</b> 4 PACKS 14.9 oz. Cans <b>\$6.99</b> Plus Dep.	<b>GUINNESS DRAUGHT OR EXTRA STOUT</b> 12 PACKS 14.9 oz. Cans <b>\$14.99</b> Plus Dep.	<b>GUINNESS 00 NON-ALCOHOLIC</b> 8 PACKS 14.9 oz. Cans <b>\$13.99</b> Plus Dep.	<b>JIM BEAM BOURBON</b> 1.75 Liter <b>\$29.99</b>	<b>BAILEYS IRISH CREAM</b> 750 ml Assorted <b>\$29.99</b>	
<b>PADDY'S IRISH WHISKEY</b> 750 ml <b>\$19.99</b>	<b>O'DANIELL'S IRISH CREAM</b> 700 ml <b>\$14.99</b>	<b>JAMESON IRISH WHISKEY</b> 750 ml <b>\$29.99</b>	<b>GREY GOOSE VODKA</b> 750 ml <b>\$21.99</b>	<b>TAAKA VODKA</b> 1.75 Liter <b>\$9.99</b>	<b>HARP OR SMITHWICKS</b> 8 PACKS 14.9 oz. Cans <b>\$13.99</b> Plus Dep.	
<b>MILLER LITE OR COORS LIGHT</b> 24 PACKS 12 oz. Bottles <b>\$21.99</b> Plus Dep.	<b>HEINEKEN ASSORTED</b> 12 PACKS 12 oz. Bottles <b>\$15.99</b> Plus Dep.	<b>KIM CRAWFORD SAUVIGNON BLANC</b> 750 ml <b>\$12.99</b>	<b>CHATEAU STE. MICHELLE CHARDONNAY</b> 750 ml <b>\$9.99</b>	<b>TOP BOX 3 LITER BOXED WINES</b> Assorted <b>\$16.99</b>	<b>KENDALL-JACKSON VINTNER'S RESERVE CHARDONNAY</b> 750 ml <b>\$11.99</b>	<b>BAREFOOT CELLARS WINES</b> 750 ml <b>2/\$10</b>
<b>ROE &amp; CO IRISH WHISKEY</b> 750 ml <b>\$29.99</b>	<b>HI 5 OR WYNK 3MG THC SELTZER</b> Assorted <b>\$14.99</b>	<b>COL DI SASSO TUSCAN RED</b> 750 ml <b>\$10.99</b> 2022 - 90 Pts. Wine SPECTATOR	<b>JOSH CABERNET, MERLOT OR LEGACY RED</b> 750 ml <b>\$12.99</b>	<b>TANQUERAY IMPORTED GIN</b> 1.75 LITER <b>\$32.99</b>	<b>DRUMSHANBO GUNPOWDER IRISH GIN</b> 750 ml <b>\$29.99</b>	<b>PATRÓN SILVER TEQUILA</b> 1.75 Liter <b>\$79.99</b>

CIT3-13-25



*12 Locations in Connecticut for your convenience*

***25 Years of Excellence  
in Comprehensive  
Dental Care***

***ALL SPECIALISTS UNDER ONE ROOF***

- ***Prosthodontist/ Implant Dentistry***
- ***Endodontist/ Root Canal Specialist***
- ***Periodontist/ Gum Specialist***
- ***Oral Surgeon***
- ***Orthodontist***
- ***Pediatric Dentist***

***In-House Dental Lab***



***Call Us: 860-645-0111***

***Visit Us:  
ColumbiaDental.com  
ColumbiaImplantCenter.com***



**COLUMBIA  
DENTAL**



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

Spring Classes  
at Epoch Arts

Epoch Arts is offering a variety of classes this spring.

Students in grades pre-K-12 can register on-line to take classes like art, ceramics, photography, theater, improv and more.

Students can also sign up for Epoch's Summer Session in July, and two teen workshops in March.

Full class descriptions and registration are at [www.epocharts.org/classes-registration](http://www.epocharts.org/classes-registration). All classes will be held at 27 Skinner St.

Irish Soda Bread for Sale

The Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam will sell Irish Soda Bread each Sunday in March, from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the church, located at 52 Middle Haddam Rd.

The one-pound loaf is \$5. All proceeds go to the Heifer Fund, an international project that supports women's rural farm industries.

Call or text 860-682-2067 with your name, phone number and amount to reserve, or show up and buy, first-come, first-served.

VFW Auxiliary  
Art Contests

The Fowler-Dix-Park Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary 5095 is now accepting entries for its 2024-25 Young American Creative Patriotic Art and 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art scholarship competitions.

These scholarships are designed to recognize young artists in grades 9 to 12, encourage patriotism, and assist students who wish to further their education.

Entry forms and contest rules are at [vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/young-american-creative-patriotic-art-contest](http://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/young-american-creative-patriotic-art-contest), the town library entrance, or the Post Home.

Student entries must be submitted (along with a completed entry form) to VFW Post 5095; 20 North Maple Street, East Hampton, CT 06424. The deadline for both contests is March 31.

Troop 57 Bottle Drive

Troop 57 is having its next bottle drive on Saturday, March 29. Bring clean cans, plastics and glass to the American Distilling Parking lot (31 East High St, Route 66) from 9 am to noon.

All redeemable containers are accepted; the only exception is milk containers. For more information, call Annette Kowalczyk at 860-267-2962.

Kindergarten  
Registration to Start

Kindergarten registration packets for the 2025-26 school year are available at the Memorial School foyer and the East Hampton Public Library.

To secure a screening appointment for their child, parents/guardians are asked to return all completed registration paperwork to the Memorial School office or drop box in the foyer by Friday, April 4.

Kindergarten screenings will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. May 12, 16 and 19. Kindergarten early entry additional assessments will be held May 21.

Contact the Memorial School office at 860-365-4020 if you have questions regarding the registration process.

CAMPAGNA

Fine Italian Restaurant and Bar

Five Course Menu Offering on  
Sunday through Thursday

Five Course Meal \$30.00 • \$15 plate charge for sharing  
— DINE-IN ONLY IN DINING ROOM —

APPETIZERS

Stuffed Mushrooms Mushroom caps stuffed with seafood stuffing

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

Fried Mozzarella Topped with marinara sauce

PASTA COURSE

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

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

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

DINNER CHOICES

Chicken Parmigiana

Eggplant Rollatini Rolled eggplant stuffed with ricotta, prosciutto and roasted peppers

Chicken Marsala Sautéed with mushrooms, shallots in a marsala wine sauce

Balkan Meatballs Beef meatballs sautéed with scallions, roasted red peppers, grape tomatoes in a marsala cream sauce

Stuffed Pork Chop Stuffed with broccoli, gorgonzola cheese and ritz crackers in a brown cognac sauce

Stuffed Sole Crab meat stuffing served over spinach

DESSERTS — Ask your server for our selections

WINE & DINE MENU

\$80 per couple / \$50 for single — Served Every Friday and Saturday  
DINE-IN ONLY IN DINING ROOM

Serving Prime Rib Every Friday Night!

Happy Hour Bar Only

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

CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT SADLER'S

SADLER'S  
RESTAURANT • BAKERY

and Patio!

LUCK OF THE IRISH!

If you like traditional Irish dishes, you're in luck!

This Friday, Saturday and Sunday, we've got  
Corned Beef, Shepherd's Pie, Lamb Stew and more!  
And after St. Patrick's Day, your luck doesn't end:

TUESDAY: 20% OFF your entire dinner bill

WEDNESDAY: Buy one entrée, Get one HALF OFF  
(higher price prevails)

(Deals good March 18th & 19th, after 4pm)

Online orders use code LUCKOFTHEIRISH

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

EATATSADLERS.COM

**Fireworks**  
HEARTH & HOME

Wood, Gas, Pellet, Stoves,  
Inserts, Fireplaces, & Chimneys  
Sales, Service,  
Masonry Work & MORE!

112 BRIDGE RD  
HADDAM, CT 06438  
[WWW.FIREWORKSCT.COM](http://WWW.FIREWORKSCT.COM)  
(860) 345-4221

MORE BRANDS  
AVAILABLE!

WHEN VISITING  
FIREWORKS,  
STROLL THROUGH  
OUR GIFT STORE!

Lori's  
SHE SHED  
Gifts  
GIFTS FOR ALL!

**LLINAS LAW**  
CRIMINAL DEFENSE & DUI LAWYER

NEVER TAKE A  
PLEA DEAL  
WITHOUT  
SPEAKING TO  
A CRIMINAL  
DEFENSE  
ATTORNEY

860-530-1781  
[www.llinasdefense.com](http://www.llinasdefense.com)

**Terrazza**  
Host your next private event at  
Terrazza, CT!

From intimate gatherings  
to big celebrations, Terrazza  
has the perfect space, delicious  
food and a stunning  
atmosphere.

Book online Today —  
[TERRAZZACT.COM](http://TERRAZZACT.COM) or by phone at 860-788-3558

Terrazza Restaurant | 9 Rose Hill, Portland, CT 06480  
Sun-Thu • 11am-9pm | Fri-Sat • 11am-10pm

**Winter Special!**

Sign up for **ANY**  
package for 30  
days for the price  
of a wash.  
(see attendant for details)

**DIAMOND SPARKLE  
CAR WASH**

**PLATINUM**  
Single Wash \$24

**GOLD**  
Single Wash \$19  
Gift Cards Available!

**SILVER**  
Single Wash \$15

**BASIC**  
EXTERIOR  
WASH & DRY  
Single Wash \$12

44 Amston Road, Route 85, Colchester, CT  
860-537-4325  
Open 7:00am-7:00pm  
7 DAYS A WEEK





**Magee**  
HOMES

REMODELING CONTRACTORS

WINDOWS, DOORS, DECKS  
KITCHENS & BATHS  
SIDING & ROOFING

860-682-5509

Locally Owned & Operated • Licensed & Insured



FREE  
ESTIMATES

RE7-26-24



**Hebron Property Owners!!!**  
*Thinking of selling or buying?*  
Call Jim Celio – Century 21 AllPoints Realty  
48 YEARS OF LOCAL REAL ESTATE EXPERIENCE  
**Hebron’s #1 Agent** – Total Transactions Closed  
\*\*2016 – 2017 – 2018 – 2019 – 2020 – 2021 – 2022 – 2023\*\*  
**Hebron’s #1 Agent** – Total Closed Market Volume  
\*\*2016 – 2017 – 2018 – 2019 – 2020 – 2021 – 2022 – 2023\*\*  
\*\*Based on ranking of ALL agents as compiled by CT MLS.

**Want References and Recommendations?**  
Please visit the link below to view unfiltered reviews and comments on Jim’s performance from past buyer and seller clients!  
[www.realsatisfied.com/Jim-Celio](http://www.realsatisfied.com/Jim-Celio)  
For complete professional real estate service:  
Call Jim Celio Today 860-463-2563

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



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

RE5-17-24

*Easter Brunch*  
Saint Clements Castle & Marina  
SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH, 2025. RESERVATIONS STARTING AT 10:00AM







**CLASSIC BREAKFAST**  
Omelet Station, Pancake & Waffle Station, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Pork Sausage, Hashbrown Potatoes, Assorted Baked Goods & Pastries, Fruit Platter, Fresh Juices and Coffee

**CASTLE BRUNCH SPREAD**  
Penne Pasta with Italian Sausage, Roasted Peppers, and Alla Vodka Sauce  
Tri-Colored Carrots and Balsamic Glaze Green Beans  
Garlic Mashed Potatoes  
Miso Glazed Salmon  
Brown Sugar and Pineapple Glaze Ham

**BUILD YOUR OWN SALAD BAR**

**CARVING STATION**  
Prime Rib with Horseradish & Au Jus

**KIDS CORNER**  
Chicken Fingers  
Mac N’ Cheese

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

**COMPLIMENTARY GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE UPON ARRIVAL**

ADULTS: \$70  
KIDS 4-12: \$30  
KIDS 0-3: FREE

*Egg Hunt Included for Kids & Meet the Easter Bunny!*

WWW.SAINTCLEMENTSCASTLE.COM | EVENTS@SAINTCLEMENTSCASTLE.COM



CIT3-13-25



**Spring Open Studio**

March 15-16 • 10AM-4PM both days

**Diana Tyler Watercolors**  
13 Reidy Hill Road, Amston  
in conjunction with the Hebron Maple Fest  
[www.dianatylwatercolors.com](http://www.dianatylwatercolors.com)  
860-228-3966

RE3-14-25



Visit us at our **NEW LOCATION**  
29 SKINNER ST.  
EAST HAMPTON  
**DOCK & BOATING ESSENTIALS**

- Fuel Delivery
- Dockside Detailing
- Oil Changes
- Prop & Lower Unit Replacement
- Vinyl Protection & Restoration
- Dock Maintenance, Extensions & Accessories
- Fall Dock Removal
- Winterizations • Storage
- Shrinkwrap

**DOCKS**  
IN STOCK & READY FOR INSTALLATION

**NEW LOCATION!**

860-365-5930  
29 Skinner Street, East Hampton, CT 06424  
CTDocks.com • ctdocks@gmail.com  
OPEN MON-FRI 10-5:30; SAT 10-2

Snap Dock and Shore Side Dock’s EXCLUSIVE Connecticut Dealer!

RE3-7-25



**Your Local Medicare Specialists**  
*Let Us Help You Navigate Medicare*

- Free personalized consultations
- Trust our capable team for your Medicare needs
- Dedicated to satisfying customers
- Providing exceptional Medicare solutions & quality plans
- Family owned & operated for over 30 years

**HealthCare Associates**  
7 Dickinson Road  
Marlborough, CT  
860-295-9350

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. We are licensed with AARP, Aetna, Anthem BCBS, CarePartners, Cigna, ConnectiCare, Humana, Trinity, UnitedHealthCare, and Wellcare. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options.

REG-14-24



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

# School Board Adopts 6.9% Budget Increase

By London Brazal

The Board of Education (BOE) has unanimously adopted a proposed \$40.34 million budget for the next fiscal year – an increase of 6.9% from current spending.

The spending package, which the board adopted last month, is down approximately \$125,000 from the 7.3% increase Superintendent of Schools Timothy Van Tassel first pitched in January.

Reductions included a final actuarial evaluation of the defined pension plan and revisions to substitute lines, legal services and extracurricular activities.

At a BOE meeting last month, Van Tassel and business manager Karen Asetta outlined budget overruns from the past three years and the factors behind them. One of their key goals for the upcoming budget is to maintain core programming while avoiding future deficits.

“School budgets are very dynamic; things are always moving,” expressed Van Tassel. He updated the board on budget adjustments nearly eight weeks after the initial proposal, focusing on major cost drivers and proposed reductions.

Van Tassel emphasized the importance of clear communication between district and town leadership, noting ongoing discussions with the Board of Finance, Town Council and school administration.

Van Tassel acknowledged the uncertainty surrounding future financial conditions but stressed the need for collaboration to address past deficits and establish a more sustainable financial path.

The proposed 2026 budget seeks to address recent financial challenges while maintaining a focus on student’s academic success and overall well-being. It preserves existing programs without adding new staff and includes a reduction of one certified position.

“The truth is, almost 30% of this year’s increase is to correct the course from the prior few

years,” said Asetta.

Since 2023, the district has overspent because of special education tuition and transportation, one-to-one services, health insurance and electricity. For FY 26, along with the previous reasons, other drivers include general wage increases and mandated reading programs.

Asetta discussed the uncertainty around how much the state will reimburse for excess special education costs. The budget currently assumes that seven students will exceed next year’s cost threshold, based on estimates for 2025, though these numbers are uncertain. Additionally, two students in state or agency placements are expected to exceed the lower threshold of \$23,000. The district covers all costs up to the threshold, and the state reimburses only the amount above it.

The 2025-26 budget assumes a 75% excess cost reimbursement rate, but this rate could change, and there is a lot of uncertainty about what it will be. With more students in placements this year and limited state funding, the actual reimbursement could vary significantly, Asetta said.

Van Tassel explained that the reimbursement rate is influenced by historical trends. For example, last year, the rate was 69.1%, but the district had budgeted for 76%. In previous years, the rate was around 76%, but during the pandemic, it rose above 80% due to additional funding.

He noted that a state proposal was recently introduced that could increase the reimbursement rate for the current fiscal year. However, this change is still uncertain. Additionally, Van Tassel pointed out that when developing the budget, the district must estimate cost increases from other agencies, such as magnet schools, but these figures are not finalized until later in the year, making it difficult to predict exact costs.

In comparison to school districts with similar

socioeconomic status, East Hampton is not the only school facing higher-than-average budget proposals. The district reference group average is 6.41%, but some schools are looking at increases higher than 7.4%.

“I think this just emphasizes that the rates are high this year between special ed, general wage increases and health insurance are big drivers across the state,” added Asetta.

**Board Members Discuss the Issues**

During the discussion among board members, Republican Nancy Oakley said that if the district works to maintain or improve its programs, it would not expect to see an increase in students leaving for magnet schools.

Van Tassel said that the district has seen a significant decrease in the number of students choosing magnet schools over the years. He attributed this trend to the district’s investment in its programs, which have become more attractive to parents, leading them to select local schools instead.

Director of Curriculum Mary Clark added that the decline in magnet school enrollment has been evident over the past decade. While programs exist for families to explore different options, she observed that more families are picking local schools.

“If programming isn’t maintained, the cost of students who are looking for those programs would still fall to the district just facilitated through the magnet system,” said Clark.

BOE chair Nancy Kohler, a Democrat, reiterated that point, while cutting the budget and reducing programming might appear to save money, the cost of tuition for students who choose to attend other schools could offset those savings.

Also in the discussion period of the meeting, school board member Michael Buck, a Republican, expressed concern about the financial burden on the town, highlighting that the budget increase is significant, especially compared to neighboring towns. He emphasized the need to

educate the public on the state-mandated portions of the budget and criticized unfunded mandates, particularly expensive ones.

Buck said that, while he supports the budget and staff, he is frustrated with state officials who, in his view, continue to impose financial strain on towns despite their surpluses.

“I’m disgusted with our state leaders, and they need to hear that over and over again,” said Buck. “They can’t stand up here and say ‘there’s a surplus in the budget’ and we are struggling.”

Democrat Matt Engelhardt stressed the importance of increasing the number of residents who turn out at the budget referendum. He noted that while the town received recognition for high voter turnout (89%) in the 2024 presidential election, participation in the last budget referendum was much lower, at just 14%. He emphasized the need to educate and encourage residents to vote, highlighting the critical role this plays in maintaining the quality of education.

Kohler acknowledged the challenging years the district has faced, emphasizing that the budget is a dynamic number. She pointed out that ongoing efforts have already reduced the budget proposal from a 7.33% increase to 6.94%.

“I think [this] shows – I hope it shows – this community that we are making a good effort to do the best we can and that there may still be changes,” expressed Kohler.

## Next Steps for Budget

The Board of Education will present its budget at a Board of Finance public hearing and special meeting next Monday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m., at Town Hall and via Zoom. There will then be a finance board workshop focused solely on the school budget next Wednesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m., also at Town Hall.

