

RIVEREAST News Bulletin

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

Volume 47, Number 25

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

August 7, 2026



Guitar Man... For Hebron resident Glenn Holley (right), what began as a lifelong love of live music and one legendary guitar player has grown into an annual effort to bring world-class Welsh guitarist James Olliver (left) to American audiences. And once again, Holley's efforts have paid off, as Oliver is launching his latest stateside tour. Oliver has a show coming up in Willimantic next Tuesday, Aug. 11. For more on Holley and Oliver, see the story on page 22.

Colchester Enacts Budget Freeze

By Toriana Williams

Town officials in Colchester have announced a temporary budget freeze that will reduce hours for several town services, pause some hiring and delay non-essential spending while the town continues operating under last year's budget.

These changes will take effect on Monday, Aug. 10, and they are expected to remain in place until a new budget is approved. One town leader said the measures are necessary to control spending after repeated budget referendum defeats, though another elected official argued the cuts go too far.

The temporary budget freeze affects several departments across town. The transfer station will close on Tuesday, but Saturday hours will remain unchanged. Employees from the transfer station will instead help fill staffing needs in the Highway and Grounds Department.

Cragin Memorial Library will also see reduced hours. Beginning Aug. 10, the library will close at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, and Saturday hours will be shortened to 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition, the library will no longer offer free printing or paper during the budget freeze.

Colchester Senior Center will suspend its Tuesday and Thursday evening Wellness Nights. According to a press release from the town, those changes will allow cannabis fund money to support other eligible programs while spending is restricted.

Residents visiting the town clerk's office will also notice changes. On Thursday, the office will not open until noon but will remain open until

7 p.m.

Public safety departments are also affected. Colchester Fire & EMS will temporarily stop onboarding and recruiting new volunteers. Outside training will also be limited to certification training on a case-by-case basis.

The press release stated additional spending controls are also being put in place, including a freeze on non-essential purchases. Projects that were already funded through previous budgets, appropriations or grants will continue, such as contracted road work. However, no new road projects will be approved, outside of an emergency, until a new budget is adopted.

Comments From Town Officials

First Selectman Bernie Dennler, a Democrat, said the town waited until after the recent referendum and conversations with the Board of Finance members before deciding what actions to take.

"I was not sure what measures we would take if the budget didn't pass, because we needed a sense of where a final budget could end up," said Dennler. "Seeing the referendum results and hearing from the Board of Finance members gave us a better sense of what we are looking at financially."

Dennler compared the town's situation to a family trying to make ends meet while costs continue to rise.

"Costs are up. Municipal employees have contractual increases. Insurance premiums go

See Budget Freeze, page 28

Chatham Health Focuses on Prevention

By Anne Lilburn

The Chatham Health District is focused on making the six communities it serves healthier, and that doesn't just mean responding to emergencies; it also means prevention, said Chatham Health District Board of Health Chairman Stan Soby.

"The thing that's the most important, whether it's on a one-person level, a community level or a global level is prevention," Soby said.

The health district was recently highlighted at the national level in the National Association of County and City Health Officials' newsletter for "building heart-healthy communities."

For the Chatham Health District, which serves the towns of East Hampton, Portland, Colchester, Hebron, Marlborough and East Haddam, a lot of its work on heart health comes down to prevention, knowledge and education.

Vickie Han, a public health nurse with the district, is heavily involved in those efforts, from conducting blood pressure checks at regular clinics, to leading workshops focused on

chronic disease self-management and diabetes self-management.

Han said the district had been fortunate enough to receive a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant to fund these workshops, which she said consist of weekly classes for patients and caregivers. The workshops, which are often taught at senior centers or other public spaces, are evidence-based, said Han, meaning that they follow a specific program that has been shown to improve outcomes when participants follow them.

"Just recently, probably within the last two years since we've received this last five-year grant," said Han, "I think the word is really starting to spread that the workshops are really beneficial for people, and we've seen our enrollment numbers go up."

These workshops "[teach] a lot of different tools to use to break a symptom cycle, as we call it in the program," she said. She said they focus

on challenges like fatigue and stress management, she said.

"There's action-planning and how to communicate with others, communicate with your doctors, [information on] taking medication properly," Han said.

"We do nutrition-label reading, we go through exercises," she said. "So, topics that are very beneficial for heart attack and stroke prevention, but it's an overall healthy living kind of program. It really gives you the tools to break your symptoms of those chronic diseases."

Han added other items covered at the workshops include "tools on how to get better sleep, tools on how to remember to take your medications for your chronic diseases, how to maybe relieve aches and pains, that kind of thing."

The grant funding also has allowed the district to provide people with home blood pressure monitors. That's led to some of the regular blood pressure clinics at the local senior centers

See Chatham Health, page 28

Inside...

Andover

BOF Discusses Audit..... pg 3

Colchester

Officials Discuss Budget Planspg 11

Hebron

Debut Novel for Resident.....pg 21

Hebron

Resident Brings Wales to CTpg 22

East Hampton

Nelson's Campground Soldpg 24

Regional

Obituariespgs 26 & 27

Crossword Puzzle...Pg 27

Sponsored by

Carl Guild & Associates

CALL MARGARET

NO ODYSSEY NEEDED TO FIND YOUR WAY HOME

860.916.3517

MW MARGARET WILCOX TEAM

LICENSED IN CT & FL

WILLIAM RAVEIS

218 NEW LONDON TPKE, GLASTONBURY

CIT8-6-26

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

Community & Senior Center Happenings

The Andover Community and Senior Center (ACSC), located at 25 School Rd., is open Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. All are welcome. For more information, call director Tess Grous at 860-742-7305 ext. 4510 or at 860-798-6862.

The center's monthly newsletter is available online at www.andoverconnecticut.org. Copies are also available at the center, Town Hall, and Andover Public Library. To receive the newsletter by email each month or to reserve space, call 860-742-7305. Also call the center if **interested in volunteering**. Evening hours are available. Call or stop by the center if interested.

Transportation: Call 860-498-2326 to schedule transportation. Provide a one-week notice for all appointment requests. Transportation to town events, voting, and ACSC activities to Andover seniors, veterans, and disabled are welcome.

Regular Weekly and Monthly Programs: For a list of regular weekly and monthly events, such as Movies, Wednesday Lunches, Yoga, Dominos, Tai Chi, trips to the library and the food pantry/Foodshare truck, Chair Massage, and more, see the monthly newsletter, "Community Connections." Transportation is available.

Special Upcoming Events: The Summer MOVEMENT celebration continues through August. This is the final month of the community-wide celebration of movement in all its forms. Be sure to check out the new August programs and activities, designed to get everyone involved.

Shopping: Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m. Shop in Wilimantic 8/11 and 8/25, and shop in Manchester 8/18. Also, on Thursday, 8/20, at 8:30 a.m., shop Trader Joe's and Michael's.

Stretch & Strengthen Fitness Class: Tuesday/Thursday, 8/11, 8/13, 8/18, 8/20, 8:25, 8/27,

at 8:30 a.m. each day. Class is free.

Fun with Fondue: Wednesdays, Aug. 12-26, 3 p.m. each week. Themes: 8/12, Chocolate with Fruit; 8/19, Cheese and Crackers; 8/26, Chocolate with Marshmallows and Toppings. Fee is \$3 per class.

Thrift Shopping: Thursday, 8/13, 9 a.m. Explore local thrift stores.

Disappearing 4-Patch Quilting Workshop: Mondays, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24, 8/31, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Fee is \$10 per class. In this sewing workshop, students learn the technique to make a disappearing 4-patch quilt, 64"x80". First session is required. Bring your sewing supplies. Fabric requirement provided at time of sign-up. Call the center to join.

Lavender Ridge Farms: Monday, 8/10, 10 a.m. \$5. Learn about the benefits of lavender as Lavender Ridge Farm comes to the center. Each participant will receive a bundle of fresh lavender and have the opportunity to sample lavender cookies and lavender tea. Registration required. Call the center to register and for a ride.

Lunch Bunch: Friday, 8/14, 11 a.m. Enjoy lunch with friends at Lakeview Restaurant in East Hampton. The center will provide transportation to and from the restaurant. Participants are responsible for the cost of their own

meal. Registration is required; call the center. For a ride, call 860-498-2326.