The Board of Finance will continue deliberations Wednesday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall, before sending the proposed budget to the Town Council in April.

## EHHS Music Cabaret

The East Hampton High School Music Cabaret will take place Wednesday, March 26, in the EHHS cafeteria, 15 N. Maple St. Doors open at 5:45 p.m., dinner will be served at 6:15, and performances begin at 6:30.

The night will include a pasta dinner, student musical performances and raffle prizes. Tickets are \$12 for students and senior citizens and \$20 for adults. To purchase, go to [www.easthamptonhs.org](http://www.easthamptonhs.org), click on “Optional Online Payments,” then click on “Pay for HS-Music-Cabaret.” You can check out as a guest, login to your account, or create an account. Be sure to clearly specify your name and number of tickets to ensure a

smooth check-in at the event. You will receive an email confirmation of your purchase to present at the door.

Online tickets can be purchased through March 24; any remaining tickets will be available for purchase at the door – quantities are limited! All proceeds benefit the EHHS Music Department.

## Dean’s List

Joshua Gauthier of made the Dean’s List at Bryant University for the fall semester 2024. Josh is majoring in Business/Marketing.

## Invitation to Submit Quilts

Haddam Neck Congregational Church Ladies Aid invites all to exhibit handmade quilts (bed size, wall hangings or miniatures), quilted clothing and other quilted items in the 36th annual Quilt Show at Haddam Neck Congregational Church, 408 Quarry Hill Rd., Haddam Neck.

The quilt show will be held Saturday, April 5, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, April 6, from noon-5 p.m.

There is no fee to exhibit quilts, and the church welcomes quilters of all abilities. To exhibit your quilts, complete a registration form for each item and return it by March 24 to Elizabeth Malloy, 201 Quarry Hill Rd., Haddam Neck, CT 06424 or email to [elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com). Exhibitors will receive a letter with directions and quilt drop-off times.

for sale, it will be noted in the program. You must, however, take responsibility for any sale transactions. The quilt show program will show that your item is for sale and will include your price and contact information.

For additional information or a registration form, contact Dianne McHutchison at 860-267-4671 or [rdmchutchison@yahoo.com](mailto:rdmchutchison@yahoo.com); Lisa Malloy at [elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com); or Melissa Pionzio at [mapionzio@comcast.net](mailto:mapionzio@comcast.net).

**Call for Fabric Donations:** The society is also accepting donations of fabric and yarn for the Bits and Pieces sale that will be held during show. Clean out your sewing rooms, closets and storage areas, and donate your surplus! Cotton fabrics preferred. To donate, call 860-993-5311 or 860-301-4994.

## St. Patrick’s Brunch Buffet

VFW Cobra Post 5095 will hold a St. Patrick’s Brunch Buffet Sunday, March 16, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at 20 North Maple St., East Hampton.

The post promises “all of your Sunday morning favorites and more!” Cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors and kids under 12.



**BROTHERS OIL COMPANY**  
Since 1978  
**860-289-9468 • 860-289-6292**  
Automatic Delivery for less than COD  
24 Hour Emergency Repair Service  
Same Day Oil Delivery Available  
**WE ACCEPT ENERGY ASSISTANCE**  
**www.BrothersOil.com**  
HOD 114 • S7-308374  
**WHEN THE HEAT'S ON US...WE DELIVER!**



CITB-10-20

**Fowler's Auto Wrecking**  
**CALL: 860-267-7140**  
**Commercial AUTO RECYCLERS**  
**Tabler's**  
**Wrecking & Recycling**

Refurbished Batteries All Makes & Models 6 Month Warranty	\$45.00 - \$55.00 \$15.00 Core Charge
---	--



**CALL US TODAY**

REC-14-20

**Wood Pellets & Bio Bricks**  
**NOW IN STOCK!**

**Ready for Pick-Up or Delivery**  
**CALL TODAY!**

**East Hampton**  
**ACE Hardware**  
Route 66, East Hampton  
(860) 267-7943  
OPEN: Mon-Wed 8-6;  
Thurs & Fri 8-7; Sat 8-6; Sun 9-5

**Portland Home & Hardware**  
724 Portland Cobalt Rd.  
Route 66, Portland  
(860) 342-4847  
OPEN: Mon-Fri 8-6;  
Sat 8-5; Sun 9-2

REC-30-21

**NEW LOCATION!**  
**190 E. High St., Ste. 1**  
**East Hampton, CT 06424**

**Chatham Dental Center**  
*Advanced Dentistry*  
**Dr. Dikshant Kathuria, DDS**  
[www.dentistofeasthampton.com](http://www.dentistofeasthampton.com)



190 E. High Street, Suite 1  
East Hampton, CT 06424  
**860-267-4900**

Root Canals, Extractions,  
Cosmetic & General Dentistry  
**All Your Dental Needs Under One Roof**

**NOW OFFERING Implants & Invisalign® to Our Patients**  
**Open Saturdays by appointment**

**\$99 Exam & X-Rays To New Patients Without Insurance**  
*Mention offer upon scheduling.*

REC-14-24



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

# Businesses Band Together to Rescue Lost Foster Dog

By London Brazal

After a harrowing 10-day journey through ice, snow, and freezing temperatures, a foster dog named Bubs has been safely recovered thanks to a community effort involving local businesses, volunteers and rescue organizations.

Bubs, a 70-pound rescue dog from Los Angeles, had only been in his foster home for two weeks when he managed to slip out an open door near White Birch Road in East Hampton on Feb. 11. Bubs' foster "grandma," Deb McKinney, explained that her daughter Erin has fostered about 60 dogs over three years through the Dog Star Rescue in Bloomfield.

When the McKinneys were walking into their house with another dog, Bubs managed to slip out of the door and made his way to Portland, about seven miles away. Bubs was spotted by several town businesses, including Saint Clements Castle and Marina and Cline Truck and Trailer Repair, both located on Portland-Cobalt Road

Katie Flood, who works at Saint Clements, said staff there had seen the dog outside the property on Feb. 11 and had seen him on the security cameras over the following days. Bubs'

tracks indicated he moved slightly north, navigating sheer ice and enduring multiple snowstorms. Then, Cline Truck and Trailer Repair noticed him and his tracks on their property. The two businesses allowed CT Dog Gone Recovery (CTDGRV) to leave traps, food and cameras in hopes of catching Bubs.

Flood noted that many volunteers had come to Saint Clements to help search for Bubs. Staff members even stayed after their shifts to help with the search, while volunteers, despite the freezing conditions, left food and created treat trails.

On the night of Feb. 21, Bubs was finally caught in a kennel trap set up near Cline, after surviving 10 nights outdoors. Despite the weather, he only sustained a few minor cuts and was a bit hungry but otherwise unharmed.

"This was a true team effort," said Flood. "So many people, from businesses to volunteers, came together to make sure Bubs made it home safely. We're just so glad he's back."

CTDGRV posted on Facebook, highlighting additional involvement, including volunteers from the rescue organization who helped set up equipment, Red Con One UAS drone pilots and

community members who assisted in spreading the word.

McKinney was grateful for the community's support.

"I can't say enough about the people who helped," she said. "It was a huge effort, with so much happening behind the scenes. We're thankful it ended well."

When Bubs was found at night, the owners came to the shop without hesitation to reunite him with his foster family. As a larger dog, McKinney noted that Bubs was resilient, and they were fortunate he was big enough to take care of himself. McKinney shared that Bubs is, "good, and he's happy to be on a soft couch again."

McKinney explained that Bubs was sent from Los Angeles to help clear the shelters following the LA wildfires. At first, he was very skittish, but following his 10-day adventure, McKinney said that he's more laid back and not as nervous around them.

CTDGRV and Dog Star Rescue are hopeful that Bubs will soon find his forever home. Anyone interested in adopting Bubs or learning more about fostering can contact Dog Star Rescue in Bloomfield.



**Bubs, a foster dog from East Hampton, is safely back home after a 10-day journey through harsh weather, thanks to a community effort involving local businesses, volunteers and rescue organizations.**

## Budget Meetings Next Week

The East Hampton Board of Finance will hold the following budget meetings next week:

**Board of Finance Public Hearing/Special Meeting:** Monday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m., at the East Hampton Town Hall, 1 Community Drive, in the Town Council Chambers 107, and via Zoom. The town and Board of Education will present an overview of their budgets. The Board of Finance will also gather input from the public and other boards.

**Budget Workshops** will be held at the Town Hall, 1 Community Drive, and via Zoom:

- Tuesday, March 18, at 4 p.m. – General Government, Regulatory, Health & Human Services and Culture & Recreation;
- Wednesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m. – Board of Education;
- Thursday, March 20, at 6:30 p.m. – Public Safety and Public Works.

## East Hampton Schools Offer Preschool Programs

The East Hampton Public Schools system is seeking 3- and 4-year-old residents interested in preschool programs for the 2025-26 school year. The school system is offering two preschool programs this year: the Integrated preschool half-day program and full-day Smart Start program.

Memorial Elementary School's preschool Integration program will be held three times a week for 3-year-old students and four times a week for 4-year-old students. Due to limited spaces, selection for peer models will be determined through a lottery process. If selected, peer models demonstrating age-appropriate skills will be assigned by age to either a three-day-a-week or four-day-a-week schedule (2.5 hours per day). Children must be toilet-trained and turn 3 prior to Sept. 1, 2025, to be eligible for the 3-year-old program and turn 4 by Sept. 1, 2025, for the 4-year-old program.

Memorial Elementary School's Smart Start program will be held five full days per week (8:50 a.m.-2:50 p.m.), following the East Hampton Public Schools calendar. Priority will be

given to 4-year-old children that meet income guidelines or have other factors for consideration. Additional applicants, regardless of economic or risk factors, may then be selected through a lottery process if there are spaces available. Children must turn 4 prior to Sept. 1, 2025 to be eligible for Smart Start.

Parents interested in proceeding through the selection process must pick up an application/information packet at either Memorial Elementary School or East Hampton Public Library. The completed parent interview form, immunization form and a proof of residency must be returned to Kelly Caruso at Memorial School office no later than March 21. Students will not be eligible to enroll if all required immunizations are not current.

Once all three forms are returned, parents will be contacted, no later than March 28, to schedule a time to bring their child for the screening and lottery/selection process.

Forms received after March 21 will not be accepted.

## Senior Center News & Notes

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., announces the following. **Registration is required for all programs** unless noted; register at myactivecenter.com or by contacting the center at 860-267-4426 or seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov. Senior center hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit [www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center](http://www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center) for more information and a list of regular weekly and monthly activities, including games, quilting, Bible study and more.

**Lunches:** Served Monday through Friday, to ages 60 and up. Call to reserve a meal or sign up online. Reservations for the next day's meal are due by 10:30 a.m. the day before. Meals are free; a \$3 donation is requested. A Form 5 document must be completed before registering for lunch; stop by the senior center to complete and submit the form.

**Monthly and Special Events: Wonderfully Wicked Women's Group (WWW):** First and third Mondays at 10 a.m. in the East Hampton Library Community Room during March. This is a low-key opportunity to meet others and share resources.

**Blood Pressure Screenings with Chatham Health:** Monday, March 17, 12:30 p.m. No appointment needed.

**Cancer Prevention Presentation with UConn Health:** Tuesday, March 18, 10:30 a.m. Maggie Donovan of UConn Health will discuss the importance of cancer screening.

**Design & Create Class:** Thursday, March 20, 1:30 p.m., featuring a birdhouse project.

**Family Tree:** Friday, March 21, 10:30 a.m.

Kenneth Doney leads this hands-on session on how to research your family history. Bring a laptop, iPad or cell phone to the class.

**Opportunities:** Seniors are needed to design and/or ride on the East Hampton Senior Center Old Home Day Float. This year's parade will be held on Saturday, July 12 and the theme is "Honoring Small Businesses." Call the senior center to find out more.

**Trailblazers Walking Club:** Begins Monday, April 7. Step into wellness with this new group. All pace levels welcome. For the first outing, meet at 9 a.m. at the Cranberry Bog/Air Line Trail, 69 Smith St., East Hampton.

**Trips: Lunch for Seniors at Windham Technical High School:** Monday, March 24. Enjoy a lunch prepared by the school's culinary students. Depart at 10 a.m. for a 10:45 a.m. seating and return to the center by 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$21 and includes transportation.

**Discover Hidden Vernal Pools Walk:** Wednesday, April 2, 9:30 a.m. Naturalist Lynn Kochiss will lead a low-key outdoor walk at Highlawn Forest in Middletown to experience examples of hidden vernal pools. The walk is Part 2 of the "Nature is Everywhere" series offered by the senior center; Part 1, the Hidden Vernal Pools presentation, will be held at the senior center on Tuesday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m.

**Volunteers Needed:** Volunteers are needed to answer phones and serve as shoppers for seniors during senior center hours. Stop by the senior center Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to fill out a volunteer application.

## Fish Frydays Are Back

The Knights of Columbus St. John Paul II Council 6190 is offering a variety of fish dinners on Fridays during Lent. Meals are served from 4:30-7:15 p.m. in the St. Patrick Church Parish Center, 47 West High St. The next dinner will be tonight, March 14.

This year's offerings include breaded cod, clams and shrimp, which will be served with French fries and coleslaw. Baked cod and fried chicken tenders meals have been added. Chow-

der will also be available. Coffee, tea, water and soda are also offered.

Prices of the fish may vary from week to week.

Entertainment on March 14 will be Bill Naughton Jr.

Take-out service will also be available; advance orders must be received by noon on Fridays, by calling 860-267-6644. Please do not leave orders on the answering machine.

## Music and Nursing Scholarship Applications

The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords (MHVC) Executive Board is now taking applications for the group's annual scholarships to be awarded to Middlesex County students pursuing a career in music or nursing.

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

Applicants must have been accepted at an accredited college or university with one of these majors. The Review Committee will consider academic record, extracurricular and community service activities, the student's ability to ar-

ticulate his/her career goals and the recommendations of the references. The scholarships will be paid directly to the recipients at the spring concert which will be held on Saturday, May 3, at Portland High School.

All applications must be postmarked by Friday, March 14, and can be obtained at Middlesex County high school guidance offices or by visiting [vocalchords20.org](http://vocalchords20.org). If you would like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, visit the website.

## Business Operating Grants Program

Applications for the Middlesex County Revitalization Commission's (MCRC) 2025 Business Operating Grants Program are available online. The program, funded through the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, offers grants of up to \$25,000 to qualified small businesses in Middlesex County.

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

Applicants are encouraged to consider how the requested funds will positively impact the growth and development of their business or alleviate the negative effects of any hardship currently being faced. The grant funding may be used for equipment and/or technology, leasehold improvements, and other fixed costs,

including expenses related to supply chain disruptions, increased employee travel time/mileage, higher vendor costs, loss of income, and additional marketing expenses.

For-profit businesses that apply must be based and have operated in a Middlesex County town for at least 24 months, have no more than 50 employees, less than \$8 million in revenue, and be in good standing with all municipal, state, and federal authorities. A complete list of eligibility and application requirements can be found at [mxcrc.org](http://mxcrc.org).

Applications are due March 15.

A series of virtual information sessions will be offered for businesses interested in applying. For more details, visit [mxcrc.org](http://mxcrc.org).

## Senior Center Upcoming Trips

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., is offering the following coach trips with Friendship Tours. For more information or to register and pay, stop by the center.

**Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston:** Wednesday, May 21. Cost is \$147/person and includes a guided tour highlighting Gardner's art collection, art, rare books and the Venetian Palazzo. Enjoy a family style lunch at Maggiano's Little Italy with appetizer, salad, pasta, entrée, dessert and soft drinks.

**Island-Hopping – Nantucket & Martha's Vineyard:** Aug. 26-28. Cost is \$779 per person double occupancy and includes motor coach, two nights' hotel, two breakfasts, one dinner, ferries to Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, sightseeing and admissions, tour escort, driver and tour director gratuity. Deposit of \$250 is due by June 3.

## Bowling, Golf Leagues to Start

Friday Morning Spring Senior Bowling League starts Friday, March 28, at 10 a.m., at Kickback n' Bowl, and the Belltown Senior Mixed Golf League starts Tuesday, May 6, at 10 a.m. at Portland West Golf Course.

All skill levels, from any of the *Rivereast towns*, are welcome to join. Contact Jack Anderson for the details at 860-882-3752 or [jackande52@aol.com](mailto:jackande52@aol.com).

## Helping Hands Re-Opening

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

Anyone wishing to shop can do so from 9-11 a.m. on the first and third Saturdays of every month. Donations to Helping Hands are accepted on Thursdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and on Saturdays that Helping Hands is open from 9-11 a.m.

Helping Hands is located at 27 Skinner St.



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

# Council Considers Change in Motor Vehicle Tax

By London Brazal

A recent state law, Bill 7067, allows towns to adjust how car values decrease over time for tax purposes – and East Hampton may take advantage of the new opportunity.

At the Town Council meeting on Tuesday, Town Manager David Cox explained that the Council may consider a new way of calculating the taxable value of motor vehicles. In the past, car values were based on market prices, which meant they increased when demand for used cars went up, like they did during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To create a more predictable system, Cox said, the state switched to a fixed depreciation method, where a car's value started at 85% of its original price and dropped each year until it reached a minimum of \$500. This change significantly lowered the total taxable value of vehicles in East Hampton by about \$23.5 million, shifting around \$762,000 in taxes from vehicle owners to real estate owners.

The new bill allows towns to slow this depreciation by starting at 90% instead of 85%, reduc-

ing the loss in taxable value, Cox noted. If the Town Council adopts this change, it would add back about \$7.4 million in taxable value, generating roughly \$240,000 in taxes and impacting the mill rate by about 21 cents. “If we leave it alone, and we don’t make any change, approximately 21 cents per thousand [dollars] goes back onto our real estate,” he said.

Republican councilman Ted Hintz Jr. explained that motor vehicle tax bills are already high, and in the past, there was an attempt to make payments easier by allowing them to be split into two installments. However, he said the council decided against this idea, leaving residents with a higher tax bill to pay in one lump sum.

“Now, you’re going to put a higher tax bill on them and then have it as a once-a-year payment, it’s kind of like hitting them twice,” Hintz commented. He pointed out that, unlike real estate taxes, renters in the town typically have their rent adjusted annually to account for things like taxes and insurance.

Hintz said that, from his perspective, he prefers the 85% depreciation method because it seems more realistic than valuing a car at 90% of its original price in its first year.

The council also considered establishing two payments for the motor vehicle tax. Hintz explained that other towns, such as Portland and Marlborough, split payments if the bill is higher than \$1,000. While some people may choose to pay it all at one time, it gives them the option to pay half later.

Democrat councilman Rich Knotek suggested waiting to adopt the 90% schedule for a year, in order to see how the 85% schedule worked out.

“I was thinking maybe we could hold off and see, depending on how Reval goes and the general feeling of how it impacts real estate taxes if we wanted to do something then with it,” Knotek said. He agreed with Hintz that the town should stay with the 85% schedule.