The Summer Scoop! A Passport to Ice Cream: Friday, 8/21, 1 p.m. Head to Sweet Frog in Manchester. Call the center to register and pick up your passport.

Foot Care with Sue: Thursday, 8/27, \$42. Call the center for an appointment. Transportation is available.

Haircare with Helen – Free for Andover Veterans: Monday, 8/31, 10:30 a.m. As a thank you for your service, Andover veterans are invited to receive free haircuts during this special Veterans Haircut Program. Appointments required. Contact the center for availability and scheduling.

Monthly Veterans Coffee Hour: Monday, 9/14, 9:30 a.m. All veterans are invited to a free coffee hour every first Monday of the month. Connect with fellow veterans, share stories, build friendships, and enjoy a cup of coffee in a relaxed setting.

President's List

Rebecca Risley of Andover made the spring 2026 President's List at Goodwin University in East Hartford.

Cobalt HealthCare & Rehabilitation Center

34 LUXURY SUITES

Comfortable private and semi-private accommodations

MODERN THERAPY

Personalized therapy programs for effective recovery and wellness

COMPASSIONATE CARE

Dedicated, in-house team providing hands-on, resident-centered care

VIBRANT COMMUNITY

Engaging activities and social opportunities that enrich daily life

LUXURY SUITES

MODERN THERAPY

MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

Cobalt HealthCare and Rehabilitation Center offers 34 luxury suites in a newly renovated facility, featuring modern therapy rooms and personalized in-house rehabilitation care to help residents regain strength, mobility, and independence.

Where *Caring* Comes First

www.cobalthhealthcare.com

29 MIDDLE HADDAM ROAD
RTE 151, EAST HAMPTON, CT

(860) 267-9034

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.

Empowered Confidence

WHZ,
With you we're confident we have a team who "gets us" and is personally looking out for us in the long-term.
Thank you!

Absolute Confidence. Unwavering Partnership. For Life.

Visit whzwealth.com to read more about Dee's story

(860) 928-2341
697 Pomfret Street,
Pomfret Center, CT 06259
392-A Merrow Road,
Tolland, CT 06084

This statement was provided 3/30/2023 by Dee Kendall who is a client. This statement may not be representative of the experience of others and is not a guarantee of future performance or success. For additional reviews, search us wherever local businesses are reviewed.

Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Advisor.

YANKS ARE COMING

Yankees Affiliate August 18-23

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

Finance Board Members Discuss 2025 Audit

By **Toriana Williams**

The Andover Board of Finance reviewed the town’s fiscal year 2025 audit on Wednesday, July 22. The town received clean auditor opinions and continued to work through one remaining weakness involving financial reconciliation between the town and Andover Elementary School.

The auditor praised the town’s overall financial health, reported a stronger-than-expected budget surplus and said no compliance issues were found with more than \$3.8 million in federal and state grant funding.

FY25 Audit Report

Michael VanDeventer, a partner with MahoneySabol, presented the audit results to the board and public. VanDeventer said the town received “unmodified clean opinions” on its financial statements. Although the audit was clean overall, one issue remained unresolved from the previous years.

“We had one finding reported which would be we considered to be a material weakness,” said VanDeventer. “Again, that related to the reconciliation between the school district’s general ledger and the town’s general ledger.”

He explained that the school and town each maintain separate accounting systems. Problems came about because the town was recording school accounting entries in its own records.

“My recommendation ... is that ultimately the town accounts for the appropriation that they are providing to the Board of Education and then the Board of Education’s accounting system stands on its own,” said VanDeventer.

He added that the recommendation is meant to simplify the process, not to question accounting practices.

“I just think it’s a more effective and efficient process,” he said.

The audit also shared a positive view of the town’s finances.

VanDeventer said the budget originally planned to use around \$79,000 in fund balance. Instead, the town finished the year with an increase in fund balance of roughly \$302,000, which created a “favorable budgetary variance” of roughly \$382,000. Higher-than-expected property tax collections and investment interest, along with lower-than-budgeted spending, contributed to the surplus.

The town ended the year with approximately \$2.1 million in the general fund balance, including just over \$2 million in the unassigned fund balance.

VanDeventer noted that the Government Finance Officers Association recommends maintaining about two months of operating reserves. “I think your fund balance is within the reason-

able range,” he said. “You’re right up against it.”

He added that every community must determine the level of reserves it needs based on potential emergencies, such as flooding or severe storms.

Another part of discussion focused on what financial information the BOF should routinely receive from the BOE. VanDeventer recommended monthly budget reports comparing spending against the adopted budget.

“If I was a board member, I would expect to see budget to actual reports,” he said. He explained that those reports help determine whether the school might eventually need an additional appropriation.

Board members also questioned whether AES’ pre-kindergarten program should have its own separate operating budget.

VanDeventer replied he had not been asked previously to study said issue. However, he explained that most towns account for pre-K separately because it’s largely supported through grants and tuition.

Later, several board members debated whether changes should be made to maximize investment earnings while ensuring the school always has enough cash available to pay its bills.

VanDeventer said state law and the town charter do not specifically address the issue, however, he recommended that “the town have a cash management and investment policy,” that

would ultimately get approved by the BOF.

Other Business

The board also unanimously approved allowing the BOE to spend up to \$4,000 from its capital account to purchase a replacement snowblower after the school’s previous machine failed last winter.

BOF Chair Robert England, a Democrat, said, “I think it’s a perfectly reasonable request. They’re not blowing money on something dumb. ... This is what the capital account is for.”

Looking ahead, board members agreed that the town should continue working with the BOE and the Board of Selectmen to establish clearer financial policies. Much of the discussion centered on improving communication and defining each board’s responsibilities for budgeting, reporting and cash management.

Members also expressed interest in holding a joint meeting of the three boards to discuss those issues together. They said a collaborative approach will help prevent future misunderstandings and allow the opportunity to give each board a better understanding of its role in the town’s financial process.

While a joint meeting of the boards of selectmen, education and finance – also known as a tri-board meeting – has not been officially scheduled, members spoke tentatively of holding such a meeting sometime in the fall.

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

Volunteers Wanted for Stream Assessments

The Salmon and Eightmile River watershed organizations are hosting a training program for volunteers in September to assist with biological stream assessments.

Aquatic benthic macroinvertebrates (water bugs) are good indicators of water quality and stream health. Learn how to collect and identify stream macroinvertebrates in this training program which will include an indoor workshop followed by field training at selected sites.

The training program will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., and includes field time. The indoor workshop will be held at Burnham Brook Preserve, 2 Dolbia Hill Road-East, East Haddam, starting at 9 a.m. After the classroom portion, we will head to Devil’s Hopyard State Park, East Haddam.

Registration is limited to 20 participants. This program is appropriate for high school age and above, however a parent/guardian must accompany a minor. To register or for any questions, contact Pat Young at salmonriverct@att.net or info@eightmileriver.org.

Collectively, the Salmon and Eightmile River watersheds cover over 200 square miles and include the towns of Bolton, Colchester, Columbia, East Haddam, East Hampton, East Lyme, Glastonbury, Haddam, Hebron, Lebanon, Lyme, Marlborough and Salem.

Police Cadets Seek Members

Teens considering a job in law enforcement or the military, or just want to serve the community, are invited to join the Connecticut State Police Cadet program.

The program meets twice a month on Wednesdays from 6:30-8 p.m. at the State Police barracks in Colchester, and males and females ages 13-20 are invited to join. The Cadet program focuses on building confidence, improving physical fitness and leadership training.

If interested in attending a meeting or for more information, call 860-465-5468 or email troopkcadets028@gmail.com.

Summer Programs for Kids at Library

Here are some of the upcoming summer programs being offered for kids at Andover Public Library. All programs are held at the library this summer. Call the library to sign up or with any questions at 860-742-7428.

Reptiles and Amphibians!: Tuesday, Aug. 11, 6 p.m. A representative from Riverside Reptiles Education Center will be here to introduce you to some of the creatures who call RREC

home. Space is limited; sign-up required.

Kids’ Art Club!: Thursday, Aug. 13, 4 p.m. Join professional collage artist Caitlyn Grabenstein for a hands-on art class designed for children ages 12 and under. Young artists will explore how different images, colors, textures, and shapes can be combined to create imaginative works of art. Bring your creativity and get ready to cut, layer, and create.

Congregational Church News

Andover Congregational Church, UCC, located at 359 Route 6, invites all to worship, held Sundays at 10 a.m. All are welcome. The service also streams live on the church’s Facebook page (First Congregational Church, Andover, CT). For more information, call the church office at 860-742-7696, email andoverctchurch@gmail.com or visit www.andoverctchurch.org.

Children’s Church: Is provided. **Choir:** At 9 a.m. Sundays in the sanctuary.

Food Pantry: Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Bring your own bags. The **Foodshare Van** comes

to the church every other Wednesday from 8:30-10 a.m.; **Senior Pantry** is on the opposite Wednesdays.

AA Meetings: Saturdays and Mondays, 7 p.m.

Sonshine Stampers: Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.

Clothing Sale: Saturday, Aug. 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Bingo and Baskets: Friday, Aug. 21 – dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by the game at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person.

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

KinderRHAMa Preschool Openings

AHM Youth and Family Services has limited openings in the Tuesday/Thursday KinderRHAMa Preschool class at RHAM High School for the 2026-27 school year.

There are full-day and part-day slots available. Parents can choose from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. or 8:30 a.m.-noon. Cost per year for is \$2,490 for the partial day, and \$3,600 for the full day. Fees can be paid in monthly installments. There may be financial aid available to families who qualify.

KinderRHAMa offers structured and unstructured theme-based activities, as well as many enrichment activities. Regular activities

include circle/story time, outside play, literacy, science and math-based activities, and daily arts and crafts projects. The class is led by two trained teachers, and RHAM students also assist in the program.

More information is at ahmyouth.org/programs-services/kinderrhama-preschool-program. Children must be fully toilet-trained to participate.

If you are interested or have further questions, contact Becky Murray at beckym@ahmyouth.org or 860-573-1260.

AHM Youth and Family Programs

AHM Youth and Family Services offers a range of programs for all ages. The Health Matters programs include macrame, watercolor, pottery painting, yoga and more.

Stay tuned to the AHM website, ahmyouth.org, and its social media accounts to learn the latest and sign up.

Red Cross Blood Drive

The RHAM Medical Careers class will host a summer blood drive with the American Red Cross on Friday, Aug. 7, from noon-5 p.m., in the high school gym.

To make an appointment, go to tinyurl.com/rhamblooddrive.

WOOD & WOOD

SEAMLESS GUTTERS

PRESENTS...

SUDOKU

WENEEDGUTTERS.COM

860.563.8820

Cleanings

Heating

Wires

Fascia

Protection

Leaf

Downspouts

Gutters

15% Off New Installs

Whole House Gutters,
Down Spouts, & Leaf Protection

9	6		8					
								6
7								
4							3	7
		3	9				8	
				6	5		1	
		7			4			
		2	1					
	3	4	6	7	2			



Mimi Perrotti
860-595-9888

Take Your Weekends Back! Luxury Single Family Detached Condo With No Maintenance.

Imagine enjoying the privacy and comfort of a single-family home without spending your weekends mowing, shoveling, landscaping, or worrying about exterior maintenance. This beautifully updated condo gives the best of both worlds! Meadow Hill community offers resort-style amenities: tennis and pickle ball courts, a gorgeous heated in-ground pool, club-house, exercise room, and scenic walking trails along the Connecticut River. In addition, the HOA fee covers the exterior building insurance (roughly \$3000 a year)! Call today for a private tour.

MimiPerrotti.Sites.C21.homes • 1160 Silas Deane Highway • Wethersfield

CENTURY 21

AllPoints Realty

CIT8-6-26



From the Editor’s Desk

Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

Primary Day is coming! Primary Day is coming!

Okay, so it’s not as sexy as Election Day, but still, primaries are taking place in Connecticut next Tuesday.

All of the state will have a Democratic primary, to try to determine that party’s nomination for governor. Incumbent Ned Lamont is facing off against Josh Elliott. Depending on where you live in *Rivereast*-land, you may have other races to weigh in on as well.

In Hebron and Marlborough, there will also be a Republican primary to determine that party’s nomination for the 19th District state Senate seat. Hebron’s own Jason Guidone – the party’s endorsed candidate – will be squaring off against Mike France of Gales Ferry, to see who will have the right to face incumbent Democratic state Sen. Cathy Osten this November. Osten is seeking her eighth term in office.

As Portland is the only *Rivereast* town in the state’s 1st Congressional District, Democrats there will help decide the Democratic nomination for the district. Incumbent John Larson is squaring off against three opponents: Luke Bronin (who is the party’s endorsed candidate), Ruth Fortune and Jillian Gilchrist.

Andover Democrats, meanwhile, will be faced with helping to decide the party’s nominee for Connecticut’s 13th Probate District, which includes Andover, Bolton, Columbia and Manchester. Thomas A. Robinson, the party’s endorsed candidate, is squaring off against Paul Rubin.

Don’t forget – Connecticut is a “closed primary” state, which means only registered Democrats can vote in Democratic primaries,

and only registered Republicans can vote in Republican primaries. Unaffiliated voters, or those affiliated with smaller parties, can’t cast ballots. According to *CT Insider*, that means more than one million people – or about 40% of the state’s registered voters – can’t participate next week.

Is that fair? Depends who you ask. As Ben Proto, chair of the Connecticut Republican Party, told *CT Insider* in June, “The logic from a lot of people within both parties is that people who agree with us, being Democrat or Republican, should be the ones deciding who the candidate is for that party.”

However, there’s no arguing that the closed primary approach leaves an awful lot of people out in the cold.

“Independents in the state of Connecticut are not just the largest group of voters, they’re almost half of the state’s registered voters,” Jeremy Gruber, senior vice president of the national nonprofit Open Primaries, told *CT Insider*. “So it begs the question, can we even call Connecticut’s primary elections democratic at all when half the voters are barred from them?”

I can see both sides of the argument. You’re determining a particular party’s nomination, so why should people who aren’t a member of that party have a say in who that nominee is?

At the same time, it’s not like the general election in November is strictly for Republicans and Democrats. Anyone can vote in that, so why shouldn’t they be able to help determine who it is they’ll actually be voting for? As Gruber said, the closed primary method does effectively disenfranchise an awful lot of voters.

Editor’s Desk continued on page 8

Bulletin Board

My wife came home the other day from some excursion or another to find me sprawled on the floor squinting up at the Red Sox game on TV.

In the course of our years of marriage, she has learned that it may be to her benefit to overlook certain behaviors (and by “overlook” I mean “to pretend that everything is perfectly normal” when it’s clearly not), but eventually (even now) she just can’t help herself. “What are you doing on the floor?” she finally inquired after stepping over me a half a dozen times.

“I’m conducting a protest die-in,” I said.

“Oh. I thought maybe you lost the TV remote under the couch and couldn’t get up again.”

This was apparently her idea of lighthearted comic relief.

“Aren’t you going to ask me what a die-in is?” I said.

“I know what it is,” she replied “It’s when activists try to call attention to some cause or concern by acting like they’re dead. But usually they do it somewhere a lot more public than their living room. Like in the middle of a busy highway.”

“Right,” I said. “But that could be extremely dangerous. What if you got run over by a student driver or a busload of kids going to church camp or something? I mean, you could get killed.”

“Good point,” she said. “So, how’s it going? This die-in of yours.”

“So far you’re the only one that’s happened along. There was a phone message from some robot who seemed very concerned about the warranty on a car we don’t own, but that’s about it.”

“So, what exactly is it that troubles you to the point that you’ve suddenly decided to take political action?”

“Life,” I said glumly. “I’m troubled by life.”

“So, you’re pretending that you’re dead. Makes sense, I guess. In a weird sort of way. Sort of like pulling the sheet up over your head so the Bogeyman won’t see you.”

“The world sucks,” I said. “Ice cream bars are half the size they used to be, everybody hates everybody else, there’s like a million lawyers all lined up just waiting to sue anybody for anything, there’s an epidemic of explosive diarrhea in Michigan that’s probably heading our way, and I’ve got so much hair growing out of my ears I feel like bobcat. Plus the check engine light came on in my truck this morning.”

“Do you know what caused it? The light, I mean.”