Democrat Karen Wanat said she believed it’s

fairer to keep the taxes on vehicles rather than shifting the burden to real estate taxes, especially for people on fixed incomes, such as elderly individuals with only one vehicle. She said she supports the 90% option, as it offers a reduction without going as low as 85%, and it still allows for further adjustments if needed in the future.

Wanat suggested getting a number of examples of tax bills and what they would look like under a 90% versus an 85% schedule. “I would like to see some examples to see actual numbers of what people would pay and how much of an impact are we really talking about on an individual person’s bill,” Wanat said.

The Town Council decided to postpone taking action on the taxation schedule and plans to propose a resolution to split motor vehicle tax payments if the bill exceeds \$1,000 at the next meeting. The Council will meet on Tuesday, March 25, at 6:30 p.m., at Town Hall, 1 Community Drive.

## Friends and Foes in Our Gardens

All are invited to come to East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., on Monday, March 24, for a program entitled “Friends and Foes in Our Gardens.” The program will be held in the library community room starting at 6:15 p.m.

The presenter is Kaleb Remski of Wilder Gardens LLC, a native plant landscaping company here in Connecticut. His presentation will focus on who are these visitors to our gardens and

how to attract the “friends” and earth-friendly management of the “foes.”

This program is presented as a joint collaboration between the East Hampton and Middle Haddam Garden Clubs and the East Hampton Commission on Aging.

For more information, call JoAnn at 860-267-4129 or Hannah at 203-804-3879.

## Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

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

**Message Series:** Each Sunday during Lent, the message will be “Upside Down Blessings.”

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

**Children’s Ministry:** For children in grades K-5. Held in Fellowship Hall during worship. A toddler nursery is also available. Confirmation Class is held on alternate Sundays during the

worship service.

**Vocal Choir:** Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. New members are welcome.

**Adult Bible Study:** Meets at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday after fellowship, with discussion on Ephesians.

**Ladies Fellowship:** The next gathering will be Friday, March 20, from 1-3 p.m. at Mary’s house.

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

## Bingo at VFW Post

All are invited to bingo every Thursday at VFW Cobra Post 5095, located at 20 North Maple St. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and games start at 6:30 p.m.

Pre-order a fresh homemade sandwich to eat or a drink in the bar to be served during intermission.

## Dean’s List

East Hampton resident Gavin Santillo made the fall 2024 Dean’s List at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I.

Santillo is a 2023 graduate of East Hampton High School.

## KofC Scholarship and Grant

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

Applicants must be members of St. John Paul II Parish.

The council will also award two \$500 Helping Hands grants to members of St. John Paul II Parish attending Mercy or Xavier high schools.

Applications are available at high school guidance offices and the parish center office, or by emailing [stpatrick47@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpatrick47@sbcglobal.net). Applications are due April 25.

## KENNETH BARBER & ASSOCIATES, LLC



Kenneth Barber, Esq.



John H. Porter, Esq.



Joseph Cassidy, Esq.

### YOUR ATTORNEYS

*“May your troubles be less, your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness come through your door.”*

— Irish Blessing

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

## Trivia Night to Benefit EHNS

East Hampton Nursery School will hold a Trivia Night on Friday, March 21, at Rule of 3 Brewing, 201 W. High St. in East Hampton. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the game starts at 6:30 p.m.

The night will feature cash prizes for first, second and third place, as well as the Rescue Dog food truck. The food truck donates a portion of its proceeds to help save rescue dogs.

Also, there will be donation baskets to raffle

off; cost is \$20 for 25 tickets. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, with tickets at \$10 each.

Register for teams of two to six people. Cost is \$25 per person. Venmo [@easthamptonnurseryschool](https://www.venmo.com/easthamptonnurseryschool) to make payment. In Venmo, include team name and number of registrants (example: Smartypants 2 out of 6).

For more information, email [ehnsfundraisers@gmail.com](mailto:ehnsfundraisers@gmail.com).

## Crafters and Vendors Needed

Haddam Neck Covenant Church is hosting an Outside Market on Saturday, May 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and organizers are looking for additional crafters and vendors.

The \$20 table charge will be donated to outreach programs. Contact Amy at 860-659-7818.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church is located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd. in East Hampton, the road to the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds.

# Belltown Motors

## Tire & Service Center

**SPRING SPECIAL!**  
Buy any 4 Tires and get a **FREE Wheel Alignment!**

**WHAT A VALUE!**



COOPERTIRES

GENERAL TIRE



Continental

FALKEN TIRE



**ANY BRAND TIRE!**

**DON'T WAIT! Call or Stop in Today!**

Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

80 East High Street, East Hampton  
[www.belltownmotors.com](http://www.belltownmotors.com)

REG-14-25





**Epoch Arts’ annual Dinnershow – a night of pasta, musical numbersl, skits and of course Wackadoodles – will return March 29. Pictured is the cast from last year’s show.**

### Epoch Arts to Hold Dinnershow

Epoch Arts will hold its Dinnershow Saturday, March 29, at 6 p.m., at Epoch, 27 Skinner St.

Dinnershow is a fundraiser for Epoch’s original Mainstage theater production, *The Reset*, which goes up in May. At Dinnershow, the cast of the Mainstage Theater Production will serve a full-course pasta dinner and then perform in a variety of skits, musical numbers and Epoch’s famous Wackadoodles! Skits will randomly be called out and the cast will scramble to put their costumes on and perform on the spot.

Admission is \$15, and \$12 seniors. For tickets, or if you would like to sponsor a skit for \$25 or a Wackadoodle for \$10, email [elizabeth@epocharts.org](mailto:elizabeth@epocharts.org).

### Parks and Rec News & Notes

East Hampton Parks and Recreation has announced the following items of interest. For more information or to register, call 860-267-7300 or [www.easthamptonrec.com](http://www.easthamptonrec.com).

**Twig Wreath Workshop:** Wednesday, April 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Town Hall. Craft a wreath to brighten up your home. No experience necessary. Enjoy complimentary Spring Fling & Bunny Bliss mocktails. PYOS: Feel free to pack your own snacks. Cost is \$30/resident, \$35/non-resident.

**Spring Candy Hunt:** Tuesday, April 15, 5:30 p.m., at Sears Park. Hop into the spring spirit with this candy hunt for kids 10 and under. Participants must register online. Donations are appreciated.

**Lake Pocotopaug Bass Fishing Tournament:** Saturday, April 26, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., at

### St. Patrick Church News & Notes

St. Patrick Church, 47 West High St., is a member of St. John Paul II Parish, along with St. Bridget Church in Moodus.

Masses are celebrated Saturdays at 4 p.m. at St. Patrick and 5:30 p.m. at St. Bridget, and on Sundays at 7 and 11:30 a.m. at St. Bridget and 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. at St. Patrick.

During the week, Masses are celebrated at 8 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at St. Patrick, and on Wednesdays and Fridays at St. Bridget.

**Lenten Fish Fry:** The Knights of Columbus is offering a variety of fish dinners on Fridays during Lent. Meals are served in St. Patrick Church Center on Fridays from 4:30-7:15 p.m. Take-out service is also available. Prices vary. Entertainment is provided.

**Stations of the Cross:** Every Friday in Lent at

### 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](mailto:middlehaddamlibrary@gmail.com), visit [middlehaddamlibrary.com](http://middlehaddamlibrary.com) or call 860-267-9093. Mailing address: P.O. Box 123, Middle Haddam, CT 06456.

**Library Hours:** Mondays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tuesdays and Fridays, 3–6 p.m.

**Featured Artist for March:** Betsy Bailey of Hartford, an award-winning painter, will have watercolors on display at the library all month. Her art is inspired by her love of the natural world and her travels in South America, Italy, Spain and Ireland. Bailey’s work is viewable during library hours. There will be a **Closing Reception** Friday, March 28, from 4-6 p.m.; refreshments will be served.

**St. Patrick’s Day Music:** Monday, March 17, at 10:30 a.m. Jim Monahan will perform Irish tunes on his accordion. All are invited to stop by coffee and refreshments.

**Open Mic/Stage Night:** Friday, March 21, from 6-8 p.m. Share your talents or come listen. Contact the library and sign up to perform.

**Eco-Friendly Gardening:** Monday, March

### Christ Episcopal Church News

Christ Episcopal Church, 66 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam, holds in-person and Zoom services at 10 a.m. on Sundays. All are welcome for worship. In order to connect electronically, go to [www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com](http://www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com) for directions. The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated with the Rev. Diana Rogers.

**Donations:** Food items for the East Hampton Food Bank may be placed in the black totes at

### Belltown Garden Club Scholarship

The Belltown Garden Club is again offering a scholarship, available to high school seniors who reside in East Hampton.

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

### Fair Association Accepting Scholarship Applications

The Haddam Neck Fair Association has announced the opening of applications for its annual scholarship program. This year, the association will award two \$1,000 scholarships to deserving Connecticut students who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to the success of the Haddam Neck Fair through their volunteer efforts.

The scholarship is open to high school seniors and students currently enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education, including colleges, universities, and trade schools. Applicants must have been active volunteers with the Haddam Neck Fair, contributing their time and skills to the event over the years.

To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must: Be a high school senior or currently enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education; be accepted to or matriculated in an accredited college, university, or trade school; have volunteered with the Haddam Neck Fair, with an emphasis on sustained participation in fair activities or summer work nights; and demonstrate involvement in school and community activities.

To apply, applicants must complete a form and include: a list of their volunteer contributions to the fair over the years; an essay (500 words or less) reflecting on how their volunteer experience with the Haddam Neck Fair has influenced their growth and understanding of community; proof of acceptance or enrollment in an accredited institution of higher education; and a letter of recommendation from a teacher, employer or community leader.

Applications can be submitted digitally at [bit.ly/HNFScholarshipApp](http://bit.ly/HNFScholarshipApp), or a printed copy can ound at [haddamneckfair.com](http://haddamneckfair.com) (under “Get Involved”) and mailed to: Haddam Neck Fair Association, Attn: Scholarship Committee, 26 Quarry Hill Road, Haddam Neck, CT 06424.

The deadline for submissions is May 1.

For more information about the scholarship and application process, visit [www.haddamneckfair.com/fair-scholarships](http://www.haddamneckfair.com/fair-scholarships) or contact MacKnight at [jackie.macknight@haddamneckfair.com](mailto:jackie.macknight@haddamneckfair.com).

### East Hampton Library News & Notes

East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St, has announced the following. For full program descriptions or to register for a program, call 860-267-6621 or visit [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org).

**Hours:** Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Adult Programs: Adult Theater Improv:** Monday, March 17, 6:30-8 p.m. Learn to be creative, think quickly, gain confidence and build trust with fellow attendees through large and small group games and activities. For adults of all ages and skill levels – beginners welcome! Registration recommended. Led by Valerie Bozzi of the Podium Players and hosted in partnership with the East Hampton Commission on Aging.

**Book Club:** Tuesday, March 18, 6:30 p.m. Come together to read and discuss the monthly selection. Copies of the month’s book are available for checkout at the circulation desk. This month’s book is *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes. Register or drop in.

**Tech Help:** Thursday, March 20, 2-4 p.m. Basic technology help for phones, laptops, tablets, and e-readers. No registration required; just bring your device with you.

**Belltown Book Brunch:** Friday, March 21, 11 a.m. Meet to talk about what you’re we are all currently reading, while enjoying coffee, tea, and a breakfast treat. Perfect for avid readers or anyone seeking recommendations. Register or drop in.

**Music in the Library: Coreyanne Armstrong, Bagpiper:** Tuesday, March 25, 6 p.m. There’s no better time than March for a bagpipe concert in the library!

**Teen Programs: Play With Your Food: St. Patrick’s Day:** Monday, March 17, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Teens in grades 6-12 are invited for an hour of playing with their food. Make St. Pat’s Popcorn, have a Rice Krispie Treat contest, and make no-bake cookie dough.

**Teen Advisory Board:** Tuesday, March 18, 6 p.m. All teens invited to join.

**Teen D&D One Shot: Grades 8-12:** Wednesday, March 19, 5:30-7 p.m. Participate in a short adventure from start to finish. No previous playing experience or past participation required.

**Pete the Cat and the Music Room:** Saturday, March 29, 11 a.m. Join children’s musician Michele Urban for a show featuring songs about Pete the Cat. Urban will share jazzy new songs and stories about Pete’s musical adventures. This program is intended for children ages 1-8 and their families. No registration required. Sponsored by Rotary Club of East Hampton.

### Lions Club Scholarships Available

The East Hampton Lions Club is offering students graduating in their senior year an opportunity to apply for its annual scholarships.

The scholarships are the Gov. William O’Neill Memorial Scholarship, the Joseph Becker Scholarship, the Lions Club Scholarship, and the Gustine Service Award.

Those who apply need to be East Hampton residents who attend East Hampton High School or area charter, tech, vo-ag, or Catholic high schools, or are home-schooled. Applications are available at the East Hampton High School guidance office.

Applications are due April 30.

### Police News

2/26: Charles Mifflin, 55, of 48 Marlborough St., Portland, was arrested and charged with second-degree breach of peace and third-degree assault, East Hampton Police said.

From Feb. 24-March 2, officers responded to 21 medical calls, four motor vehicle crashes and seven alarms, and made 72 traffic stops, police said.







Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester

# Membership of Bacon Building Committee Finalized

By Michael Sinkewicz

The members of a consequential new Colchester committee have been finalized. Last week, the Board of Selectmen unanimously appointment the membership of a Bacon Academy Athletic Complex Renovation Building Committee — a new group established at a town meeting in January. Moving forward, the committee will administer a potentially massive overhaul of the high school's athletic facilities, which may include the installation of new artificial turf fields. The new group will oversee the project both leading up to and after a community-wide referendum is held to officially approve the potentially multimillion-dollar endeavor. Prior to a crucial referendum, it will be tasked with devel-

oping the exact scope and pricing for the work at Colchester's flagship school. During its meeting on March 6, the BOS selected seven full-time members: Matthew Parsons, David Emery, Scott Elliot, Suzanne Salemi, Adam Rettig, Phil Theriault and Chris Pianta. Additionally, the board picked two alternate members: Mitchell Koziol and Jonathan McNulty. It was unclear when the new committee would begin meeting or what its schedule would be, but First Selectman Bernie Dennler previously speculated that a referendum on the project could be held later this year. The creation of a new building committee came after the town's Recreation Needs and Coordination Ad Hoc Committee explored the

condition of Colchester's recreation assets over a roughly nine-month period. Ultimately, in its presentation to the BOS, it made several recommendations that were deemed "critical," including the installation of multiple turf surfaces at Bacon. A majority of the building committee is comprised of individuals who served on recreation ad-hoc panel. Parsons and Emery were the chairman and vice chairman respectively, while Salemi and Pianta were regular members. Along with potential new artificial turf fields

at both the main stadium and multipurpose/baseball fields, the ad-hoc committee recommended renovations at the softball field that support natural turf, drainage and lighting improvements and accessibility upgrades throughout the complex. Most of the Bacon athletic facilities have not been significantly revamped in over 30 years. The building committee will eventually work with an architect to develop a formal plan and design for the work. It will collaborate with the BOS to bring forward a referendum question.

## 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 the church office at 860-537-3082 or visit AbundantL.com. **Sunday Services:** All are welcome. Service is at 10:30 a.m., preceded by an Adult Sunday School Class at 9:30 a.m.; there is prayer before service at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children's church is also available for ages 4-11. The main service is also broadcast live each week on Face-

book. Visit [www.facebook.com/groups/abundantlifeCT](http://www.facebook.com/groups/abundantlifeCT) or look for the church on Facebook. For more information, call the church. **Power of Prayer:** If in need of prayer, call the church to be placed on the prayer list. You may also ask about the various days and times the prayer groups meet and come at that time. **Small Groups:** The church has various small groups for men and women that meet at different days/times/locations of the week. Call the church office for more information.

## Senior Center News & Notes

Colchester Senior Center, 15 Louis Lane, has announced the following. Unless noted, registration is required for all programs. For full descriptions and to register, call 860-537-3911, email [csc@colchesterct.gov](mailto:csc@colchesterct.gov), or for a full list of activities, visit [www.colchesterct.gov.senior-center](http://www.colchesterct.gov.senior-center). **Monday, March 17:** 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise w/ Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Lucky Bingo; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 11 a.m.-noon, Fitness Orientation by appointment; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg, Bridge; 12:45 p.m., Setback. **Tuesday, March 18:** 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo. **Wednesday, March 19:** 9 a.m., Making Memories, Walking Group; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 11 a.m., Shamrocks & Shenanigans Luncheon; 1 p.m., Sew-cial Time; 1:30 p.m., Cardio Drumming 1; 2-3 p.m., Fitness Orientation; 2:30 p.m., Cardio Drumming 2. **Thursday, March 20:** 9 a.m., Exercise w/ Anne; 9:30 a.m., Live Well Workshop; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; 10 a.m., Card-Making with Barbara; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage, Senior Benefits Counseling; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet. **Friday, March 21:** 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., AARP Tax Aide; 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit, Quilt Share

& Tell; 10:30 a.m., Senior Serenaders Choral Group; 10:45 a.m., blood pressure clinic; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Tech Time with Harry; 12:30 p.m., Ham Radio Meeting; 1:30 p.m., Bingo. **Unleash Your Joy – Happier Healthier Thinking:** Monday, March 24, 10 a.m. All are invited to come to this monthly workshop focused on finding joy and happiness in everyday life. The topic for March is "Happier Healthier Thinking." Senior center member Deb Fitzgerald will share ways your mind can distort your thoughts into inaccurate or irrational thought patterns, and how to challenge these thoughts. This is a free program. Registration is required. **Ham Radio:** Friday, March 21, 12:30 p.m. Come learn about the craft, how to get licensed, and the senior center's equipment broadcasting site. Open to all that are interested. **Candy-Making Class:** Wednesday, March 26, 9 a.m. Senior center member Deborah Howard will teach how to make chocolate-covered cherries and pretzel rods. Participants will make one dozen cherries that will be ready to eat by Easter and four chocolate-covered pretzel rods. White, dark and milk chocolate will be available to choose from. This is a 3-hour class and will require the participant to stay the entire time. The cost of the class is \$15 per person. Space is limited. Registration is required.

### Lions to Host Comedy Show

All are invited to join the Colchester Lions Club for an evening with "Coconuts - Boomer Humor Comedy Rock Band Party" on Saturday, March 22, at St. Joseph's Polish Society, 395 South Main St. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the show starts at 7 p.m. The Coconuts provide a special blend of

music and humor that includes hilarious parodies, sing-alongs, comedy numbers, and good old rock and roll from the '50s, '60s and '70s. Outside beverages are not permitted, but snacks are welcome. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased by emailing the Colchester Lions Club at [ColchesterLionsComedy@gmail.com](mailto:ColchesterLionsComedy@gmail.com).

## Westchester Church News

Westchester Congregational Church, located at 98 Cemetery Rd., holds worship Sundays at 10 a.m. All are welcome to attend. The church choir always welcomes new members. Services are also available on Zoom; visit [www.westchesterconchurch.org](http://www.westchesterconchurch.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 twice a month on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.

**Outreach and Other Opportunities:** Knitting Group meets Thursdays at 10 a.m. 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. Also, the church sponsors the Wounded Warrior Project, a donation opportunity to help veterans. **Hall Rental:** The church hall is available for event rental. Email [bookingwcc@gmail.com](mailto:bookingwcc@gmail.com) for information. For more information, visit [westchesterconchurch.org](http://westchesterconchurch.org), email [westconchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westconchurch@gmail.com) or call the church at 860-267-6711. Pastor Ron Lake can be reached at 860-428-3460.

## Students to Sell, Plant Saplings

Students from Bacon Environmental Club are partnering with the nonprofit Tree-Plenish to sell saplings – and the deadline to place orders is coming soon. Tree-Plenish is a student-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the mission of empowering students to create a more sustainable and equitable future through community tree-planting. The organization plans to sell and plant 125 saplings on Saturday, April 26, to offset the school's paper consumption from the past academic year. Saplings are \$7 and residents can choose between Eastern Redbud, Flowering Dogwood, Paper Birch, and Red Maple saplings. These are bare root saplings ranging in height from 2-3 feet. All trees are native to our region and not only help sequester carbon but provide needed resources for pollinators and migrating bird species. Orders for trees must be placed by March 26. See the website listed below for more information on each tree species.

Residents of the Colchester community can order a sapling to be planted in their yard or sign up to volunteer to plant saplings on the day of the event. This is not a fundraising event. Saplings can be picked up at Bacon Academy on Friday, April 25, between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., for people who prefer to plant themselves, or who do not live in Colchester. For more information, or to order a sapling, visit [www.tpevents.org/school/4021](http://www.tpevents.org/school/4021), or contact Jill Levasseur at [jlev412@colchesterct.org](mailto:jlev412@colchesterct.org) with any questions.

## Ahavath Achim Schedule

Congregation Ahavath Achim, 84 Lebanon Ave., has announced the following schedule: **Services:** Fridays at 6:30 p.m., live and on Zoom; Saturdays at 10 a.m., live and on Zoom. **Classes on Tuesdays:** Folklore of the Talmud at 6 p.m., followed by Talmud at 6:30 p.m., and Kabbalah at 8 p.m. – all on Zoom. **Upcoming Events:** Children's Program and Hamantaschen Making on Friday, March 14; Second Night Passover Seder on Sunday, April 13. For more information, or links to the services or classes on Zoom, call 860-537-2809. Office hours are Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

## Fish Fry Fridays

The Colchester Fish and Game Club is holding its annual Fish Fry dinners every Friday during Lent, running through and including Good Friday, April 18. Meal choices include traditional fish and chips, baked fish with baked potato, the club's breaded clam strip dinner, as well as chicken nuggets for the kids. All meals include coleslaw, coffee and dessert. Cost is \$16 for adults and \$9 for kids. Meals will be served from 6-8 p.m. Takeout is available by calling the club at 860-537-2593 after 5:30 p.m. on Fridays.

BOYDEN

Real Estate

CO

232 S. Main St., Colchester

860-537-9559

YOU LIST...

WE SELL!

4 BED 3 BATH AT DEER RUN

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3PM

COLCHESTER

\$509,500

Amazing Neighborhood! Close to Airline Rail Trail and Rt. 2, boasting a chef's kitchen w/Viking appliances, 9 ft. island hardwood, granite & more.

Call Scott for details  
860-608-0769

8.49 ACRES LOG HOUSE W/POOL

REDUCED!

COLCHESTER

\$699,500

421 Lebanon Ave. Beautiful log home with updated kitchen, windows, in ground fenced pool w/ deep front porch. Potential in law w/ possible 4 bed, 3 bath.

Call Scott for details  
860-608-0769

CLOSE TO EB & USCG

SOLD IN 6 DAYS

WATERFORD

\$384,900

147 64 Scotch Cap Rd. Located on the Thames River this 2 bed, 2.5 bath townhouse offers close proximity to Electric Boat, US Coast Guard Academy. I-32 and 395. Squeaky clean. Move right in.

Call Scott for details  
860-608-0769

15.9 ACRE BUILDING LOT

REDUCED!

PRESTON

\$175,000

23A Tanglewood Dr, Build your dream home on this private 15.9 acre. Hunt, fish, and build that retreat you've always dreamed of.

Call Nick for details  
860-334-2826

We Pay To Prep Your Home For Sale!

Boyden Real Estate will invest to assist in repairs and maintenance to prep your home to sell fast for top dollar. Call for details.

Auto + Home Package Discounts Available

Lobo Insurance Agency, LTD

(860) 228-1025

10-B Main St., Hebron, CT 06248

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

[loboinsurance@snet.net](mailto:loboinsurance@snet.net)

HOME

LIFE

AUTO

BUSINESS

OVER 30 YRS

Est. 1988

Classifieds Pay

The Glastonbury Citizen & Riverast News Bulletin

Call 860-633-4691 or email your classified line ad to [admin@glcitizen.com](mailto:admin@glcitizen.com)

YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR #1 PRIORITY

BRAKE SERVICE SPECIAL

\$20<sup>00</sup> OFF

Coupon good through 3/31/2025. One per customer. Most vehicles. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

Foreign & Domestic • Medium & Heavy Duty Trucks • Engine Repair (Gas & Diesel) • Transmissions Brakes • Electrical • Suspension & Steering • Heating & Air Conditioning • Towing

EVANS

Automotive Repair

29 Mill Hill Road  
Colchester, CT 06415

860-537-0640

[evansautomotiverepair.com](http://evansautomotiverepair.com)

FIND US ON Facebook & Instagram

Celebrating 33 Years in Colchester



Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester

A Guide to Long Distance Grandparenting

The Colchester Commission on Aging will host Garrison Leykam, author of *Heartstrings Across the Miles*, at the Colchester Senior Center on Monday, April 7, from 10-11:30 a.m.

Leykam is a seasoned writer, career coach and public speaker, with a deep commitment to fostering meaningful relationships across generations. His personal experiences have inspired *Heartstrings Across Miles*, which offers practical insights and creative strategies for building and

sustaining relationships with grandchildren, even when miles apart.

In addition to his writing and coaching, Leykam is known for his work as a thought leader on careers and the future of work, blending generative AI tools with practical career advice. His books, workshops, and talks have reached audiences around the world.

To register for this event, call Colchester Senior Center at 860-537-3911.

Memorial Day Parade Notice

On Sunday, May 25, Colchester will hold its annual Memorial Day Parade.

The parade is a community effort and the local groups are encouraged to participate to make this event a success. Each contingent willing to march or bring a float will be able to obtain an application form online from the first selectman's office at Town Hall after March 31.

The parade committee said it expects to have several military units represented – including the Army National Guard 1109th TASM-G, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Reserve, U.S. Coast Guard and the Air Force Reserve.

celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the End of the Vietnam War,” which was ended in 1975. Many local veterans were part of this historic event. There will

also be a grand marshal and guest speaker who will soon be nominated. Residents of Colchester can offer suggestions to the parade committee.

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

Community Baby Shower

The theme of this year's parade will be “Cel-

**Colchester Cares to Meet**

Colchester Cares, a giving group that supports various causes in Colchester, will meet next month.

Members, who have committed to donating \$100 a quarter, get together each quarter to present current needs in town and then vote on where to send the group's collective donations.

Colchester Cares always welcomes new members who would like to give back to the community. The group's next meeting will be held at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., on Wednesday, April 2, at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.colchester-cares.org](http://www.colchester-cares.org) or follow the group on Facebook.

The Collaborative for Colchester's Children (C3) will host a free Community Baby Shower for Colchester residents who are expecting, or have an infant up to three months old, on Monday, April 7, at 6-7:30 p.m., at Cragin Memorial Library.

The event will include free gifts, community resources, refreshments and games. Families should register at [ColchesterC3.org](http://ColchesterC3.org).

Christian Life Chapel News

Ukrainian Catholic Church News

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

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

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](http://christianlifechapel.org).

**Bible Study for Men:** Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 8 a.m. **Bible Study for Women:** Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

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

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



**Marvelous Mathletes...** William J. Johnston Middle School MathCounts team members Alex Courtemanche, Ava Sykes, and Delaney Scholl participated in the Eastern Regional competition – and finished among the best of 101 mathletes attending. Alex and Delaney then moved on to the Connecticut State competition at Yale on Feb. 28 – where they're pictured above with eighth grade math teacher Andrew Bakoledis. The MathCounts Program has 4 levels of competition—school, chapter, state and national. Each level of competition is comprised of 4 rounds – the Sprint, Target, Team and Countdown rounds. Under the guidance of Bakoledis, Alex and Delaney got to compete with some of the best middle school math students from the state.

Shredding Old Tax and Personal Records

Residents and businesses of Colchester and area towns can safely shred their financial records on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the Town Hall parking lot.

Boy Scout Troop 72 will have a certified shredding company, “File Shred,” in place to accept and safely shred your financial and personal records. You can actually watch the items being put into the shredder and destroyed. Old personal documents, tax information, business records and medical records, etc. will be accepted. There is no need to take off paper clips

or staples.

Cost is \$6 for a bag the size of a plastic grocery bag and \$12 for a box the size of a case of copy paper. A bulk price can be negotiated for larger quantities of records.

Troop 72 will also be accepting cans and bottles for recycling during this event.

Funds raised will be used to reduce the cost of programs like monthly camping and the cost of going to summer camp.

Contact Al Letendre at [letendrej@sbcglobal.net](mailto:letendrej@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

OBGYN & Midwifery welcomes to their practice:



Dr. Debora Zamora

Dr. Zamora will be seeing new patients in our Mansfield and Manchester locations

Experience the future of OBGYN care with us!

★ NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS ★

To schedule your next appointment, please call: 860-649-1120 or 860-450-7227

— OUR PROVIDERS —

Dr. Roa Alammari • Dr. Lawrence Arky  
Dr. Christine Armstrong • Dr. Robert Gildersleeve  
Dr. Lesley Gumbs • Dr. Lydia Lormand  
Dr. Yvette Martas • Dr. Debora Zamora  
Virginie Eklund, CNM • Ariel Herron, CNM  
Jaime Liebig, CNM • Anastasia Litke, CNM  
Shannon Morgan, CNM • Lauren Startz, CNM  
Stephanie Welsh, CNM • Pamela Frappier, PA  
Cory Arnold, APRN

— OUR LOCATIONS —

121 Broadway, Suite 2 Colchester  
21 Ledgebrook Drive Mansfield  
388 West Center Street Manchester  
394 West Center Street Manchester



Women's Health Connecticut

ObGyn and Midwifery of Connecticut





**Oil/Filter & Lube Super Special**

**\$34<sup>95</sup>** Car/Minivan

Includes: Engine oil replacement up to 6 qts. • New Mopar oil filter • Complete chassis lube • Fluid levels check • Inspect front suspension components

With this coupon, Diesel & V-10 trucks extra. Synthetic & specialty oils slightly higher. \$2.00 charge for fluid disposal. Not valid with any other offers. Offer expires 3/31/25.

# TROIANO

Now Open Saturdays 8-12

Service Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm & Sat 8-12

CHRYSLER MOPAR Jeep DODGE

860-537-2331 860-889-0304

Route 85, Colchester

VISA We Accept Approved Personal Checks

LIFT KITS INSTALLED!


**VARIABLE DISCOUNT COUPON**

Receive a discount on service or parts depending on the dollar value of the purchase.

<b>\$5 OFF</b>	Any purchase of \$35-\$49.99	<b>\$15 OFF</b>	Any purchase of \$100-\$199.99
<b>\$10 OFF</b>	Any purchase of \$50-\$99.99	<b>\$25 OFF</b>	Any purchase of \$200 or more

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

With this coupon, Please present coupon when order is written. Not valid with any other offer or on body shop repairs. Offer expires 3/31/25.




> [edwardjones.com](http://edwardjones.com) | Member SIPC

Think CDs are boring?  
That's the point.

For those interested in a more conservative investment strategy, CDs guarantee the return of the full principal amount at maturity. Want to learn more? Get in touch today.

Please contact us if you have \$1,000 or more to invest.



**David O'Connell**  
Financial Advisor  
20 Main Street  
Colchester, CT 06415  
860-537-0037

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured  
1-year APY\*

**4.20%**

\* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 03/07/25. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit [www.fdic.gov](http://www.fdic.gov) or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

FDI-1916O-A AECSPAD 24641697

RE2-14-25



Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester

# Salem Man Arrested for OUI, Weapon in Vehicle

By Michael Sinkewicz

A Salem man was arrested and charged last week with operating a vehicle while under the influence and having a weapon in his car, according to state police.

At 12:26 a.m. on March 4, Thomas O'Shaughnessy, 24, was pulled over by police after being clocked traveling 81 m.p.h. near exit 22 on Route 2 in Colchester. According to state police, O'Shaughnessy's blue Chevrolet Cruze sedan was also swerving between lanes.

During the stop, Troopers noticed a "strong odor of an alcoholic beverage" in the sedan



O'Shaughnessy

and from O'Shaughnessy's breath. They also noted that his eyes were "red and glossy," according to the incident summary.

O'Shaughnessy was asked to perform Standardized Field Sobriety Tests, which "he did not perform to standard" and was placed under arrest, according to the summary. Police then searched the sedan and found a 12-inch katana-style blade on the floorboard.

According to state police, O'Shaughnessy was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs; failure to drive in right-hand lane; failure to maintain the lane; speeding; and having a weapon in a motor vehicle.

O'Shaughnessy was released on a \$5,000 bond and is scheduled to appear at Norwich Superior Court on March 25.

## Colchester Federated Church News

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

**Worship:** Sundays at 9 a.m. The service is also broadcast via Facebook Live. Worship videos are at [www.colchesterfederatedchurch.org](http://www.colchesterfederatedchurch.org) under the Worship tab. Updated information is on the church's Facebook page.

## CLT Upcoming Hike

Colchester Land Trust (CLT) has announced an upcoming hike at the Bulkeley Hill Preserve. To register and for updates/cancellations, visit [www.colchesterlandtrust.or](http://www.colchesterlandtrust.or). CLT is an all-vol-unteer nonprofit organization working to per-manently protect open space in Colchester.

**Beaverland Walk:** Saturday, March 22, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. See the construction and habi-tat created by the resident active beaver com-munity. Learn the history of how beavers im-pacted the waterways and climate, facts about their activities, and information about co-exist-

**Twelve-Step Meetings:** AA meets in the church library Monday-Wednesday and Friday at noon and Thursday at 10 a.m., and at 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. On Saturdays at 9:30 a.m., Al-Anon meets in the Jerusalem Room and AA meets in the Stage Room.

**Boy Scout Troop 72:** Meetings are held in the Stage Room every Monday at 7 p.m. from Sep-tember through June.

## New Hire at Marketing Firm

Golden Egg Concepts, a Colchester-based mar-keting communications consultancy with a niche focus on the architectural, engineering and con-struction (AEC) industry, recently announced the addition of Amy Jagaczewski, P.E., to its team, as Senior Project Manager.

A licensed structural engineer with nearly 15 years of leadership experience, Jagaczewski brings a unique blend of expertise in structural design, historic preservation, quality program management, and technical communications to her new role.

A dedicated advocate for small and mid-sized professional services firms, Jagaczewski



Jagaczewski

celebrates the achievements of those nestled between Boston and New York City – a part of Golden Egg's growing national client base.

As senior project manager, Jagaczewski will lead the preparation of customized RFP re-sponses, informative stakeholder presentations, strategic marketing and business development plans, and technical communications.

"Amy's journey from engineering to com-munications to quality program management brings a dynamic perspective to our mission: helping clients build better relationships, bet-ter projects, and better outcomes," said Lindsey Mathieu, owner/principal, Golden Egg. "Her expertise will not only strengthen our consult-ing foundation but also expands our ability to meet the unique needs of AEC firms."

Egg is celebrating 15 years in business. For more information, visit [goldeneggconcepts.com](http://goldeneggconcepts.com).

## Upcoming Programs at Library

Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., has announced the following upcoming pro-grams. For more information, or full program descriptions, call 860-537-5752 (Adult Depart-ment), 860-537-7201 (Children's Department), or visit [www.craginlibrary.org](http://www.craginlibrary.org). All programs are free and sponsored by Friends of Cragin Mem-orial Library.

**Seed Library Restocked:** Visit the Seed Li-brary in Cragin's our Adult Department to pick up seeds to grow at home. The Seed Library is a partnership with the Colchester Garden Club.

**Adult Program: Writing Club:** Saturday, March 15, 2-3 p.m. Join us for an hour each month devoted to relaxing and writing. Bring whatever you're working on and hang out.

**Free Play: Dress Up:** Tuesday, March 18, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Best for ages 2-5. Come for dress-up time and play.

**Lifesize Candy Land:** Grades 6-12 are Wednesday, March 19, from 3-4 p.m.; Grades K-2 are Thursday, March 20, from 3:45-4:15 p.m.; and grades 3-5 are Thursday, March 20, from 4:30-5 p.m. Come for a sweet life-size game. Candy included. Registration is required. Stop by the Children's Desk or call 860-537-

7201 to register.

**Baby Free Play:** Thursday, March 20, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Best for ages up to 2 years old.

**All Ages Lobby Craft: Rock-Painting:** Sat-urday, March 22, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Stop by the lobby to make paint a rock. This program is a partnership with the Colchester Garden Club Youth Division.

**Super Sensory Saturday:** Saturday, March 22, 2-2:30 p.m. Best for ages 2 and up.

**Teen Snack Time:** Wednesday, March 26, 3-3:30 p.m. Come hang out with your friends at the library, and snack and chat.

**Half-Day Gaming:** Thursday, March 27, 1-2 p.m. Celebrate your half day with board games, some Mario Kart, and snacks.

**Free Play: Supermarket:** Saturday, March 29, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Best for ages 2-5.

**Cragin Book Club:** Monday, March 31, 6 p.m. New members are always welcome. Copies of the book will be available at the Adult Circu-lation Desk. This month, read *North Woods* by Daniel Mason.

## CBSL Registration

Colchester Baseball and Softball League reg-istrations are now open for the 2025 spring sea-son. The league is for Colchester students ages 4-16. Tryouts for Rookie and above, as well as spring training dates, are available when regis-tering.

For more information and to register, go to [www.cbsl.org](http://www.cbsl.org).

## Colchester Choir and Orchestra Winter Concert

The Colchester Choir and Orchestra Winter Concert is Sunday, March 23, at 3 p.m., at Bacon Academy High School, located at 611 Norwich Ave.

The concert will feature a special guest, New York-based cellist Sam DeCaprio, originally from Lebanon. DeCaprio will perform "Kol Ni-drei," a composition by Max Bruch. Admission is free but donations are welcome.

The Colchester Choir and Orchestra is al-ways welcoming new membership for singers and musicians. No auditions are necessary. New members can register on the Colchester Parks & Recreation website, at [www.colchesterct.gov/colchester-choir-orchestra](http://www.colchesterct.gov/colchester-choir-orchestra).