“Yeah. God. He hates me.”

“Just out of curiosity, how long have you been conducting this...ah...die-in of yours.”

“I’m not sure. I kind of dozed off in the bottom of the 4th inning.”

“You know, you might attract more sympathy – well, more attention, anyway – if you held this die-in of yours in a more public place. Like maybe the plumbing aisle at Home Depot or something.”

“Oh sure. So I can get trampled to death by do-it-yourselfers who double-parked in the fire lane? Geez.”

“Well, it would certainly call more attention to your ‘the world sucks’ protest.”

I gestured at the television. “Look, if you want to change the channel to one of your stupid shows, just say so. I’ll just lie here quietly brooding.”

“What’s that in your hand?”

“A snicker-doodle cookie. I wasn’t sure how long this die-in would last and I didn’t want to starve to death.”

“Good thinking. So how about we move this protest of yours to your usual die-in locale.”

“The couch?”

“Yes. You’ll be a lot more comfortable and you’ll be able to see the TV without straining your neck.”

“Thank you for your concern.”

“Actually, I’m tired of tripping over your pseudo-corpse. Also I want to vacuum the rug. You’re getting cookie crumbs all over the place.”

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.



The Fab Four... The Braunwart family of Hebron is the the first family in the town’s scouting history to have four siblings attain the rank of Eagle. Pictured are the four siblings. From left are Kevin, Sean, Kiera, and Troop 1028’s newest Eagle Scout, Sara Braunwart.

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

Hebron Town Buildings

To the Editor:

The Hebron town councilors have lost their minds. The article in last week’s *Rivereast* talks about all town facilities need to be evaluated by professionals. I am sure they will tell us most are in need. Numbers like \$40M to \$45M for the two schools (or possibly a new one) were thrown around. That’s just the schools. No one mentioned the price of the new truck garage large enough to park half of Hebron. That is another \$20M. Also replacing one or more firehouses. Anyone want to estimate that price. I can guarantee recommending a new Town Hall.

What really needs to be looked at is how to pay for all of this. The taxes are already too high. 19 percent of residents are 65 or older, with 26 percent being 60 or older. In a few years, more than a quarter of residents will be on fixed incomes. Figure out how to pay for it first.

Mike Czepiel – Hebron

Golden Parachute

To the Editor:

The Town of Colchester is struggling to lower its annual budget in hopes that the voters will approve its latest proposal. The town could easily have reduced its budget by more than half a million dollars had it not been advised by the town’s legal counsel not to fire its School Superintendent for cause – of which there was plenty – but to offer him a Golden Parachute instead in order to avoid costly legal proceedings which the town’s legal counsel assured us the superintendent would bring against the town if we fired him.

Half a million dollars in legal fees? Absurd!! Even were that a reasonable estimate of what the town would have faced – which it isn’t – it’s what

we are now paying for the superintendent’s Golden Parachute anyway. One has to wonder how much it cost the Superintendent to bribe our town counsel to advise us as he did.

If there is one thing everyone has learned during the Trump presidency it is that you never cave in to a bully, as the town did to the superintendent at a cost of half a million dollars! What we need at this point is a legal counsel with a sense of morality and courage, not yet another toady, or worse, a possible taker of bribes. I sincerely hope that this administration is seriously looking to replace what we have with someone with guts and integrity.

John Alden Thayer – Colchester

Vote Yes to Move Colchester Forward

To the Editor:

Colchester got hit with a perfect storm. We got hit with the superintendent spending our money, as if it were his to improve his space and create new positions to hire his friends. We got hit with the BOE insurance fiasco, which was under his BOE and he should have been aware enough to fix it. We got hit with the current federal administration using our money to create golden statues to boost his ego, and we can’t even explain his wasteful war. Note that this too shall pass. November is coming. Even with this perfect storm, we must move forward.

I voted ‘yes’ for both budgets, and I will continue to vote ‘yes’ because this perfect storm shall pass. I respect and support Colchester, and I know that everyone in Colchester now is doing their best to control wasteful spending. We must move forward. Please join me in voting ‘yes.’

Noreen Bibee – Colchester

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

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

Email classified line ads to admin@glcitizen.com.

Email Legal Notices to 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 Reporter:

Anne Lilburn - Portland and East Hampton

Toriana Williams – Colchester, Hebron, Marlborough & Andover

Advertising Representatives:

Jason Baran, ext. 104 • jason@glcitizen.com

Lisa Snietka, ext. 103 • lisa@glcitizen.com

Art Department

Jeanne Giovann and Julie Misuraca

PUBLISHER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL ANY ADVERTISEMENT AT ANY TIME

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

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

Letter Writers: Letters must be 400 words or less, and must be submitted by **Tuesday** at noon. Email is preferred; send to bulletin@glcitizen.com. All letters must include the writer’s town of residence and daytime contact phone number. Letters focused solely on 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

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

Fiscal Conservatives? Fiscal Cowards

To the Editor:

A core group of local Republicans spent four months working this town over. Letters, comment threads, AI slop memes. Every budget was bloated, cuts were the only answer, and they wanted credit for being the tough ones.

Then the time came to actually make the cuts, and they ran.

No suggestions. No list of what should go. Nothing. Board of Finance member John Thomas, one of the loudest voices for cuts, flat out refused to say what the mill rate should even be. That's the job. Teachers are leaving, staff are saying their farewells, and the people who demanded all of this won't make a single hard choice now that the choices are real.

Being tough means following tough talk with tough choices. Talk is the easy part. They mastered the easy part.

They call themselves fiscal conservatives. They're fiscal cowards.

John Farrell – Colchester

Expression of Gratitude

To the Editor:

With the advance of years I have become aware that my everyday life in this community has been greatly assisted by local business institutions that stepped up to meet my challenges. Lakeside Automotive has been a great asset for over a decade keeping my family's vehicles running with cost effective and efficient maintenance.

I'm very impressed with Dale Shumbo's careful work on my 2014 Town and Country. I recently experienced a catastrophic engine failure.

Lakeside provided numerous options as buying another vehicle was not possible. I was inspired by the military's massive overhaul of the B-52 Bomber. Sixty- and 70-year-old air frames have been re-engined and upgraded to keep flying. Dale Shumbo suggested that not only should I replace the engine but also replace the transmission as well. Such remanufactured units have warranty's. The process took weeks as Lakeside replaced other worn components which yielded a better than new vehicle. The car has been completely restored. I expect to get another 150K miles at a fraction of the cost of a suitable replacement,

Many thanks to Dale, his sons, and Adrien.

Spencer Killian – East Hampton

Education

To the Editor:

"If you think education is expensive, try ignorance!" I recall that meme from decades ago. In my view, we are seeing the results of the suggestion of that latter part. Education, expertise, culture are denigrated as elitist. Simple solutions, dogma and arrogant conviction are esteemed. Those who want education to be built around dogma, incomplete history, science denial, and half-truths. After all, an ignorant population is more easily manipulated. I fear that the Colchester budget hawks may be in that camp, else they would be attacking the national villains responsible for the affordability crisis instead of their local government who are doing their best to mitigate that damage.

An educated public is essential to democracy, yet many disparage education, especially the liberal arts. However, the humanities are relevant because they provide avenues for creativity, critical thinking, and open-mindedness. A small education begets small minds, and cramped thinking. A broad general education offers many aspects of learning, not just immediately practical skills. It is important to know that art and music, algebra or calculus, history and Shakespeare exist. One never knows what the future may bring; someday that knowledge will be useful!

A broad education provides greater understanding of the world. Good education provides a sound basis for work, for critical thinking, for living a complete life. Education is not just about spending money on schools, though money is necessary. It requires engaged parenting, dedicated teachers and the administrators to oversee and guide the process. Don't foster ignorance by handicapping a complete education!

Anti-government conservatives, don't let the dumbing down of America continue. Stop misleading Colchester citizens with half-truth and innuendo. Citizens, pass the budget!

John Barnowski – Colchester

Note: Barnowski is a member of the Colchester Democratic Town Committee but said he is writing as a private citizen.

To the Right of His Own Party

To the Editor:

In 2025, the Connecticut House cast a final vote on House Bill 7213, which protects access to reproductive health care. It was a high-profile vote, and a revealing one.