## Dean's List

Samantha D'atri of Colchester made the fall 2024 Dean's List at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD IS SPONSORED BY:



Buy or sell  
with me...  
Use my truck  
for free!



4 Local Offices | 100+ Real Estate Agents | Invested in the Community



[www.carlguild.com](http://www.carlguild.com) • (860) 474-3500



## The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Up to it
- 5 Mover's challenge
- 10 Task for Perry Mason
- 14 USPS concern
- 15 Key
- 16 Enthusiastic
- 17 Facts, briefly
- 18 Sparkling
- 20 Kind of diver
- 22 Geriatrics focus
- 23 Dieter's no-no
- 26 Like notebook paper
- 27 Triumphant cry
- 29 Male hormone
- 31 Rock Hudson flick, "\_\_\_ Come Back"
- 33 Willing to go along
- 37 Haiku, e.g.
- 38 Long suit
- 40 Molten rock
- 41 Toothed wheel
- 43 Up and about
- 44 Producing tears
- 47 Bit of advice
- 48 Use an SOS pad
- 51 College life
- 53 Carl Sagan series
- 55 "Thinking Out Loud" singer Ed
- 58 Pick up speed
- 61 Jazz singer Simone
- 62 Pained sound
- 63 Zealous
- 64 Places for props
- 65 Component
- 66 Bodega, for one
- 67 Qatar's continent

- 4 Wed secretly
- 5 Urban bird
- 6 Cuba, e.g.
- 7 Rope-a-dope boxer
- 8 Surfing site
- 9 Palindromic emperor
- 10 Busch Stadium team
- 11 Flu variety
- 12 Barely burn
- 13 Sharp-\_\_\_
- 19 Corby of "The Waltons"
- 21 Capone trademark
- 24 Severe
- 25 1959 film, "\_\_\_ Like it Hot"
- 27 Mont Blanc's range
- 28 Kind of skirt
- 30 "Scram!"
- 32 Compensation
- 34 AA and AAA
- 35 57, to Caesar

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21				22					
		23					24	25		26				
27	28			29					30					
31			32				33					34	35	36
37					38	39					40			
41				42						43				
			44						45	46		47		
48	49	50				51					52			
53					54			55				56	57	
58						59	60				61			
62					63						64			
65					66						67			

Copyright 2025 by The Puzzle Syndicate

### Answers to Previous Crossword:

B	A	R	E		A	T	L	A	S		S	L	A	M
U	N	I	X		C	R	A	T	E		T	O	G	A
R	E	S	P	I	R	A	T	O	R		I	C	O	N
T	W	E	E	D		G	E	N	E		A	L	O	G
					R	E	F	E	R	E	N	C	E	
D	A	S	T	A	R	D				E	N	T	R	A
E	L	M			S	O	I	L	S		E	T	U	D
B	I	O	L		M	E	E	T	S		O	N	E	S
R	A	C	E	S		S	T	I	E	S		O	P	T
A	S	K	F	O	R		M	E	M	E	N	T	O	
					T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	D	
C	A	T	H	E		D	R	A	L		L	I	S	T
O	S	H	A			C	O	B	A	L	T	B	L	U
T	H	E	N			A	M	E	N	D		L	E	N
E	Y	E	D			P	A	R	T	S		E	W	E



Obituaries

Portland

Joan Hughes  
Celebration of Life

As previously announced, Joan Biermacher Hughes, 88, of Portland, passed away Nov. 13, 2024.

There will be a Celebration of Life on Saturday April 12th, 2025, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., at First Congregational Church in Portland (554 Main St., Portland). Joan's friends and family are invited to stop by for light refreshments and to share stories and memories.

For event information, visit [pp.events/joan](http://pp.events/joan).



East Hampton

Marie R. Beyer

Marie R. Beyer of East Hampton, and a longtime resident of Laurel Estates, N. Fort Myers, Fla., passed away peacefully Wednesday, March 5, at the age of 102. Marie was born Aug. 6, 1922, in Wauregan, to Clement and Elizabeth Deloge.

Marie was predeceased by her husband, Charles E. Beyer; her daughter, Charlotte; her son, Charles M. (Buddy); her six brothers, Rene, Morris, Omer, Alphonse, Ernest and Albert (Pete); and her two sisters, Cicille Lavalle and Isabel Senecal.

Marie, a beloved matriarch and vibrant spirit, lived a fulfilling life, dedicating her years to family and community. She was a lifelong member of St. Patrick Church in East Hampton, as well as a member of the guild. Marie was well-known for her love of the Boston Red Sox and never missed an opportunity to play a game of cards.

Marie will be dearly missed by her son, Clement, and his wife Prudence; her three grandchildren, Clement E. and his wife Jennifer, Caron Beyer-Csejka and her husband Steven, and Jason and his wife Michelle; along with several great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Her infectious love of life touched everyone she met.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated Saturday, March 22, at 11 a.m., at St. Patrick Church, 47 W. High St., East Hampton.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Marie leaves behind a legacy of love, kindness and cherished memories that will live on in the hearts of her family and friends.

To leave online condolences, please visit [www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).



Colchester

Lorraine M. Aston

Lorraine M. Aston (Grippe), 77, of Colchester, passed away Wednesday, March 5. She was the daughter of the late Leonard and Francelia Grippe.

She is survived by her brother Leonard Grippe (Denise) of Northport, Fla.; her two sons, Brett Aston (Stephanie) of Hebron and Bryce Aston (Michelle) of Coventry; and her grandchildren, Bradley, Allison, Amy, Abigail and Brayden.

Lorraine's love for her family will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew her.

There will be a Celebration of Life for Lorraine at a later date.



Colchester

Patricia Anne Olson

It is with deep sorrow that we announce Patricia Anne Olson, aged 80, of Colchester, passed away Sunday, Feb. 9. She was born Jan. 8, 1945, in Queens Village, N.Y., and was the daughter of the late Harry and Anne Canavotto.

She is survived by her daughters: Brenda Olson Harris (and granddaughters Kacie [and great-grandson Kameron], Tonie and Piper Harris) of Middletown; Mary Olson (and grandson Eddie Olson) of Portland; and Catherine Olson Monsanto (husband Reggy and grandsons Nicholas [and wife Kylie] and Nathan Monsanto) of Ormond Beach, Fla.; as well as numerous friends.

She fondly recalled the many years spent residing on Amston Lake with her daughters, as well as her time employed by Jefferson X-Ray in Hartford. She was a devoted member of St. Andrew parish in Colchester and firmly believed in the virtue of giving over receiving.

Patricia was a loving mother and grandmother, known for her generous spirit and willingness to assist anyone in need. She had a natural ability to engage in conversation and share stories with anyone she encountered. She will live on the hearts and memories of everyone she met.

A celebration of life is being planned at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester, for Saturday, June 7, at 10 a.m.

To share an online condolence, please visit [www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com](http://www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com)



Colchester

Joan C. Dauber

Joan C. Dauber, 80, of Colchester, passed away peacefully at St. Francis Hospital on Saturday, March 8. She was born in Middletown June 18, 1944, to Stephen and Clara Dobrowolsky.

Joan grew up in Cromwell and Middletown. She was a graduate of Middletown High School and Framingham State College. Upon graduating, Joan began her career as a dietitian in the U.S. Army Medical Specialist Corps. In 1967, she completed her internship as a dietitian at Brooke General Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. Joan was then stationed at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., where she met her husband, James Dauber. She married James on June 6, 1969, and was discharged from the US Army on July 13, 1969.

Joan and Jim moved to New Rochelle, N.Y., where their daughter Holly was born. In 1972, they moved to Newington and in 1976 to Glastonbury, where they spent the next 40 years. Joan and Jim have lived in Colchester since 2017.



Joan worked as a registered dietitian for Mt. Sinai Hospital and then St. Francis Hospital for over 40 years. Early on in her career, Joan became acutely aware of the food insecurity that her patients and much of the community experienced. In 1976, she started stocking food and other essentials in a closet in her office. That closet expanded to larger spaces overtime and eventually became the St. Francis Emergency Food Bank. It was the first food bank in the nation located in a hospital setting.

Under Joan, the food bank grew and evolved based on the needs of the community she served. Realizing that many individuals in the community lacked access to diapers, the food bank partnered with The Diaper Bank of Connecticut to provide diapers for families with young children. In 2012 the food bank was renamed the Joan C. Dauber Food Bank.

Joan retired in 2019 but continued to volunteer and support the food bank. Just prior to her passing, Joan and other volunteers were working on organizing an annual diaper drive that would benefit a multitude of families that receive care through St. Francis Hospital.

Never one to sit still, Joan could be found in the kitchen baking cookies, cakes and muffins that she rarely ate, but gave to her neighbors, friends and family. Food was the way she expressed gratitude, caring and love to those around her. She enjoyed knitting blankets as she watched the UConn women's basketball team on TV. Even at 80 Joan was hard to keep up with, and slowing down wasn't part of her plan.

Joan is survived by her husband of 56 years, James Dauber; daughter, Holly Dauber; grandsons, Nathaniel and Samuel Laird; and 11 other grandchildren.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated today, Friday, March 14, at 11 a.m., at Guardian Angels Parish in St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. Friends called Thursday, March 13, at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Joan C. Dauber Food Bank, the American Red Cross, or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

For online condolences, please visit [www.mulryanfh.com](http://www.mulryanfh.com).

Like us on Facebook

RivereastNewsBulletin

Portland

Patricia L. Weidl

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, Patricia L. (Cashman) Weidl of Cocoa, Fla., who passed away peacefully Tuesday, Jan. 28, in Palm Bay, Fla. Patricia was born Dec. 23, 1939, in Middletown, and raised in Portland.

She was the loving mother of her four children: James Weidl and Douglas Weidl, both of Ellington; and Pamela Gust (Andrew) of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; and infant son, Timothy Weidl. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Joey Weidl of Ellington, and Alex and Olivia Gust, both of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; her sister, Susan Lavoie of Merritt Island, Fla.; and her godson, Cliff McMeken of Portland, along with many nieces and nephews.

Patricia was predeceased by her infant son, Timothy Weidl; her parents, James and Muriel Cashman; her sisters, Maureen Prout and Kathleen McMeken; and her beloved dog, Lil' Beau, who she adored.



After graduating from Portland High School in 1957, Patricia went on to work at Travelers Insurance Company in Hartford before settling in Enfield, where she raised her family. She eventually retired from Hamilton Standard in Windsor Locks, before moving to Florida in 1991, where she became a caregiver in the medical field.

Patty, as her friends called her, was a devoted and loyal friend to many. She had a zest for life and enjoyed world traveling with her high school girlfriends, spending time at the beach, cruising the islands, and singing bad karaoke with the Cashman Four sisters during the holidays. She will always be remembered for her high-pitched voice, caring thoughtful nature, and warm comforting smile.

Her family would like to thank all her caregivers and friends at Westminster Abbey, Hospice House, and especially her niece, Danielle Lavoie Cottrill, who was there to give a helping hand to her.

Although she is no longer with us, Patty's memory will live on in the hearts of many who knew and loved her.

A graveside service will be held Monday, March 17, at St. Mary Cemetery, 261 Marlborough St., Portland, at 11 a.m.

Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, is in charge of arrangements.

East Hartford

Doris M. Livingstone

Doris M. (Batchelor) Livingstone, 90, passed away Sunday, Feb. 16, peacefully at home in her favorite reclining chair. She was the beloved wife of Thomas E. Livingstone for 56 years.

Doris was born during a blizzard at home in East Hartford on Feb. 20, 1934, daughter of the late Dearden Batchelor Sr. and Mary (McLaughlin) Neales. She was raised in East Hartford and attended East Hartford High School.

Doris was a loving mother and grandmother who enjoyed cooking, baking, reading and going for rides, and most of all spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Besides her husband, Thomas, she leaves her son, Anthony Gary Cardoza and his wife Andrea of North Windham; daughter, Tammy Fazzino and her husband Scott of East Hampton. She also leaves her grandchildren, Brandon Marselli, Michael, Matthew and Joshua Fazzino; great-grandchildren, Mia Marselli and Michael Fazzino Jr.; sister, Patricia McCabe and her husband George; several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by son, David Lee Cardoza; sister, Ann B. Massengill; and brother, Dearden (Buzzy) Batchelor.

The family would like to thank Middlesex

See Obituaries, page 32

# Aurora - McCarthy

## FUNERAL HOME, INC.

Contact Us For  
Your FREE No-Obligation  
Funeral Planning  
Guide

Family Serving Families

Friends... Neighbors... Community.  
They all mean a lot to you.

Like you, we appreciate having good neighbors. As established members of the hometown business community, we understand the importance of dealing with people you know and trust.

Aurora-McCarthy has built our reputation on professionalism, service, attention to detail and most importantly, on the trust you place in us.

Our commitment is to provide you, our friends and neighbors, with sound advice and personal service at a time that can be emotionally difficult.

When Family Matters...  
Planning Ahead Matters, Too.

- ◆ Pre-planning and information is provided free of charge.
- ◆ Previously pre-planned funeral arrangements can be transferred to Aurora-McCarthy. Call our office for information and assistance.
- ◆ Pre-need funeral funding is sheltered in trusts with "Cooperative Funeral Fund, Inc."

Serving all faiths with compassion and professionalism

167 Old Hartford Road, Colchester, CT 06415

Phone: (860) 537-9611

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

REB-30-24

The early stages of communication disorders are easier to spot when you know the signs.

IDENTIFY THE SIGNS

AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION

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

# DOMINICK & SONS

## MONUMENT WORKS, INC.

Monuments & Marker Sales & Service Since 1982

- Cleaning • Repairing
- Cemetery Lettering
- Custom Sandblast
- Pet Markers • Garden Stones

215 Lebanon Ave., Colchester

located w/ Colchester Florist

860-537-3289

For immediate service, call 860-917-7871

"A monument should cost no more than a family can afford."



Obituaries cont.

Home Care for the compassionate care and concern provided.

There will be no calling hours. Private graveside services will be scheduled at the family's convenience.

To leave online condolences, please visit [www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).

Marlborough

James Grabowski

When most people look at scraps, remnants and cast-offs, James "Jim" Grabowski saw possibility. A true artist, Jim – who passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 26 – spent his 80 years transforming the ordinary into something extraordinary. While best known for his bold abstracts and serene landscapes on canvas, Jim saw potential in everything – sea fans, fabric, wallpaper, gold foil, magazine clippings, and random objects he found on the side of the road. Trash to most, treasure to Jim.

Born June 6, 1944, in New Britain, ingenuity and hustle ran in his veins from an early age. As a young caddy at Shuttle Meadow Country Club, Jim would carry two golf bags for 18 holes, pause to sell homemade sandwiches, and then caddy all over again. After work, Jim would scour the course for lost balls, clean them up, and sell them from the trunk of his car. It was this drive and resourcefulness that led him to earn both his BFA (1966) and MFA (1968) from Central Connecticut State University. Though he taught art for several years, painting was his true calling. For over 40 years, Jim dedicated himself to his craft in his home studio in Marlborough.

Jim and Mary's love story was anything but conventional. Set up on a blind date, it was



Mary's then 5-year-old daughter, Dina, who fell for Jim first. By Aug. 1, 1981, Jim and Mary and Dina made their bond official – not just as husband and wife, but as a family. The three made their home in Marlborough filled with laughter, love and many (many) roadside "finds" for nearly four decades.

Beyond his artistic talent, Jim was a man of quirks and humor. He never learned to use a computer and got his first (and only) cell phone in 2022 which he called his "walkie talkie" and promptly never used. He loved listening to Roy Orbison, ABBA, Enya and Cat Stevens tunes, grilling year around (he would shovel a path to the grill in the winter), and he would add corn salsa on, well, everything. He had both a sweet and salty tooth and could often be found snacking on Junior Mints and salt and vinegar potato chips – both with a frosted mug of Coke.

Jim is survived by his only daughter Dina, son-in-law Ted and his two grandchildren, James and Eva; as well as his brother Donald and his wife Christine and two nephews, Jeffrey (Amanda) Grabowski and Bryan (Katherine) Grabowski. Jim is now reunited with his wife and favorite art critic, Mary (Grondin) Grabowski, as well as his parents Leo and Sophie "Sally" (Jaworski) Grabowski.

We will forever be able to look at Jim's paintings and remember his tremendous talent and unique personality. His legacy is one of color, positivity, humor and the ability to see beauty in the unexpected. We will miss Jim every time we see a found object and wonder, "What would Jim have made with this?"

A celebration of life for Jim will be held at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home on Sunday, March 16, from 4-6 p.m. All are welcome to join in a brief prayer service at 6 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Jim's memory may be made to the Marlborough Arts Center.

East Hampton

David Edward Shulman

David Edward Shulman 78, of East Hampton, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Sunday, March 9, of non Hodgkin's lymphoma. Born Oct. 23, 1946, in Worcester, Mass., he was the son of Stanley L. Shulman and Zelda Shulman (Beroz).

Dave was the former president and founder of Middletown-based Suburban Stationers in 1979, which he helped grow into the largest independent office product company in Connecticut. Dave previously was the district manager for the Medi-Mart drug store chain and also taught at various high schools and colleges prior to that. Dave was a graduate of American International College, where he was named to the "Who's Who in American Colleges" in 1968. He was also a member of the Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity and president of the council his senior year.

A devoted member of the East Hampton Rotary Club, Dave has served as club historian and past president, as well as chairman of the Rotary Club Foundation. He was the founder of the Rotary Interact Club at East Hampton High School, which has become one of the most popular extra-curricular clubs of the school. He is currently the longest tenured member of the East Hampton Rotary Club. He has been awarded four Paul Harris Fellows awards, along with several other awards and commendations.

Dave has served as the treasurer and finance committee chairman of the Middlesex Red Cross, and served as a board member for 25



years, as well as the finance director for the East Hampton Ambulance Association, and countless other boards and committees of charitable organizations and nonprofits.

His accolades include the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce, Dealers Advocate Award, Friends of Education award from the East Hampton Public Schools, Volunteer of the Year from the American Red Cross, Humanitarian of the year by the East Hampton Lions Club as well as the East Hampton Rotary Eaton A. Smith Award recipient.

David leaves to mourn him his wife of 48 years, Teresa Sheehan Shulman of Hartford; his son, Robert A. Shulman and his wife Lauren of Plymouth; his daughter, Elizabeth M. Shulman of East Hampton; and his brother, Steven Shulman and his wife Jean of Omaha, Neb.

There was a funeral service for Dave at Congregation Adath Israel, 8 Broad St., Middletown, on Tuesday, March 11, followed by burial at Lakeview Cemetery in East Hampton

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Dave can be made to East Hampton Rotary Foundation, P.O. Box 368, East Hampton, CT 06424; East Hampton Ambulance Association, P.O. Box 144, East Hampton, CT 06424; Community Foundation of Middlesex County, 49 Main St., Middletown, CT 06457; or Lymphoma Research Foundation at [www.lymphoma.org](http://www.lymphoma.org).

To leave online condolences, please visit [www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).

Like us on Facebook

RivereastNewsBulletin

Where in the World is the *Rivereast*?

Taking a vacation or a day trip soon? Or simply going out to dinner? Bring the *Rivereast* with you! Whether it's across the globe or across town, we want to see where you've been! Simply snap a photo with the *Rivereast*, send it to [bulletin@glcitizen.com](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com) and, if printed, you'll receive a gift card to Campagna Restaurant in Portland! Further details are listed below. Happy travels!



The Garden Girls... Jeanne Bishop and Jane Muskatallo, both of Portland, with Beth Longo of Glastonbury and Karen Mills of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, visited the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens while on a Girls Weekend in Maine last summer.



Bulletin in Brisbane... On a recent South Pacific cruise, Kayleigh Kinsella visited the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary in Brisbane, Australia, one of the ports of call.

Where in the World?

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

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

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

\$25 GIFT CARD

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



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

★ *Hebron Maple Fest., cont. from page 1*

Still, along with a new injection of volunteer support, Habicht credited TTCP Vice President, Wendy Weingarten, and TTCP board member, Candice Deguzis, for putting in thousands of hours leading up to the festival to ensure that it was on schedule.

**What to Expect**

Typically, Wenzel attends all of the Maple Festival meetings, but was unable to attend the last one leading up to the event; luckily, he had a good excuse.

After an “extremely slow” stretch, the weather warmed up and the sap began to flow.

“It’s a good feeling,” Wenzel exclaimed, and a good reason to miss a meeting. He also reported that it’s been a “very good year” and a “fun year” — he’s excited to share all about it this weekend.

One of the positive aspects of the event that TTCP is looking to continue this year is a strong lineup of activities. By having a subcommittee dedicated specifically to activity planning, it’s been able to “hone in on the activities that we got a lot of feedback on last year.”

Some of the highlights include the UConn Woodsmen — booked for both days at Woody-acres. Skillet-tossing is also back again, along with axe-throwing, which will be held at Brain Freezers, along Main Street.

Maple By Moonlight — a fundraiser hosted by TTCP — will take place tonight at Colebrook Village at 6:30 p.m., featuring delicious food, cocktails/mocktails, music and dancing.

After the scheduled festivities are concluded, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church is hosting a St. Patrick’s Day cabaret and dinner, including a per-

formance by the “The Callithumpians.”

Marcia and Chuck Eaton, who attended last week’s maple meeting on behalf of St. Peter’s, celebrated the festival’s attention to local entities.

“I think the local community really said, ‘We got to take control of this,’” Chuck expressed.

The Douglas Library parking lot will be packed with different vendors offering a variety of products — including many, many maple treats. There will be live music outside the library through the weekend. Inside the library is the “Hebron’s Own” expo, featuring local artisans and businesses. The final event of the festival is the annual tractor parade, which will commence at 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoon.

To view a full list of the activities and vendors at the Maple Festival, visit TTCP’s website [www.thetowncenterproject.org](http://www.thetowncenterproject.org).

Although residents can adventure through the heart of the festival along Main Street, there’s a new pedestrian bridge connecting the library parking lot to Pendleton Drive, where patrons will be able to access even more offerings.

There will also be shuttle busses running both days for transportation. On both days, there will be a shuttle traveling along Main Street, that picks up residents at RHAM Middle School. Additionally, on Saturday, a separate shuttle will pick up people in front of Century 21 on Main Street, and drop them off at the Mapleleaf Farm, which is offering a tour of his site. That shuttle will also stop at Gilead Congregational Church’s craft fair.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE  
MARLBOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION  
PUBLIC HEARING

The Marlborough Planning Commission will hold the following Public Hearing, Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall, 26 North Main Street.  
**Affordable Housing Plan 2022 Implementation Update**  
**2020 Plan of Conservation & Development Update – Resiliency & Sustainability**  
**Climate Change & Hazard Mitigation**  
Written testimony will be received at the public hearing and written testimony can be sent to the Building/Land Use Department at the Town Hall ahead of the public hearing.  
Copies of the regulations are available in the Town Clerk’s office and on the Town website [Marlboroughct.net/Planning](http://Marlboroughct.net/Planning) Commission  
Mark A. Stankiewicz, PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR 2TB 3/14, 3/21

TOWN OF COLCHESTER  
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION  
LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION

At its Regular Meeting of March 5, 2025, the Colchester Planning & Zoning Commission made the following decision (s):  
**PZC2025-001 Westchester Eyecare, LLC – 715 Middletown Road (MBL 03-17/51A-00) – Site Plan Modification application for parking lot expansion. Zoning District: Westchester Village (WV). APPROVED with conditions.**  
Planning & Zoning Commission  
Joseph Mathieu, Chairman 1TB 3/14

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON  
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF ACTION

At the regularly scheduled meeting on March 5, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall and via ZOOM, the East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission took the following actions:  
PZC-25-002: Adin Weatherley, 28 Old Chestnut Hill Rd., Special Permit to Place a 200SF Farm stand and add associated parking in R4 Zone, Map 13/ Block 33/ Lot 16 - APPROVED  
PZC-24-006: Proposed field changes to drainage basin and road grade for approved Lake Overlook Estates Open Space Subdivision – APPROVED with Conditions  
Kevin Kühr, Chairman 1TB 3/14

NOTICE OF ACTION  
TOWN OF ANDOVER  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA)

ACTION(S) TAKEN: The Andover Zoning Board of Appeals took the following action at a Special Meeting held on March 11, 2025:  
Approved: Application ZBA-2501. Application of the Town of Andover (acting through the Andover Field Committee). Property known as Veteran’s Field located at 30 Riverside Drive and owned by the Town of Andover. The ZBA granted relief of Section 11.2 of the Andover Zoning Regulations effectively reducing the front yard setback requirement from 50’ to 30’ so as to allow for the construction of a pavilion in accordance with their application as part of proposed upgrades to the existing facilities.  
Please direct any questions to 860.742.7305, x4220.  
William Desrosiers  
Zoning Board of Appeals 1TB 3/14

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED TO BUY

ALWAYS BUYING OLD TOOLS: old, used, antique hand tools. MACHINIST, woodworking, engraving, and workbench hand tools and tool chests. Hunting equipment also of interest. Fair and honest offers made. Call/text with confidence, Cory 860-215-5685.

WANTED TO BUY: your sterling silverware or any object made of sterling. Fair cash paid on the spot. Not sure what you have? Contact me and we can usually determine if your items are sterling over the phone. Also buying any amount of accumulated change. I make house calls. Call/text Dominic at 860-836-5013 or email [dmbappraisal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmbappraisal@sbcglobal.net).

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: Individual firearms, collections & estates including, military & related items. Federally licensed firearms dealer. Appraisal. Richard Pleines. 860-663-2214.

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

PETS

DOES YOUR DOG: Pull or jump on people or require complete obedience training? Also ask about spring dog poop clean up. We also do dog walking & drop in visits available. Experience & reliable. Vet owned, with law enforcement & military training experience. Call Mark 860-810-4066.

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



Sophomore Kayleigh Engle scored a game-high 23 points as Bacon Academy girls basketball defeated Seymour in the state semifinals at Maloney High School on Monday. The victory earned the Bobcats a spot in the Class M state championship, set for Mohegan Sun Arena this Saturday, March 15 at 10 a.m.

★ *Bobcats cont. from page 1*

After winning 18 of 20 games in the regular season, the Bobcats defeated three straight conference opponents to win the Eastern Connecticut Conference (CCC) Division I championships, defeating Norwich Free Academy 37-27 in the conference clincher at the Mohegan Sun Arena.

The team earned a first-round bye in the Class M tourney before ousting Wolcott, 55-30, in the second round. They then eliminated Wilcox Tech, 64-30, in the quarterfinals at Bacon Academy.

During the quarterfinals win on March 6, Novak scored a career-high 27 points as she surpassed 1,000 career points in her final home game. She became the 8th player in program history to reach the four-digit scoring mark.

After winning the ECC title, Novak said the team fully expected to be back at the championship venue at the casino where they will face a conference rival in Windham.

The Whippets of Windham have been equally impressive, winning 25 of 26 games this season. They too won an ECC title (Division II) at Mohegan and also dealt the Bobcats one of their two losses, a 42-38 defeat at Bacon Academy Jan. 11.

Since that loss, the Bobcats have reeled off 17 straight victories, winning by an average of 24 points per game.

The rematch with Windham will now be for all the marbles.

“It was an enthusiastic performance by the entire team,” Fannell said following the semifinal victory. “Hopefully we can duplicate it this weekend.”

Bacon Academy is seeking the program’s third state championship and first since beating E.O. Smith in 2012. Saturday’s game will mark the Bobcats’ eighth state championship appearance overall, last making the title game in 2022.

REAL ESTATE

Century 21 Allpoints Realty



Whether you’re considering selling your home, or beginning the quest to find your first/next home, let me partner with you to accomplish your goals! As a team member of Century 21 Allpoints, we have the experience, resources, relationships and proven track record to guide you through this volatile Market.

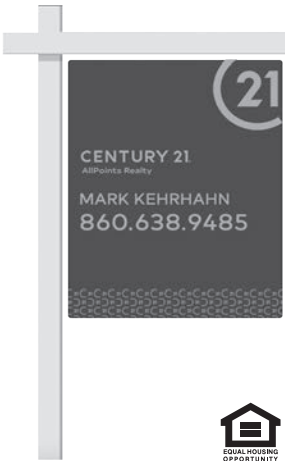
Mark Kehrhahn,  
for all Your real estate needs!

860-638-9485  
[Markk.realestate@gmail.com](mailto:Markk.realestate@gmail.com)

#1 CENTURY 21 Firm  
in Connecticut Since 2000.

We have been Family  
Owned & Operated since  
opening in 1989.  
With 11 offices in CT.

Awarded the prestigious  
Centurion Award



CT1-11-24

MY SHELTER PETS ARE  
MY BIGGEST FANS

#AdoptPureLove

LOGAN RYAN WITH LEO AND JULIUS: ADOPTED 2014 AND 2018.  
They're a little bit of a lot of things, but they're all pure love.

adoption THE SHELTER PET PROJECT.ORG



Public Notice to Transportation Operators

The Town of Colchester is applying for a capital grant under Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities of the Federal Transit Act, as amended by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law legislation, to replace vehicles to be used in meeting the special transportation needs of seniors and/or individuals with disabilities in the Town of Colchester, Connecticut.

Any interested transit or paratransit operator in the proposed service area may review the proposed application by contacting Patty Watts, Director of Senior Services, 15 Louis Lane, Colchester, CT 06415 at 860-537-3911.

A public hearing will be held if requested by interested parties.

Any comments should then be sent to the Colchester Senior Center with a copy to the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, 5 Connecticut Avenue, Norwich, CT 06360. Comments must be received no later than seven (7) days following publication of the Legal Notice.

1TB 3/14

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice to Transportation Operators

Town of Andover Senior Transportation is applying for a capital grant under Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities of the Federal Transit Act, as amended by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law legislation, to replace a vehicle to be used in meeting the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities in the Town of Andover and within a 35-mile radius.

Any interested transit or paratransit operator in the proposed service area may review the proposed application by contacting Tess Grous, 25 School Road, Andover, CT 06232, 860-742-7305 x4510.

A public hearing will be held if requested by interested parties.

Any comments should then be sent to Town of Andover Senior Transportation with a copy to the Capital Region Council of Governments. Comments must be received no later than seven (7) days following publication of the Legal Notice on March 14, 2025.

1TB 3/14

REAL ESTATE

27 KREIGER LN, GLASTONBURY: 1300 sqft office. Small storage. Work area. A/C. 860-633-5469 or 860-306-2260.

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT: completed renovated. Available April 1st. \$1,295/monthly. Located 10 Essex Street, Manchester. Credit/background check required. 860-593-6623.

VACATION HOME: Give your family the vacation they deserve!! Rental, Narragansett RI, walking distance to Scarborough beach. June, July & August availability. 4 & 6 bedroom, central AC, with deck & gas grill, renting Saturday to Saturday. Contact Debbie 860-833-8930 email narragansettrentals@gmail.com.

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL For Help Call 888-247-4401

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

Your local friend in Real Estate

People will come and go in life, but the person in the mirror will be there forever. So be good to yourself.

ANGELA ARESKO

Better Service | Better Marketing | Better Results  
Better Real Estate

860.883.9005  
angela@arescorealtor.com  
www.angelaaresko.com

RE3-14-25

Luck Won't sell your home...  
**but I will!**  
.....  
HAVE A HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!



Stephanie Starr  
(860) 214-4385  
stephaniestarr@bhhsne.com  
stephaniestarr.bhhsneproperties.com

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES  
2790 Main Street  
Glastonbury, CT 06033  
(860) 633-3674

NEW ENGLAND PROPERTIES

2025 An independently operated member of BHH Affiliates. Equal Housing Opportunity.

RE3-14-25

EMPLOYMENT

**BATHER WANTED:** Part-time 10-15 hrs/wk. Bathing & prepping dogs, assisting groomers, cleaning salon. Must have some experience with dogs, be able to lift 50 lbs. Apply in person only, 283 Main Street, Portland. Tuesday-Saturday 8am-5pm.

**CAREGIVER/THERAPIST TRAINEE:** to help gentleman with aquatic therapy. Able to swim and lift. Possible transportation. Call 860-537-4657.

**CHURCH SEXTON WANTED:** for First Congregational Church of Portland. The Sexton is responsible for maintaining the cleanliness and order of the church interior. Part-time, approximately 6 hours per week. Paid vacation and sick time offered. Please express your interest in the position, highlighting your experience either by email to office@firstchurchportlandct.org or by postal service to: First Congregational Church of Portland, CT 554 Main Street Portland, CT 06480.

**OFFICE MANAGER WANTED:** at First Congregational Church of Portland. In addition to serving as an Administrative Assistant to the Pastor, the Office Manager is a principal business point of contact for the various teams, committees, and membership of the Church and vendors. The position requires excellent written and verbal skills, strong interpersonal skills, experience with Microsoft Office, contact management software, and web page creation. The successful candidate must be able to work with limited supervision. Part-time (20 hours per week, September-May and 12 hours per week, June-August). Paid vacation and sick days are offered. Please submit a short description highlighting your interest and experience, with your resume via email to revjcooke@gmail.com.

**FULL-TIME DISHWASHER:** wanted for full-service breakfast/lunch restaurant in East Hampton. Call 860-918-9520.

**FULL/PART TIME ASSISTANT COOK/CHEF:** wanted for full-service breakfast/lunch restaurant in East Hampton. Experience preferred with references. Hourly wage \$20-\$25 per hour. Call 860-918-9520.

POSITION WANTED

HOME CARE: Reliable, independent, professional care giver, Medical background from Poland. CNA 10 plus years of experience in CT. Looking for shift with elderly. Days or night & 24-7 live in. Any type of payment excepted. Call Elizabeth 860-815-1544.



DENTAL ASSISTANT

Full time for Colchester Dental Group. A modern, progressive, preventative-oriented, full fee for service, two doctor, three hygienist, office with emphasis on long term health and high quality dental care. The hours are approximately Tuesday thru Friday, 8:45am to 5:30pm with some Saturdays 8:30am to 2pm. Radiology and Infection Control DANB certificate mandatory. Salary negotiable.

If you are a compassionate and responsible individual who would like to join our super friendly dental team, please forward your resume to thecdg@sbcglobal.net or mail to: Colchester Dental Group, PO Box 193, Colchester, CT 06415

RE8-2-24

TREE & LANDSCAPING

Springtime is Kateline Time

Patios • Walkways • Firepits  
Outdoor Kitchens • Decks  
Blue Stones • Cultured Stone  
Natural Stone • Concrete

**Kateline**  
860-633-5296  
860-965-8084 - cell

We Always Call You Back  
Free Estimates • License #552540  
www.KatelineLLC.com

Don't See it - Call

CIT3-14-25



611 Lawn Care

Serving Colchester & Surrounding Towns

Tired of Mowing? We've got you covered - at a price you can afford!

Weekly/Biweekly Mowing • Spring Cleanups  
Mulching • Walkways • Retaining Walls  
20 PLUS YEARS EXPERIENCE

611lawncare@gmail.com (860) 705-6308

FULLY INSURED • LIC #0671229

RE2-28-25

Has your garden gotten out of control?  
Too tired to maintain it on your own?  
Don't know where to start on your spring garden?



**Garden Restoration by RnR Garden Angels**

▪ Garden Spring Cleaning ▪ Edging ▪ Cut Backs ▪ Soil Amendment ▪ Fertilize ▪ Mulch ▪ Plant Division ▪ Plant relocation ▪ Dead Heading for continuous blooms ▪ Garden Mapping ▪ Plant Tagging ▪ Weekly Garden Maintenance ▪ Foundation Plantings ▪ Pruning ▪ Weeding ▪ New Plantings ▪ Garden Design ▪ Garden Art from 100% recycled materials



**RnR Garden Angels**  
Call today for a **FREE** consultation  
**860.365.0504**  
CT Lic. HIC.0645188

“Weeding out all your garden woes.”

WE'RE HIRING! Call us today for more info.

RE3-31-23

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

PART-TIME 20 HOURS TAX CLERK

Provides accounting, clerical, and administrative assistance to the Tax Collector in the billing, collecting, and crediting of taxes and related billings or charges.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** The skills and knowledge required would generally be acquired with graduation from high school and three or more years of accounting support and/or clerical office support and customer service experience, or an Associate's degree in Business Administration or Accounting with two years of accounting and customer service experience, or any equivalent combination of education and experience.

**\*\*ABILITY TO WORK FLEXIBLE HOURS. FULL TIME 36 HOURS PER WEEK REQUIRED DURING JULY AND JANUARY.**

**STARTING WAGE:** \$22.40 - \$24.00/hour depending on experience and qualifications

Please submit a letter of interest and completed application to the:

Town of Marlborough  
ATTN: Town Clerk  
26 North Main Street  
P.O. Box 29  
Marlborough, CT 06447  
townclerk@marlboroughct.net

Open until filled. First review of applications on March 31, 2025.

3TB 3/14, 3/21, 3/28



TREE & LANDSCAPING



Lawn TECS SR LLC.  
Yard Grooming / Lawn Maintenance  
H (860) 295-1479 • C (860) 214-9923  
RLFrancks@comcast.net

**Spring Is Near!**

**Start Scheduling Spring Cleanups & Mowing Today**  
Now is the time to start thinking about your yard's mulching needs and trimming back overgrowth with the smell of spring in the air. Reseeding and fresh topsoil is beckoning your yard, so let's get started.