On final passage, the Republican caucus voted 25 to 23 in favor of the bill. A majority of his own party backed it.

Steve Weir was one of the 23 voting 'no,' to the right of his own caucus on one of the most closely watched issues of the session.

This was not Weir holding a Republican line. The line had moved, and his own colleagues, narrowly, had crossed it. He stayed behind. And it was not a one-time stand: across every contested reproductive-rights bill in the recent record, our representative has voted 'no,' every time.

The people of this district hold a range of views on this issue, as they should. But they are entitled to know that on reproductive health care, their representative sits not in the middle, and not even with most of his own party, but at the far edge of it. The 2025 vote made that plain.

Sincerely,
Kayleigh Sauyet – Andover

Volunteers Wanted

To the Editor:

As the 55th Hebron Harvest Fair approaches on Sept. 10–13, we're asking members of our community to consider becoming part of one of Connecticut's favorite traditions by volunteering.

For 55 years, the Hebron Harvest Fair has brought together families, farmers, local businesses, and visitors for a weekend celebrating our agricultural heritage and community spirit. But what many people don't realize is that the fair is powered almost entirely by volunteers.

Even more importantly, the proceeds from the Hebron Harvest Fair are donated to local, state, and national charitable organizations, helping support countless causes and people in need. Every hour volunteered helps us continue that mission of service.

Whether you can spare a few hours or several days during the fair, there is a place for you. We welcome individuals, families, civic groups, businesses, and nonprofit organizations to join our volunteer team. No special experience is necessary – just a willingness to help.

Nonprofit organizations are especially encouraged to participate. Groups that volunteer together have the opportunity to earn money for their organizations while helping make the fair a success. It's a wonderful way to support your own mission while giving back to the community.

Volunteering is a rewarding way to meet new people, learn new skills, support your community, and ensure that this beloved tradition continues for future generations.

If you've ever enjoyed the Hebron Harvest Fair, now is the perfect time to give back. Join

us Sept. 10–13 and help make the 55th Hebron Harvest Fair another memorable success.

To volunteer as an individual or on behalf of a nonprofit organization, please contact us through the Hebron Harvest Fair website.

We hope to see you at the fair!

Sincerely,
Mike Kozyra – Hebron
Hebron Harvest Fair Superintendent

Dementia Talks No. 68

To the Editor:

A poem:
Change is brewing in my soul.
What it is I do not know.
When it is revealed, I will begin to heal.
Revel will swirl,
Lifting me up with a gentle hand,
Away from the abyss of quicksand.
Sharing an essay from some time ago, these are times I miss: Puzzles have become a fun and engaging activity with Mom. It's good for the dexterity of the fingers, for the eyes because of the colors. Reasoning and problem-solving is good for the brain at any stage.

We have some puzzles made of favorite family pictures, which are always fun because when they are done, the puzzle unveils a photo that can bring back memories. It's a great activity.

At times, the puzzles are a little complicated, since some of the pieces are the same shape and can "fit" even though the colors and design don't match.

This week, Mom and I started a puzzle.

Today, when I came in, the puzzle was finished. I was tickled.

We did some activities, then Mom went to exercise class and I checked out the puzzle. I totally giggled when I took a closer look.

She fit all the pieces together, for sure. And made her own design.

Why should I try to "fix" it? It isn't broken. It is her design. And the best part is that she finished it on her own.

Meeting your loved one where they are is the most productive thing we can do. There is potential, and positive results in what they can, and do, accomplish. Cheer them on, no matter what. The size of the accomplishment is in your mind, not theirs.

Know that you are not alone.

With peace and kindness,
Tonya Maurer – Amston
Alzheimer's Hot Line 1-800-272-3900

Guidone is Stepping Up!

To the Editor:

I have worked closely with Jason on the Hebron Republican Town Committee for years, and I am consistently impressed by his understanding of economics, the Constitution, voting laws, and the real-world toll that destructive progressive policies take on our community.

Jason Guidone experienced a powerful awakening as he saw firsthand how ineffective, top-down regulations stifle local economies, harm families, and burden small businesses. Today, Connecticut towns are being crushed by unfunded state mandates that drive up consumer costs, make it harder to pass balanced local budgets, and force employers to make impossible choices.

Jason will champion common-sense legislation that protects our constitutional freedoms, defends local agriculture, and allows free-market capitalism to revitalize our economy.

Jason is currently in a critical Republican primary with early voting running through Aug. 9th, leading up to the primary election day on Aug. 11th. Join me in sending a strong, authentic voice to Hartford by voting for Jason Guidone for State Senate in the 19th District!

To view his full action plan and verify your local primary voting location, visit guidoneforsenate.com.

Kim Hills, Vice Chair
Hebron Republican Town Committee

A Governor Who Gets It Done

Dear Local Democrats:

I'm often asked why I'm voting for Gov. Ned Lamont in the primary on Aug. 11. It's simple: I believe that someone's track record of results matters more than kitschy online comments and slick advertisements. And the facts are clear – Governor Lamont has delivered on a bold, progressive agenda.

Connecticut is one of 15 states and Washington D.C. to offer paid family and medical leave. This was a dream talked about by many state legislators, but it was Governor Lamont who got it done. He was instrumental in raising our state's minimum wage. Despite the federal government refusing repeatedly to raise the federal wage, the governor got it done. And, he passed the biggest tax cut in Connecticut's history for middle-class families, which is fully sustainable,

See Letters, page 6

LIKE US ON Facebook



RivereastNewsBulletin

WANTED TO BUY Antiques & Old Stuff

Bottles • Crocks • Jugs • Costume Jewelry • Pottery • Toys • Pewter • Glassware • Sterling Silver • Coins • Gold • Silver Plated Items • Watches • Typewriters • Sewing Machines • Tools • Radios • Clocks • Lanterns • Lamps • Kitchenware • Cookware • Knives • Hunting • Fishing • Military • Masonic • Fire Dept • Advertising Signs & Much More

Call Donald Roy 860-874-8396

CIT2-26-26

ALLIED DRAIN CLEANING & CONSTRUCTION, LLC

Sewer & Drain Cleaning • Video Inspections
Locating • Jetting • Septic • Grease Traps
Flood Cleanup • Saw Cutting • Excavation
Sump Pumps • Water Proofing • Yard Drainage

860-798-8200
www.allieddraincleaning.com
FULLY LICENSED • INSURED
Subsurface # 005523

\$50 OFF

ON FIRST SERVICE OR NEXT SERVICE
Must present coupon at time of estimate. Cannot be combined with any other offers or promotions. Expires 9/15/26

Gotta's Farm

Pick Your Own Peaches

Open Daily 9AM-5PM

661 Glastonbury Trpk. Portland, CT

Visit our website at www.gottasfarm.com
If It's From Gotta's — It's Gotta Be Good!
Growers of Quality Plants for Four Generations.

REB-7-26

The "East of the River" Real Estate Report

Does Zillow Know What My Home Is Worth?

One of the first things many homeowners do when they think about selling is check their home's Zestimate on Zillow. It's a convenient starting point—but it shouldn't be mistaken for your home's true market value. A Zestimate is generated using public records, recent sales, and computer algorithms. What it can't see is the condition of your home. It doesn't know if you've remodeled the kitchen, replaced the roof, refinished hardwood floors, or have a premium lot with exceptional privacy. Likewise, it can't account for deferred maintenance or features that may reduce a home's appeal. That's why two similar homes on the same street can have very different values. Professional appraisers and experienced real estate agents go beyond algorithms. They compare recent sales, evaluate competing listings, assess the home's condition, and consider current buyer demand to determine a realistic market value. Sometimes a Zestimate is surprisingly accurate. Other times, it can be off by tens of thousands of dollars. The best use of online estimates is to provide a general idea—not to determine your asking price. If you're considering selling, understanding what buyers are willing to pay today is far more valuable than relying on an automated estimate.

Market Snapshot – Past Week

Hebron, Andover, Marlborough, Colchester, East Hampton & Portland

Single-Family Homes

• 6 homes sold

• Average sale price: \$459,167

• Average sale-to-list ratio: 104%

• Average days on market: 9 days

• Median days on market: 6 days

Condos

• 1 sold at \$275,000

• Sale-to-list ratio: 102%

• Average days on market: 22 days

Results vary by price point, condition, and pricing strategy.