SERVICES INCLUDE: **Weekly/Bi-Weekly Mowing • Brush Removal  
Downed Tree & Debris Removal • Mulch Installation  
Light Moving • Light Hauling • Spring & Fall Cleanups**  
— CT LICENSED & FULLY INSURED —

86 JONES HOLLOW ROAD, MARLBOROUGH, CT



RE3-12-21

**RYANS TREE SERVICE**

*Hazardous Tree Removal* *We Climb or Bucket Truck Service*

Now is the time to cut those trees down with the **FROZEN GROUND!**  
**CALL TODAY!**

- Lot Clearing & Yard Expansions
- Stumpgrinding & Grading (including muddy driveways)

Accepting Most Major Credit Cards   

**FULLY INSURED** State Lic. #SFPH000902 **FREE ESTIMATES**

**Call 860-228-5009**



CIT1-9-25

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

**TREE REMOVAL:** Vine management and Prune bushes. Forest City Arbor Care LLC. 860-754-8012.

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

**Like us on Facebook**   
RivereastNewsBulletin

**Shorts Landscaping LLC**

**Weekly & Bi-Weekly Mowing**

Walks • Patios • Retaining Walls  
Light Excavation & Drainage  
**COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL**  
— CALL STEVE —  
**(860) 917-5459**

**FULLY INSURED  
FREE ESTIMATES**  
CT HIC Lic #0635384



Serving Colchester & Surrounding Towns

RE3-20-20

**SHORT ON TIME?** Take the summer off and let us mow your lawn!



Now Scheduling  
**Weekly Mowing  
& Spring Cleanup**  
Customers  
Colchester & Surrounding Towns

**Small Excavation Jobs**  
with Mini Excavator or Bobcat  
Call for Topsoil Delivery  
All Your Landscaping Needs  
**Call 860-537-2945**  
Terence & Diane Clark ~ FULLY INSURED ~ CT Lic. 562383

RE3-7-25

**DB STUMP Removal LLC**

**860-205-3266**

LICENSED & INSURED • VETERAN DISCOUNTS

- Stump Grinding / Removal
- Brush Cutting
- Yard Expansions

**www.dbstumpremoval.com**  
 DBStumpremoval



RE3-4-23

**NOW SCHEDULING:**  
New Weekly Mowing &  
Spring Cleanups

**COMPLETE LAWN  
MAINTENANCE**



**ANN LANDSCAPING**  
Commercial - Residential  
Locally in East Hampton, CT

Scheduled Mowings  
Mulching / Garden Installs  
Irrigation Services  
Lawn Expansion/Grading  
Spring / Fall Cleanups  
Lawn Renovations  
and Clearing  
Plowing / Salting  
Dump Runs

**860.913.6203**

Fully Licensed & Insured – HIC # 0661818

RE2-28-25

**GREEN VALLEY  
LANDSCAPING LLC**

**Spring Cleanups  
Landscaping & Mulch Installs  
Lawn Maintenance**

**860.531.2820**  
greenvalleyland.com



RE2-27-25

**MUDDY DRIVEWAY?**

**Call Us For All Of Your  
Stone & Drainage Needs**

Quality Work...  ...from Start to Finish

**SPECIALIZING IN  
Driveway Repair**

Call Rich Baldi at  
**Baldi Stone & Gravel**  
**(860) 537-4093** Fully Licensed Insured

RE3-5-21



**LAWNS-N-STUFF**  
LANDSCAPING SERVICES  
- SINCE 1990 -

**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

RE2-18-22



**LAWNS-N-STUFF**  
LANDSCAPING SERVICES  
- SINCE 1990 -

**LAWNS-N-STUFF**  
“WE DO MORE THAN CUT THE GRASS”  
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • FULLY INSURED

**NOW SCHEDULING  
SPRING CLEAN-UPS**

- MULCHING
- SHRUB TRIMMING
- TREE WORK / PLANTING
- FERTILIZING
- GARDEN INSTALLS

- WALLS/WALKWAYS
- DUMP RUNS/HAULING
- MINI-EXCAVATING
- DRAINAGE
- PLOW DAMAGE REPAIR

**860-295-9692**  
Marlborough, CT

RE3-13-20

**DESIGN**



**BUILD**



**GENERAL  
LANDSCAPING LLC**  
Est. 1978

Member of BBB

**860-659-5757**

**www.generallandscaping.com**

Big enough to be professional – Small enough to be personal

CT Lic #555660

RE4-12-24



TREE & LANDSCAPING



**Certified Arborists  
of Marlborough LLC**  
CT Licensed Arborist #S-6236

LOCALLY OWNED  
**FULL SERVICE TREE EXPERTS**

**Remove your high-risk trees  
BEFORE the storm season arrives!**

860.573.0428 Veteran Owned  
& Operated  
toddrcohen@hotmail.com

Senior, Veteran, & First Responder Discounts

FULLY LICENSED & INSURED



**LAWN  
&  
LANDSCAPE**

NOW SCHEDULING  
SPRING CLEANUPS  
& WEEKLY MOWING  
CUSTOMERS



Commercial & Residential – Kyle C. Salamone, Owner  
www.kclawncarellc.com Portland, CT  
HIC.0642096 Fully Lic. & Ins. • Free Estimates 860-342-0352



**MULCH  
& STONE  
LOT**

It's Time To Fix Your Driveway!

Great products for repairing driveways including:

3/4" Driveway Mix (aka process)  
3/4" Crushed Utility Stone  
1-1/4" Crushed Stone

Plus other sizes of Utility Stone available  
Pick it up or have it delivered!  
LOW DELIVERY MINIMUM

OPEN EVERYDAY INCLUDING SAT 8-6; SUN 9-6

93 EAST HIGH STREET – (ROUTE 66)  
EAST HAMPTON – (860) 267-0143

**TSMINOR**  
ENTERPRISES, LLC

— RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL —

Spring Clean Ups &  
Debris Removal

- Lawn Mowing
- Lawn Installation / Land Clearing
- Lawn Aeration and Thatching
- Drainage: Gutters, French Drains, Drywells / Infiltrators
- Patios, Walkways & Retaining Walls
- Mulching, Planting, Shrub Trimming
- Tree & Brush Removal
- Excavation & Trucking • Dump Runs

10% OFF Any Hardscape  
Project when signed up  
for lawn mowing.  
(Valid till the end of 2025)

860-716-0661  
tsminorenterprises.com

FULLY INSURED

HIC# 0653158



**Quality Work  
Same Day  
Call Returns**

— FOUR SEASON SERVICES —  
CALL NOW FOR SPRING CLEANUPS  
Weekly Mowing  
Pruning • Brush Clearing  
Mulch • Stones • Snow Removal  
Call Jaime (860) 478-8457  
www.jebelandscape.com

**Classifieds  
Pay**

The Glastonbury  
Citizen  
& Rivereast  
News Bulletin

Call  
860-633-4691  
or  
email your line  
ad to admin@  
glcitizen.com

**DeLeo Fence**  
Custom Fences: Wood, Vinyl,  
Aluminum & Chain Link  
**FENCE REPAIR**  
Quality Work at a Competitive Price  
OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
**860-930-5492**  
FULLY INSURED • HIC #0657705  
**WE WORK YEAR ROUND!**

**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**

**Tree Removal  
CALL JACK TODAY**

Property Maintenance • Weekly Lawn Care  
Landscaping • Spring & Fall Cleanups  
Walkways, Patios, Retaining Walls  
Bobcat & Excavation Services • Lot Cleaning  
— COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL —  
**Call Jack for FREE ESTIMATE**  
**(860) 818-2773**



**Dorsey Construction**  
Spring Cleanups — **Call Today!!!**  
Gutter & Leader Cleaning • Painting  
Powerwashing • Waterproofing • Landscaping

Concrete Work – sidewalks, stairs,  
patios, colored concrete & stamped concrete

Roof Repair – rubber roof, torchdown,  
metal roofs, and slate roof repair

— Looking For New Mowing Accounts —  
**John Dorsey • 860-890-9884**

SERVICES

**AIR FILTER CHANGES, THERMOSTAT REPLACEMENT:** and minor HVAC system changes or upgrades. Home and contract services. On-call or regular maintenance. Email smallhvac123@gmail.com for more information.

**BLACK GOOSE CHIMNEY SWEEP:** Dirty chimneys can burn! Having your chimney cleaned yearly ensures peace of mind. Dust-free professional cleaning. Fully insured. Dave 860-267-8422.

**CHIMNEY MAINTENANCE:** Cleaning, caps, dampers, flashing, furnace liners and more. No nonsense, no sales pitch, just the work you want done. 35 yrs. actual experience as the owner of Glastonbury's local chimney service. William Allen 860-633-1033.

**DUMP RUNS/LIGHT HAULING:** Same day appointments available. Cleanouts, basements, garages. Even junk in the backyard. We can take as much or as little as you want. Mark 860-295-9692 or 860-916-9577.

**ELECTRIC STAN LLC:** Offering service changes for meters and panels. Best price offered. Licensed and Insured. License #202454E1. 860-716-7903.



**Wellis Painting**  
Where Quality Still Counts  
EST. 1986 - Lic# 568591

**Ceiling Repair  
Specialists**  
**(860) 652-9259**

SPECIALIZING IN:  
All phases of Painting  
Custom  
Textured Ceilings  
Sheetrock/Taping  
Water Damage

**FLOOR SANDING AND REFINISHING:** Custom staining and finishing. Repairing and laying of all wood floors. Free estimates. James Gorman 860-647-9261.

**GUTTER & ROOF CLEANING:** Clogged gutters = water damage. Optional lower cost guards. Free estimates. Insured, Reg #HIC.0651707. Text/Call Marc any time 860-498-2524.

**IS YOUR RETAINING WALL :** leaning or bulging? But your material still good? We can rebuild, save \$\$\$! Is your walkway not level or collecting water? But material still good? We can re-base, re-use your old material and save \$\$\$! Dondero Lawn Care 860-228-2003.

**J & S PAINTING & HOME IMPROVEMENT:** Interior/exterior painting, window/door installation, vinyl siding installation and roof installation. Pool patio & deck patio. Stucco, finish basement, ceramic tiles, bathroom, remodeling. Building maintenance, fence installation. House and office cleaning. Call John, 860-796-0006.

**JOSH'S JUNK REMOVAL:** All items removed at a reasonable rate. Call for estimate. We also remove sheds and hot tubs. Insured. Josh Langdon 48hrs. Cleaning Service. 860-922-4621.

**Columbia Sealcoat Co.**  
COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL  
Protect & Renew  
Your Pavement  
Crack & Patch Repair  
FREE ESTIMATES  
860-228-7171 LIC/INS

**Brilliant Basement  
Waterproofing, LLC**

Egress Windows, Foundation Repair, Crawl Spaces  
Sump Pumps, Pumps Eliminated in Most Homes.  
Deal Direct With Owner - No Middle Man, Yard Drainage  
HIC. 0653192 • CALL US  
**860-598-8091**

www.brilliantbasementwaterproofing.com

**JOHN LACY PAINTING**  
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR  
Quality Craftsmanship

Walls - \$159  
18' x 16' avg. room  
**860-416-8354**  
john\_lacy@icloud.com

**HYDROPURE**  
Water Treatment, LLC

— SALES • SERVICE • REPAIRS —  
**WATER SOFTENERS • FILTERS  
REVERSE OSMOSIS • UV UNITS**

Treat For: Iron, Manganese, Bacteria  
Hardness, Low pH, Sulfur, Nitrates  
Sediment, Taste & Odor Removal  
www.hydro-pure.com  
info@hydro-pure.com  
Lic #PLM280191

860-537-1949

**JOSH'S JUNK REMOVAL:** All items removed at a reasonable rate. Call for estimate. We also remove sheds and hot tubs. Insured. Josh Langdon 48hrs. Cleaning Service. 860-922-4621.

**L&R GENERAL MA-SONRY:** We specialize in perfection. We do sidewalks, patios, outdoor kitchens, chimney repairs. Stone walls, blue stone, etc. Fully insured & licensed. Call Rino 860-833-6146.



**MY PURPOSE IN LIFE IS HELPING OTHERS:** I am a phenomenal cook. Organizer, laundry, errands, walk the dog, drive to activities, preferably female companionship. I live in Glastonbury. Call Carolyn 860-328-5256.

**WATER DAMAGED REPAIRS:** We find the leak, we fix it and all of it's damage. Roofing, siding, sheetrock, woodworking, etc. 37 years experience. Please call Rene at 860-716-2678.

**WINDOW CLEANING:** Residential, \$9 per window inside and out. Call 860-883-6775. Kid Squeegee.

**FULLER**  
PAVING & GRADING

• Reclaiming • Residential • Commercial  
Save \$ on in place recycling of your old  
pavement creating a great base to pave on.  
FREE ESTIMATES  
See us on the web [www.fullerpavingct.com](http://www.fullerpavingct.com)  
195 Jones Hollow Rd., Marlborough, CT  
**860-295-9566**  
Established 1990 - Proud of Our Great Service Record  
FULLY INSURED • CT LIC. # 0537749

**DIRTY HOUSE?  
WE CAN HELP!**  
House washing  
and roof cleaning.

- Walkways
- Patios
- Driveways
- Decks

Call for  
a FREE  
quote!



860-933-2659  
ctwashpros.com



SERVICES



**TUTHILL ELECTRIC**

Family Owned Local Electricians specializing in service changes, generators, remodels, outlets, lighting and more!

[www.Tuthillelectric.com](http://www.Tuthillelectric.com) 860-395-7638

FREE ESTIMATES • Fully Licensed & Insured E1 #0197601

**COLUMBIA GRAVEL**

Driveway Gravel or ½ inch stone 3½ Ton-\$150<sup>00</sup> delivered

**FREE ESTIMATES**

— LICENSED & INSURED —

860-228-7171

**PLUMBING & HEATING**

*from dripping faucets to all your major plumbing/heating needs*

**Water Heaters • Zoned Heat Boiler Replacement Bathroom Remodeling**

**Call Leo at 860-267-2354**

Lic. # P204015H389727 Insured



**Snow Septic Repair, LLC**

— **FREE ESTIMATES** —

A fully licensed & insured specialist of sub surface waste water disposal systems for residential & commercial properties.

**New Installations • Real Estate Inspections Repairs • System Diagnostic Services Soil Testing • Video Camera Pipe Inspections**

*Over 20 Years of Professional Experience*

Guaranteed Pricing & Warranties Available

**SnowSepticRepair.com • 860-221-8735**

Licensed & Insured • LIC #0408372

**MIDDLESEX MECHANICAL SERVICES LLC**

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

**Now is the time to replace your furnace or boiler — Call today for the lowest rates!**

**Hot Water & Ductless Splits Energy Efficient Heat Pumps Air Conditioning**

**860.949.5711**

[middlesexmechanicalservices@gmail.com](mailto:middlesexmechanicalservices@gmail.com)

**energize CONNECTICUT**

**FREE ESTIMATES**

*We offer financing!*

**STREAMLINE GENERATOR**

a division of **STREAMLINE ELECTRIC LLC**

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

**860.467.6466**

There is a better option than the brand you hear so much about. Ask us WHY!

SALES - SERVICE - INSTALLATION

**KOHLER GENERATORS**

PLATINUM DEALER

**IN STOCK!**

**TAYLOR PAVING LLC**

*Our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!*

*“Original Owners Since 1985”*

**DRIVEWAY PROBLEMS?**

**FREE ESTIMATES**

On Your Asphalt Paving Work, Permanent Base Stonedust Products, Processed Gravel, Compaction, Excavation & Drainage Work

**(860) 537-1379**

**(860) 334-5135**

*Cash & Senior Discounts*

*All American Crew Members!*

*Owner Pricing*

*All Work Guaranteed*

*Local & State Specs*

Alan & Chase Taylor, Father & Son owned — CT Lic. #562442

**Asphalt Solutions**

**Sealcoating Crack Filling Paving**

*Free Estimates*

**SPRING SPECIAL! \$100 OFF**

**Call Tyler 860-333-0070**

*Major Credit Cards Accepted – Licensed & Insured HIC 0657488*

**NEED A PLUMBER?**

**Call/Text Phil: 203-506-7371**

East Hampton, Portland, Middletown, Glastonbury, Colchester

**MECHANICAL SYSTEMS, L.L.C.**

PLUMBING | HEATING | KITCHEN & BATH

- Water Heaters • Disposals • Additions
- Sump Pumps • Water Filtration • Well Pumps
- Toilets • New Construction • Gas Lines
- Faucets • Bathroom Remodels • And more....!!

— **COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL** —

*Fully Licensed & Insured – P1. 0289420 | HIC. 0650960*

**VIOLETTE SILVESTER & SONS, INC.**

Since 1898 - Over 125 Years in Business!

- Sewer Line Cleaning
- Sump-pump Maintenance
- Septic Tank Cleaning
- Waterproofing

**SAVE \$10.00** with this coupon

**Don't wait! Call today for pricing and appointment!**

**(860) 289-3466**

Visit us at: [www.tankpumpers.com](http://www.tankpumpers.com)

65 CHERRY STREET • EAST HARTFORD, CT

**AAA Electrician Services**

FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL NEEDS

*Residential & Commercial Wiring*

**Don't Pay the Big Company Prices!**

Service Upgrades, New Construction, Remodels Additions, Outlets & Lights Added, Generators, Kitchens

Installation of Automatic or Portable Generator Systems

LICENSED – *No Job Too Big or Too Small* – INSURED

**Call Shawn 860-759-6652**

[aaaelectricianservices.com](http://aaaelectricianservices.com)

ELC. 0209770-E1

**Specialty Paver Driveways**

**NEW • REPLACE • REPAIR**

**ADMasonry**

*Free Estimates • CT Lic. #06096-1701 • Insured*

— GLASTONBURY BASED —

**860.657.9185 | CELL 860.368.9486**

**AIR FLO MECHANICAL LLC**

**Installation & Service Available**

Specializing in Natural Gas & Propane Oil to Gas Conversions

Central & Ductless AC • Furnace • Boilers

Pool Heaters • Water Heaters • Sheet Metal

— *FINANCING AVAILABLE* —

CT Lic #393394 **860-989-5079**

**BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS**

**MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC COOLING & HEATING**

**DIAMOND CONTRACTOR**

HOME IMPROVEMENT

**STARKEY HOME RE-MODELLING:** Call today for a free estimate on all your Interior and Exterior needs. Roofing, decks, sheds, windows/doors, gutters, landscape services, porches, patios, framing, carpentry, siding, kitchens/baths, basements, flooring (tile, hardwood, laminate & vinyl), painting/staining, insulation, trim, etc. Locally owned. Licensed/Insured. James 860-573-3597.

**ADVANCED PRO HOME IMPROVEMENT:** “One call does it all! Beat the Spring rush. Additions, sunrooms. Kitchens, bathrooms. Windows, roofing. Vinyl siding trim. Garages, decks. Basements, flooring. Dry wall & taping. Interior painting, popcorn ceilings. Clean up daily. Quality work. Lic. #578351. Fully insured. Free estimates. 860-798-4275. [www.advancedprosite.com](http://www.advancedprosite.com)

**CABINET REFACING:** Not an overpriced box store or franchise. Local company, cabinet-makers specializing in refacing since 1986. All wood products, custom work and counter tops. Deal with the owner. Wood'n Excellence CP#0664648, 860-345-2050.