Jason Boice, REALTOR®
Local real estate professional serving Hebron, Andover, Marlborough, Colchester, East Hampton & Portland
860-452-3153 • JasonBoice.com

REB-7-26

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

thanks to his fiscal governance.

Governor Lamont has labor’s back. He is the only candidate backed by major labor organizations, including the AFL-CIO, the Connecticut Building Trades, and AFSCME Council 4. Just this past month, he signed a bill allowing the State to withhold pay from contractors who aren’t making payroll. He has also signed bills protecting warehouse employees and enhancing protections for assaulted workers. He is committed to paying down our state’s legacy pension debt, which not only sets the State up for future financial success, but keeps the promise to our employees of a dignified retirement.

He stands with women, endorsed by Planned Parenthood of CT. He is committed to protecting a woman’s right to body autonomy. He also stands with educators, endorsed by the Connecticut Educators Association (CEA). He provided more education funding to municipalities this past budget year, which helped many towns close gaps and continue providing essential services. He stands with immigrants. Immigrants are welcome in Connecticut, and the Trust Act ensures that the paramilitary behaviors of ICE are not tolerated in this state.

There’s always more to do. We must look at the Education Cost Sharing formula and excess cost and fix it. We need to do something about rising property taxes. We must better hold Ever-source accountable to ratepayers. But when there’s a crisis, I know I can trust Governor Lamont to stand with us and for us.

Temperament matters. Delivering on an agenda matters. Governor Lamont delivers, and that’s why I’m voting for him on Aug. 11.

Sincerely,

Tiffany V. Thiele – Hebron

Note: Thiele is the chairwoman of the Hebron Town Council, but said she is writing this letter as an individual.

Words Aren’t Enough

Colchester Residents:

I have few words today. In part because I know that words aren’t enough. And in part because I can’t seem to find them. As a parent, taxpayer, community volunteer, and more – I’m at a loss trying to determine what I could possibly write today that would help convey the gravity of our current budget situation.

I love living here. My husband and I grew up close by but moved states for college and never planned to return. COVID (and kids) changed those plans, and when we ended up in Colchester, we were so glad we did.

The programs and offerings townwide – and for all generations. The farmer’s markets and local retailers. Our tiny little “foodie” scene (despite the many pizza places). There wasn’t much not to love about this place.

And then our kids got into school.

The commitment, care, and extra time that the teachers, support staff, and administrators put in to make every child’s experience great in Colchester ... there truly aren’t words that could capture it.

There is no denying that the latest referendum failed by an indisputable margin. People in town want to see reductions at every level and based on the current state of our economy, I can’t blame them.

For those who want to have a voice in what’s cut next, I implore you to attend next week’s BOF meeting – Aug. 10 at 7 p.m. at WJMS. During Monday night’s BOF meeting, cuts that were discussed publicly included: middle school world language and sports, intermediate-level band, additional supports for students and staff, Transfer Station offerings and hours, library hours and programming, consolidating town-wide community services and staff, and more.

Now is the time to speak up. Even if you don’t have the words.

Stefanie Tracey-Calash – Colchester

Note: Tracey-Calash is chair of the Colchester Board of Education, but said she is writing this letter as an individual.

Excitement Surrounds Senior Center

To the Editor:

Marlborough’s senior center on School Drive is gearing up for an amazing party! The center turns 25 years old this year, and the anniversary party to celebrate is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 19, from 1-4:30 p.m. Do you have to be a “senior” to join the celebration? Absolutely not! Everyone is invited!

A few welcoming speeches will start the party, but then the activities begin. Will there be a cake? Of course, there will because what’s an anniversary party without cake! Ice cream? How about a “make your own ice cream sundae” truck where you can create your own. Cool? You bet! Want to capture the moment with your family and friends? Try out the Photo Booth. Do you love music? We start with a D.J. followed by the 19-piece Silk City Jazz Band and vocalist from Manchester playing big band music to entertain us.

So where will this all take place? Most will be under an extremely large tent in the back parking lot of the Senior Center, some will take place inside the building, and the side parking lot will house other activities as well. Parking will be at the Elmer Thienes/Mary Hall School or the Richmond Library. Some handicapped spaces will be available at the Senior Center, and a shuttle is being planned from the school to the center and back.

See what else is in store as you visit the Marlborough Senior Center on Sept. 19. There may be a few more surprises, so mark your calendars! Join us for an afternoon of fun, music, and games. Stay as long as you like – there’s no set agenda. Can we count on seeing you there? We hope so!!

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Bourbeau

Marlborough Commission on Aging

We’re Better for Weir

To the Editor:

In today’s world, it’s easy to focus on titles or political affiliations. I believe the people who leave the greatest impact are often those who quietly show up and invest in their communities without expecting recognition. That’s why I wanted to share a few words about Steve Weir, not simply as a state representative, but as someone I’ve had the privilege of knowing for most of my life.

I’ve known Steve since childhood. I grew up alongside his middle daughter, Juliana, and we spent years together on countless swim teams. Like many parents, Steve devoted countless hours to supporting his children, but he always seemed to go a step further. Multiple nights a week, he drove us to practices, waited through long evenings, cheered us on at meets, and made sure everyone got home safely. Looking back, I realize those moments reflected the same dependable character I’ve continued to witness throughout the years.

As I grew older, I continued seeing Steve involved throughout our community. Whether it was volunteering, supporting local organizations, or simply showing up to help wherever he was needed, he consistently demonstrated that community service isn’t about publicity. I’ve had the opportunity to work alongside Steve at many community events. I’ve seen him volunteer at the

Glastonbury Apple Harvest & Music Festival, including helping with the annual 5K, assisting with parking at the Hebron Harvest Fair, and volunteering at Marlborough Day. I’ve also watched him attend and celebrate multiple local business grand openings, encouraging entrepreneurs and welcoming new businesses into our town. Time after time, he chooses to be present because he believes in strengthening the community.

I’ve also seen Steve volunteer in the kitchen at The Brick Cantina, a local restaurant, during one of its busiest times. As someone who now handles the restaurant’s marketing, I’ve come to appreciate just how demanding restaurant work can be. Steve didn’t stop in for a handshake or photo. He put on an apron, worked alongside the staff, and helped wherever he was needed.

While many people know Steve because of public office, I’ve always known him first as a father, neighbor, volunteer, and friend. Regardless of political beliefs, it’s important to recognize people who consistently give back. Steve Weir has spent years doing exactly that, and our community is undoubtedly better because of his steady commitment, humble leadership, generous spirit, and unwavering willingness to serve others every single day.

Sophie Olander – Hebron

Making Tough Decisions

To the Editor:

As chair of the Board of Finance, I have heard the concerns expressed by residents throughout this year’s budget process. Some have supported the budgets proposed by the town and Board of Education (BOE), while many others have called for significant reductions. While opinions differ, one thing is clear: voters have spoken.

The town and BOE budgets have now been rejected twice at referendum. That result tells us that a majority of voters still want lower spending, and it is our responsibility to respond accordingly.

What is sometimes less visible is that determining how much to reduce a budget and what services, positions, or programs may be affected is not a simple calculation. Meaningful reductions often require careful analysis, difficult choices, and multiple rounds of discussion. It can take several attempts to align a budget with both voter expectations and the realities of delivering essential services.

Some have suggested that the Board of Finance is not listening. I respectfully disagree. Throughout this process, residents have had numerous opportunities to participate through public hearings, Board meetings, budget workshops, and community forums. We have listened to comments, answered questions, and adjusted our decisions based on the feedback we have received.

The record shows that we have taken significant action. The board has approved historic reductions to both the town and BOE budgets. These were not easy decisions, but they reflect our commitment to respecting the will of the voters while remaining mindful of the services our community relies upon.

Reasonable people can disagree about where reductions should occur or whether they should go further. Those conversations are important and will continue. Our goal is not to satisfy every individual viewpoint, which is impossible in

ENTERTAINMENT

Portofinos

Italian Restaurant

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

You Deserve a Great Meal!