**D&A TILE:** Free estimates. Licensed and insured. All types of tile work, kitchens, baths. All work guaranteed. 16 years experience. Call 860-508-0893.

**FROM ADDITIONS, DECKS, ROOFS & DOORS:** to finished basements, siding, & floors. Licensed/insured. Give us a call for free estimate. Starr Builders, LLC. See us on Facebook. B.B.B. 860-267-1496.

**RENE'S INTERIOR TRIM LLC:** 35 years of experience in all phases of carpentry. Some of the services we offer include - Crown molding, chair rails, window-seats, bookcases, entertainment centers, cedar closets, custom stairs. Pocket doors, interior/exterior doors, radiator covers, porticos, mantles. Wheelchair ramps, replacement hatchways, replacement windows, sump-pumps. Wood decking changed to Trex, attic stairs, new kitchen and bath. Water damage and rot repairs of all kinds such as leaky roofs, doors, windows or plumbing fixtures. We do complete repairs of drywall and plaster! We also combat the entry of mice and more. Call Rene 860-716-2678.

**GENERAL HOME REPAIRS:** Handyman, painting, rotted wood, framing alterations and structural repairs. Fully licensed/insured. Ben Egri 860-712-6257.

**PRINCE OF GUTTER CLEANING:** Hand cleaned out then rinsed. Starting at \$125. Insured. Josh Langdon 860-922-4621.

**GUTTER & ROOF CLEANING:** Clogged gutters = water damage. Optional lower cost guards. Free estimates. Insured, Reg #HIC.0651707. Text/Call Marc any time 860-498-2524.

**HOME IMPROVEMENT & FLOORING, LLC.** Locally owned/operated [info@brother-shomeimprovementct.com](mailto:info@brother-shomeimprovementct.com), [www.BrothersHomeimprovementCT.com](http://www.BrothersHomeimprovementCT.com) 860-432-5716, 860-882-7672.

**HARDWOOD FLOORING:** Installation, repairs, sanding, staining, dustless refinishing. Carpet and vinyl, LVT and ceramic, all flooring. Finish carpentry and decks. HIC#0624266. Fully insured. Free estimates. BROTHERS

**J & S MASONRY:** Design patio, pool patio, Chimney repair. Stone walls, brick walls, retaining walls, steps. Roofs done, veneers done, walkways. Cement, tiles, paving and building maintenance. All kinds of masonry and home repairs. Call John, 860-796-0006.

**Free Estimates**

**ALL PURPOSE PAVING, LLC**

**State of the Art Equipment**

**MUDDY DRIVEWAY? CALL US TODAY!**

**IMMEDIATE RESPONSE**

*Reasonable Rates Senior Discounts Church Discount*

**Driveways • Parking Lots Gas Station • Private Roads Sidewalks/Curbing Seal Coating • Asphalt Repair Parking Lot Sweeping Gravel Work • Hot Crack Fill Excavation & Drainage**

**FULLY INSURED**

**860-267-2109 • 860-827-3090 • 860-883-3314**

*Let our crew give your driveway a quality makeover.*

**FOUR SEASONS PAINTERS LLC**

**INTERIOR**

- All Phases of Interior Painting, Staining, Textured Ceilings, Texture Removal
- WP Removal, Rep. Windows
- Home Improvements & Carpentry

**Kevin Greer 860-646-7760 Lic. # 574298**

[www.FOURSEASONSPAINTERS.net](http://www.FOURSEASONSPAINTERS.net)

**FREE ESTIMATES INSURED**



HOME IMPROVEMENT



**860-657-6462**  
[www.alansoucy.com](http://www.alansoucy.com)

**We Specialize In Creating New Kitchens & Baths**

From design to finish you'll love our work!  
If it's time to upgrade your kitchen or bath, visit us online for virtual tours of our projects.  
— Call Us Today for a FREE Consultation —

RE-13-20



**GARAGE DOOR TRIM REPAIRS**

Tired of looking at dented garage door trim or old rotted wood? I can fix that!  
**Free over the phone quotes.**  
**Complete siding jobs to repairs.**  
**Available for all your siding needs.**  
Senior discounts. Credit cards accepted.  
**Call Keith "The Trim Specialist"**  
**860-563-2001**

CIT-10-17-24



**UNITED POWERWASH & PAINTING**

Interior / Exterior Painting  
• Commercial • Residential • Full Service Preparation  
• Minor Drywall & Ceiling Repairs  
— FULLY LICENSED & INSURED —  
Call Now For A Free NO OBLIGATION ESTIMATE  
**(860) 608-8376**

CIT-3-12-20



**E.L. CONTRACTING**  
— NO JOB TOO SMALL —

Roofing  
Siding & Windows  
Small Jobs  
Green Remodeling  
Kitchens & Baths  
Hardi Board Installer  
Decks

**Ed Loveland**  
**860-680-1832 (C)**  
**EDL7@comcast.net**

License #609553  
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL • FULLY INSURED

RE-3-18-22



**KKS Construction**

Property Maintenance Residential / Commercial

**Carpentry – Roofing**  
**Windows – Doors**

**o – 860.633.6015**  
**c – 860.550.0932**  
**kimsadlon@cox.net**

Lic 0570333 / Ins - Est. 1995

CIT-3-5-20



**Like us on Facebook**

RivereastNewsBulletin



**All-Wood Flooring, LLC™**

**Complete Remodeling Services**  
Connecticut's One Stop Shop That Does It ALL  
*Specializing in Hardwood Flooring, Installation & Refinishing.*

— All Floors, Tile, etc. — Ceilings — Sheetrock  
— Painting — Bathrooms — Basements — Doors  
— Windows — Kitchens — Stairs

**Specializing in Serving You and Your Budget**

*Private Master Carpenters*  
**860-498-1060** CT HIC. 567284  
[www.myallwoodflooring.com](http://www.myallwoodflooring.com) Insured  
CIT-9-16-21

CIT-9-16-21



**SHAW DRYWALL**

**HANGING & TAPING**

First Class Service & Quality Work

**860-228-0680**

CT. LIC. #0623063 FULLY INSURED

RE-3-2-21



**PAQUETTE ROOFING LLC**

Specializing in  
**Residential & Commercial Roofing**  
for over 20 years

— Free Competitive Estimates  
— Financing Options Available  
**www.paquetteroofing.com**

Hebron, CT Fully Insured LIC# 0615769  
**860.748.8410**

CIT-9-26-24



**all about blinds**

89 Main St.  
East Hampton  
Custom Window  
Treatments

Shades \* Shutters  
Shears & Draperies  
**860-267-8330**  
**allaboutblindsct.com**

RE-1-10-26



**HOME DESIGNS BY BRUNO**

See Me Before You Build!  
3D Plans \* Permit Plans  
Budgets

**860-537-5345**

RE-3-13-20



**FLOORS R US**

**HARDWOOD FLOORING**  
Specializing in Sanding / Finishing / Staining of Existing Floors  
Installation / Repairs Available – 25 Years Experience  
**860-508-2551** Local References Available

CIT-5-20



**R.J. Swider Contracting, L.L.C.**

Specializing in Additions & Remodeling  
**860-228-3912**  
[www.rjswidercontracting.com](http://www.rjswidercontracting.com) Ct. Lic.#541663

CIT-3-5-20



**Viccaro Replacement Windows & Doors**

**Marc Viccaro 860-604-3411**  
*Over 20 Years Experience • Lic & Ins*

RE-10-18-24



**Sharp Eye HOME IMPROVEMENT**

OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

▪ Decks  
▪ Remodels  
▪ Finished Basements  
▪ Sill Rot Replacement

▪ Replacement Windows & Doors  
▪ Finish Trim  
▪ Structural Repair (rot)  
▪ To Do Lists

**860-604-3411 Marc Viccaro**

HIC # 0650133 • CT Licensed & Insured

RE-1-6-24



**PARKER PAINTING**

Interior/Exterior • Powerwashing  
Light Carpentry  
Ceiling & Sheetrock Repair  
Water Damage Repair

— FREE ESTIMATES —  
LICENSED & INSURED **860-338-0156**

CIT-3-5-20



**Alan Soucy ROOF REPAIRS**

**ROOFING**

Full Roofing Systems  
Leaks • Rec Rooms • Bathrooms  
Decks • Windows • Doors

**860.657.6462** Lic# 0622777

RE-1-13-20



**Sharp Eye HOME IMPROVEMENT**

OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

▪ Decks  
▪ Remodels  
▪ Finished Basements  
▪ Sill Rot Replacement

▪ Replacement Windows & Doors  
▪ Finish Trim  
▪ Structural Repair (rot)  
▪ To Do Lists

**860-604-3411 Marc Viccaro**

HIC # 0650133 • CT Licensed & Insured

RE-1-6-24



**BILL'S REMODELING & HOME REPAIR LLC**

**Phone: 860-402-0508** License #HIC 0656593

Additions	Doors	Molding
Basements	Floors	Repair Work
Bathrooms	Kitchens	Siding
Decks	Garages	Windows

DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF

CIT-3-12-20



**FORTRESS FENCE COMPANY**

Serving CT and Western MA Experience — Professionalism — Integrity

**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL**  
All Types of Fence  
vinyl, ornamental, wood, electronic gates  
Installation & Repairs

**860-629-0335**  
[www.FortressFenceCT.com](http://www.FortressFenceCT.com)

LICENSED & INSURED CT HIC 0671859

02-27-25



**Roofing Specialists**

**Get your roof Done Right The First Time!**

Quality Work | Cleanup Daily | Over 20 Years Experience  
**Billy 860-798-4275**

FREE ESTIMATES FULLY INSURED LIC. #578351

SH-03-25



**Painting By Renewal**

SPRING 10% OFF PROMO

Interior & Exterior Painting  
\*Power Washing  
\*Carpentry

Contact us today for a free consultation  
**Home: 860-740-5190 Cell: 203-640-3464**  
**www.paintingbyrenewal.com**

CIT-3-13-25



**SM WELCH**

**REMODELING SPECIALIST**  
**860.295.1295**

• ADDITIONS	• BASEMENTS	• DECKS
• DORMERS	• BATHROOMS	• SIDING
• GARAGES	• KITCHENS	• ROOFING

Certified Green Professional  
Certified Aging in Place Specialist  
**smwelch.com • Insured • CT 607510**

CIT-3-5-20



**CHARTER PAINTING & RESTORATION**

56<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY Family Operated

**Painting & Carpentry**  
*Interior & Exterior Painting*  
Estimates given in an A-LA-CARTE Fashion

**"WITH ATTENTION TO DETAIL"**

• Home/Church/Historic Restoration – Int & Ext	• Preparation Specialist – Menu Format Proposals
• Since 1973 Over 2300 Aluminum Sided Homes Repainted	• Textured Ceilings/Removal of Popcorn & Paper/Drywall & Crack Repair
• Carpentry Services	• Hardwood Floor Finishing
• Water Damage	• Powerwashing

Our loyal tradesmen have rejuvenated 1000's of Connecticut homes. LET YOUR HOME BE NEXT!  
**Call Christian Charter**  
**860-646-7668**  
**www.charterpainting.com**  
**chinchart4u@hotmail.com** Insured #HIC.0619547

RE-3-7-25



**CASELLA CONSTRUCTION, LLC**

FULLY INSURED – HIC #0647145

**Remodels • Bathrooms**  
Repairs/Handyman • Windows • Doors  
Flooring • Concrete • Walls  
Patios • Sidewalks  
Painting • Power Washing

**860-685-1266 Dean Casella**

RE-3-26-21



**Drywall Service & Repair, LLC**

— 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE —  
**959-888-1442**

**Residential & Commercial Drywall & Carpentry**  
Water Damage Repairs • Drywall New & Repairs  
Carpentry Services • Remodels & Additions  
**10% OFF Popcorn Ceiling Removal**  
**\$100 OFF For New Customers**

CIT-10-24-24



HOME IMPROVEMENT

ROOFING | SIDING | WINDOWS | DOORS | DECKS | CARPENTRY



**TURNER**  
HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS, LLC

CALL 860.633.1400 FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

GAF Master Elite Certified • Platinum ProVia Dealer  
Glastonbury-Based • Family-Owned • Industry Leading Warranties

A family tradition since 1955.

Spring is Right Around the Corner!



**M.J. Emonds**  
MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS, LLC  
Lic. #392776

Call For All of Your Air Conditioning Needs!

17 Nutmeg Lane, Glastonbury  
860-657-4554 • www.emonds.com

Bud Stula  
Home Improvement

Kitchen & Bath Remodels  
Ceramic • Hardwood • Vinyl Floors  
Carpet Restretching • Trimwork & Painting  
No Job Too Small — HIC # 0632650 • Insured

Call 860.377.0380



**Swanson**  
PAINTING

Michael Swanson, owner  
Powerwashing, Light Carpentry,  
Laminate Flooring  
OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
MAKING HOMES BEAUTIFUL!

CALL: 219-575-0370

Reliable Quality Workmanship



**KC MASONRY**

Stonewalls • Brick Walls • Bluestone • Steps  
Fireplaces • Chimneys • Patios • Sidewalks  
We can also do all Masonry Repairs!  
Free Estimates  
Lic. No. 0604514

**KEN (203) 558-4951**

Since 1992



**MARK'S**  
PAINTING  
860-267-4125

Freshen Up For The Spring!  
All Phases of Painting & Carpentry  
Quality Interior Painting  
MARK PESZYNSKI  
LIC. #563897

Premier Painting CT  
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR  
PAINTING

Deck & Fence Staining  
Carpentry / Power Washing  
Experienced,  
Professional,  
Exceptional Service

FREE ESTIMATES

CALL / TEXT  
860-944-5614  
www.premierpaintingct.com  
premierpaintingct@gmail.com  
Licensed & Insured HIC# 0670230



**A BEST**  
GUTTERS

Seamless Gutter Installation  
White or Custom Colors  
ALU-REX Gutter Protection  
(20% Savings)  
Fascia Replacement

FOR A FREE ESTIMATE, CALL  
(860) 537-0819  
Visit us at www.abestgutters.com  
Fully Insured • CT Lic# 0646855

Suburban Sanitation Service

Hello, Spring — we missed you!  
Now's the time to clean your yard...  
AND the septic tank!!!



Call 860-267-6102 Today!

CLEANING SERVICES

CARPET CLEANING: Have your carpets deep dry cleaned. Eliminate problems associated with water (mold, mildew). Best method available for removal of pet stains, etc. Removes allergens. Immediate use. Upholstery cleaning. Completely safe. Wood floors restored without sanding. Experienced, references, insured. William Agostinelli 860-704-8486 calls only.

EUROPEAN SUPER CLEANING: Responsible Polish woman seeking cleaning work. For more information call Halina at 860-305-8131.

HOUSE CLEANING: Need some help to get your home clean? I'd be happy to help. I have 10+ years of experience, I offer reliable service, reasonable rates and I do an amazing job. References upon request. Please call or text for free estimates. ARIANE'S CLEANING, 860-331-5309.

THE BETTER HOUSEKEEPER: home cleaning and housekeeping with consistent, high-standards, good communication, attention to detail, punctuality, and special requests honored. Free in-person estimates. 860-413-2353.

Residential & Commercial – Licensed & Insured



**CHRISTOPHER**  
HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC.

YOUR ROOFING AND SIDING EXPERTS

Roofing | Siding | Gutters | Windows | Decks

\$1000 OFF or FREE Gutters with Full Roof or Siding Replacement

with this ad

FREE Estimate 860-381-9336 Financing Available

christopherimprovement.com

FOR SALE

2009 YAMAHA CRUISER MIDNIGHT STAR MOTORCYCLE: Excellent condition. Teardrop leather bags. 12,660 miles. Best offer. Call 860-883-3597.

45 FORTY LB BAGS: of low sulfur COAL for stove or furnace. Kept dry, located in East Hampton. \$400. Text or call 212-831-5392.

KITCHEN TABLE WITH CHAIRS: 5ft sofa with two chairs, rocking chair, and table. Good condition. \$400 or best offer. Call 860-558-7629.

FOR SALE: TRAVEL TRAILER 2020 Forest River Salem FSX Model 177BH. Asking \$14,000 OBO. 2nd owner, bought in 2021 and used on 5 trips. Everything in great condition. Currently winterized and located in Southington, CT at my home. Length 22ft, dry weight 3,074 lbs, sleeps up to 6. Call Brian 860-517-9572.

LOVESEAT & CHAIR: Blue, good condition. 860-214-3135.

PIANO YAMAHA CLARINOVA: electric model CLP115, featuring pedals, weighted keys, playing bench. Great for practicing lessons. \$1,000. Call 860-659-2707. Pick up in Glastonbury.

QUALITY SEASONED HARDWOOD: Fireplace length. \$270 per CORD. Smaller lengths available. Delivered within Glastonbury. Small delivery fee for surrounding areas. Call 860-659-1438.

END ROLLS OF NEWSPRINT: Great for art projects, wrapping and packing, table coverings for public dinners, etc. The Glastonbury Citizen. 87 Nutmeg Lane (off Oak Street) 860-633-4691.

AUTOMOTIVE

2017 CHEVY EQUINOX LTZ: 146K miles, red, leather heated seats, sunroof, backup camera, \$4,800. Contact Mike 860-918-4413.



HTG.0393975-S1

Go Green!



With 2025 Energy  
Efficient Rebates &  
Tax Credits on Home  
Heating & Cooling

Call Now! 860-613-5230

Or Visit Our Product Showroom For More Information

Your **Heating** &  
**Air Conditioning**  
Experts!

**ABSOLUTE  
AIR SERVICES**  
860-666-4200

Heating & Cooling Installation and Service  
absoluteairservices.com

1116 Portland Cobalt Rd. (Rt. 66), Portland  
Hours: Mon - Fri 8 AM - 4 PM

NOW OFFERING  
ELECTRICAL  
SERVICES!



**ABSOLUTE  
AIR SERVICES** LLC  
860-666-4200

**ELECTRICAL DIVISION**

Heating - Cooling - Electrical - Generators

Lic # ELC-0202689-E1



**MITSUBISHI  
ELECTRIC**

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

0% FINANCING  
FOR 24 MONTHS,  
REBATES UP TO  
**\$4500.00** ON  
A MITSUBISHI  
DUCTLESS WHOLE  
HOME SYSTEM

NOT VALID ON PRIOR SALES.  
CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH  
OTHER COUPONS.

MUST PURCHASE BY 3/31/25

**\$500 OFF**  
ANY  
REPLACEMENT  
FURNACE OR  
BOILER  
INSTALLATION

NOT VALID ON PRIOR SALES.  
CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH  
OTHER COUPONS.

MUST PURCHASE BY 3/31/25

**FREE**  
INDOOR  
AIR QUALITY  
EVALUATION

(SCHEDULED BY 3/31/25)

NOW OFFERING  
FREE GENERATOR  
OR ELECTRICAL  
ESTIMATES

**\$50.00  
OFF**

any Electrical  
Service

EXPIRES 3/31/25