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



Shrimp & Pasta



Salad



Filet Mignon



Pizza

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

Lunch & Dinner menu
www.portofinosrestaurantct.com

- Dine In
- Outside Patio Open
- Take Out

Order: 860-826-6374
(No Minimum)

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

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

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

a community with many competing priorities. Our responsibility is to listen carefully, weigh all perspectives, and make decisions that reflect the direction provided by the majority of voters.

We remain committed to that responsibility and encourage all residents to stay engaged in the process.

To see in-depth information related to the current round of reductions, please see the recording for the Board of Finance meeting held on Aug. 3 (can be found on the town website / BOF page). The next BOF meeting is on Monday, Aug. 10 (7 p.m.; Zoom and WJJMS) to determine the reductions for both the town and BOE budgets.

Sincerely,
Karen Belding, Chair
Colchester Board of Finance

Narcisstic!

To the Editor:
How incredibly narcissistic could one person be? Looking at optics? I'll give you one: the entire EHRTC out in front of two buildings owned by the same developer waving flags and 'vote Republican' signs; every single big billboard and campaign signs on a certain developer's property. Give me a darn break!

To call out a prominent member of our community because they are of a different political party, an individual whom actually still resides in our town, on a Facebook page is dishonorable. To imply that he would "need" some kind of political pull in order to succeed is simply insulting.

This man who you insult is trying to improve a run-down unwanted property and give needed housing to our most vulnerable citizens, seniors and people on fixed incomes and all you can do is make accusations of malfeasance. The fact you shared what you did on Facebook and then did not have the gumption to speak up about it, in public, at the Town Council meeting is cowardly.

You do not care for a thing but yourself, have used your position in politics for your own gain and spread misinformation so rampantly, the town has become one giant quagmire. You sir, offer no means of insight or direction. You have chosen to not endorse the homestead exemption, have not endorsed the school budget, and only wanted to add a giant \$10,000,000 tax to the town. The only thing you offer is complete chaos, and the town has had enough.

Maybe take the way of the person who runs your EHRTC Facebook page, and move to South Carolina.

Rick Wanat – East Hampton
Editor's Note: According to the East Hampton Republican Town Committee, a former East Hampton Republican Town Committee member did indeed retain administrator privileges on the Facebook page after moving to South Carolina, and inadvertently posted a comment while logged in as the RTC. The RTC said this was a technical error and unintentional, and according to the committee the person no longer has administrator privileges. There is now only one person who has administrator privileges, the committee said, and they live in East Hampton.

Trust Must Be Earned

To the Editor:
I write today following the recent Board of Finance meeting. During my comments, I spoke about one word: trust.

For years, Colchester residents have trusted elected officials to be responsible stewards of their tax dollars. Questions have surfaced from time to time, but never have I seen this level of concern from taxpayers. Why? Because that trust has been shaken.

Each budget season, taxpayers are presented with emotional arguments that valued programs and services will disappear unless the proposed budget is approved. During the budget discussions leading up to the referendum, residents were led to believe that programs such as band were in jeopardy. Yet somehow those services were ultimately preserved. That naturally leaves taxpayers wondering whether those scenarios were truly unavoidable or were presented in a way that influenced public opinion during budget season.

We also hear comparisons like, "It's only the cost of a monthly Netflix subscription." For many families, that comparison misses reality. Every increase matters. Families are already facing higher grocery bills, insurance costs, utilities, and other everyday expenses. To many residents, this budget simply is not affordable.

This year's financial challenges did not happen overnight. They are the result of decisions involving the health insurance reserve, superintendent contract obligations, and years of

spending that many taxpayers believe deserve closer scrutiny. Citizens are not saying they don't value education or town services. They are saying it is time to slow down, reevaluate priorities, and rebuild public trust.

As the parent of a child entering seventh grade this fall, this is personal to me. It saddens me that taxpayers, parents, students, and town officials find themselves in this position. We all want excellent schools and a strong community, but those goals must be balanced with transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility.

Our elected officials volunteer countless hours to serve this town, and I appreciate that commitment. My hope is that they also recognize the growing concern of taxpayers who are asking for spending to become sustainable.

This will be a difficult year. If reductions become necessary, I encourage parents and residents to work together with town leaders to develop a plan for restoring services when finances improve.

Trust is earned through honesty, transparency, and accountability. That is what Colchester taxpayers are asking for.

Olivia Duksa, Chair
Colchester Republican Town Committee

What Kind of Community Do We Want to Be?

To the Editor:
I spoke at the Colchester Board of Finance meeting on Monday about the ongoing budget fight. As I said then, I am truly disappointed in this town. There seems to be plenty of blame, but few solutions, and not nearly enough concern for those who will be impacted by the cuts that are now inevitable.

I also spoke about the difference between disinformation and misinformation. Disinformation is false or misleading information spread deliberately to deceive people. Misinformation is false information spread by people who believe it to be true. We have seen both. Claims that the Board of Education can thrive with a zero-percent increase, that firing the former superintendent would somehow have been cheaper than settling, that administrative cuts can be made without affecting educational quality, or that the high school's aging roof is simply the result of poor maintenance are not supported by the facts. Unfortunately, though, once these claims are repeated often enough, they become accepted as truth, even when they are not.

The budget has now failed twice, and our schools and community will pay the price. You cannot maintain current services if funding does not at least keep pace with inflation. Any-

thing less is a cut. Those cuts will affect things people value – from band and middle school foreign language to senior services and the transfer station.

Before accepting what you read or hear, ask whether it is supported by evidence. I have a rising senior, so from a purely financial perspective I could argue that these decisions no longer affect my family. Instead, I believe that being part of a community means investing in the next generation and preserving the services that make Colchester a place people are proud to call home.

Budgets are more than numbers – they reflect our priorities. I hope our future decisions are guided by facts, not fear, and by a commitment to leave our town stronger than we found it.

Jeremy M. McKenzie – Colchester

Hebron's DPW Priority

To the Editor:
I was encouraged to read about the cooperation of Hebron's town leaders in last week's *Rivereast* article "Officials Plan for Major Facilities Review" by Toriana Williams. The meeting of the Town Council, Board of Finance and the Public Building Committee is an important step in creating a viable plan for the future. I am grateful for the statements made by Interim Town Manager Donna Lanza, "DPW is the

See Letters, page 8

ENTERTAINMENT





**SUMMER SPECIAL!**
Softshell Crab With Bell Pepper Rings and Coleslaw
\$27
Family owned & operated
Call or stop in for a menu today!
Hrs: Tues, Wed, Thur, Sun 11AM - 8PM
Fri, Sat 11AM - 9PM • Mon - Closed
website: lighthouseseafoodandgrill.com
860.852.5189
662 Portland-Cobalt Rd
Portland, CT
REG-26-26

ESTATE AUCTION
by B&S Auction Service
Wednesday, August 12, 2026
6:30PM • Inspections 12:00-6:30PM
Portland Firemens Grounds
Indian Hill Ave., Rt. 17A Portland, CT
Auction of Antique furniture, glass, china, jewelry, sterling, kids items, paintings, prints & other art work from homes and estates in Killingworth & Putnam
OPEN TO GENERAL PUBLIC • FULL AUCTION
See more pictures on: auctionzip.com - ID # 14542
Thomas Barrows & Sons Auctioneers
P.O. Box 141 Portland, CT 06480
Telephone: (860) 342-2540 • Day of Sale: (860) 597-1215
15% Buyers Premium • 18% Buyers Premium, Terms: Cash, Checks with established credit, Most major credit cards accepted
Antiques & Estates Bought or Sold on Consignment
No Lot Too Large or Too Small!!!!
RE8-7-26

**Full Menu Served Daily 11AM-10PM**

**GREENLEAF CAFE**

Call Ahead for WING ORDERS To Go!

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
Never A Cover 8:30PM-12:30AM
Fri., Aug. 7th "Devon Wallace"
Fri., Aug. 14th Open Jukebox and FREE Pool
Fri., Aug. 21st "Katmanduo"

47 MAIN ST. (RT. 66) HEBRON • 860-228-8148
RE8-7-26

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

Pizzas • Gluten Free Items
Beer/Wine • Catering
Outside Dining
— Online Ordering —
www.ginamariesct.com



Try one of our freshly ground in-house
Steak Burgers

\$2⁰⁰ OFF

Any Large Pizza

Offer good w/ this ad till 8/31/26. Pick-Up & Takeout Only.
Try one of our other 10 Gourmet Pizzas
71 Main Street, Rt. 66
Hebron, CT
860-228-9375
Closed Mon.; Tues to Thurs 8am to 8pm; Fri 8am to 8:30pm; Sat 8am to 8pm & Sun 8am to 7pm
REF-31-26

**MARLBOROUGH**
BAKERY AND CAFE

**It's our Anniversary!**
From August 5th through 12th, we're celebrating YOU, our amazing Marlborough community, with a week full of sweet surprises!
Thank you for your patronage!

**Say the magic words "Happy Anniversary" and get a FREE: Signature Cookie:** Cafe Double Dipped Coconut Dream, our soft coconut cookie double dipped in rich chocolate
Espresso Giveaway: The Cafe Espresso Mocha Kiss, a creamy chocolate shot of espresso made to pair perfectly with the cookie
And if you want to keep the celebration going, treat yourself to our Marlborough Iced Cafe Mocha Magic, now just \$4!

HOURS: Grill open weekdays til 4PM for Breakfast & Lunch - Bakery Open Til 5PM • Saturday and Sunday - Grill & Bakery Open til 3PM.

Open Mon.-Fri. 6AM - 5PM, Sat. & Sun. 6AM - 3PM
Located at 8 Independence Dr., Marlborough
(860) 295-9251
www.marlboroughbakeryandcafe.com
RE8-7-26

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

★ *Letters, cont. from page 7*

number one priority. ... We need to take care of that facility before we look at any other town buildings.” I fully agree with Mrs. Lanza; it is vital that our town leaders maintain their focus on this significant project, it is well overdue and of immediate necessity.

While gathering information and creating a master plan can be a valuable tool, the Town has already paid for a wide variety of studies that date back decades. Many of them show the same results, rebuilding the Department of Public Works needs to be the primary concern. In June 2010, a comprehensive Facilities Study was created by the Town of Hebron to review all town owned properties. The Recommendations offered by this comprehensive analysis start by stating, “The public works facility is in desperate need of additional space and more efficient working conditions. Development of a master plan with phased construction should be the main priority in addition to items listed under 0-1 year.”

One of Hebron’s most recent and vital planning tools, the 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development, Section 4, Part C, states in no uncertain terms, “The Public Works facilities are clearly the Town facilities most in need of replacement and upgrading. The Town needs to follow up on the 2013 CME study and the 2015 BL Companies study to find a solution that satisfies current and future needs for this important Town operation.” To delay action on the DPW or conflate it with a town wide facilities study can only distract residents from this primary need.

The Department of Public Works Action Committee has been working diligently since 2023 and the final details for a new DPW facility are being explored. It would be helpful if the Town Council, the Board of Finance and Public Building Committee could explain to the taxpayers of Hebron the mechanisms that will be used to fund the DPW project and not distract the issue among multiple town needs.

Sincerely,
Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

40% Positive for Lyme

To the Editor:
“Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution marine chemist Mak Saito collaborated with biomedical researchers at Johns Hopkins University, applying his proteomic techniques to explore proteins in a terrestrial organism, the bacteria that cause Lyme disease. Unlike all other known organisms, *Borrelia burgdorferi* need manganese (blue dot), rather than iron, to serve as linchpins bonded into key enzymes. The scientists found that to cause disease, the *Borrelia* require unusually high levels of manganese. The findings open new avenues to search for ways to attack the bacteria.” (P. John Hart, University of Texas)

As I fight Lyme disease for the second time in my life, and for the second time in nine months, I have been searching for answers. Most understand that Lyme can invade our joints, which leads to arthritis, and that Lyme makes us achy and tired. What I didn’t know is that Lyme often causes depression.

Ticks thrive in dank areas and follow the scent of CO2. Wildlife, including birds, easily transport ticks. Recent studies found that 40% of ticks tested in Connecticut test positive for one form of Lyme or another. (CT Agricultural Experiment Station, 4/6/26, portal.ct.gov) Much of eastern Connecticut has high water tables which often include, elevated, but safe, levels of manganese in groundwater. It’s only natural that areas, with high water tables, could have healthy tick populations. Ticks that, in all probability, carry Lyme disease.

What can we do about it? Blast the ground and corresponding water with chemicals to kill ticks? If so, how do we stop those chemicals from killing beneficial bugs and vital microorganisms? How do we stop pesticide drift as it crosses our land and contaminates our neighbors’ land? We can’t. But we can avoid spraying by wearing light colored clothing, especially when clearing out damp leaves and piles of rotten debris. Light colored clothing makes spotting these pests easier. We can check ourselves, our clothes and our pets routinely before coming inside and again before we retire in the evening. Routine tick checks are a sustainable defense.

Fall is just around the corner. Don’t spend it sick and on antibiotics hiding from the sun. Be smart. Keep an eye out for ticks. Respect the ingenuity of ticks and the wildlife living in our parks and on our trails. Stay on the trails, off the crops and away from tick prone areas. And as always, #save17.

Jean Tulimieri – Amston

The Wizard’s Unclothed

To the Editor:
Like in *The Wizard of Oz*, pulling back the curtain does expose illusion and the discovery of truth and this is what has happened at the second Colchester budget referendum. The illusion is the board of education continues to say look at all the money (\$1.5 million) we have removed from the budget. But that’s the same game that unions and other organizations use – start off real high knowing that there has to be negotiations, but I believe the BOE started off way too high and have not really looked at what can be removed, look at your overhead, your redundancy, consolidation, what is really needed not just what is wanted. Put in a serious effort to find out why the budget did not pass.

And now to get to the truth – that being, what do the citizens really want from the town and Board of Education budgets is to ask them. Instead of the board saying “we are listening,” “we know what they want” and “so now the results speak for themselves.” It’s not too late to get your answers from your citizens. I had mentioned to Bernie Dennler (at a senior center meeting) that perhaps they could set up a special email so citizens could write in (response was “My office is open”) or have suggestions boxes placed around town and at the Town Hall whereby people could write in what their real thoughts are. Yes, this would be anonymous suggestions – some outlandish or rude – but overall it could give the powers that be the real feelings of what is needed to pass the town and BOE budgets. Why not give it a try? That’s my suggestion.

Respectfully,
Ralph Bianco – Colchester

Monthly Sweet Treats and Conversation

To the Editor:
One of the greatest gifts we can give one another is our time. A simple conversation has the power to educate, inspire, build understanding, and strengthen a community.
That is exactly the goal of our monthly Sweet Treats & Conversation with Community Leaders series at the Portland Senior Center.

On Thursday, Aug. 13, at 1 p.m., we are pleased to welcome members of the Portland Board of Selectmen for an afternoon of conversation, coffee, tea, and, of course, a few sweet treats.

This is not a formal meeting or presentation. It is an opportunity to sit down together, ask questions, learn about what is happening in our town, share ideas, and enjoy meaningful one on one conversations with our local leaders in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

Our older adults have a lifetime of experiences, wisdom, and perspectives that deserve to be heard. Creating opportunities for them to connect directly with community leaders helps ensure their voices remain an important part of Portland’s future.

As director of the Portland Senior Center, one of my greatest passions is advocating for older adults and helping them become more visible, more connected, and more engaged within our community. Aging is truly amazing. Every stage of life has value, every story deserves to be heard, and every person has something meaningful to contribute.

Whether you have questions about town projects, want to learn more about local government, or simply enjoy meeting your neighbors

over coffee and dessert, I encourage you to join us. You may even leave with a new friendship, a fresh perspective, or a better understanding of the people who help shape our community.

Please register in advance by contacting the Portland Waverly Senior Center, as seating is limited.

Information is powerful. Conversation builds community. And when we take the time to listen to one another, everyone benefits.

I hope you will join us on Aug. 13 and become part of this monthly tradition of connection, conversation, and community.

Sarah Elliott Caratasios, LMSW
Director, Portland Waverly Senior Center and Municipal Agent

Primaries Next Week

To the Editor:
This year, both the Democratic and Republican parties are holding primaries on Tuesday, August 11, with early in-person voting open Monday, Aug. 3, through Sunday, Aug. 9. On the Democratic side, there is a statewide primary for governor and a Congressional District primary for Connecticut’s First District, which covers several Rivereast towns. There are also Republican primaries for the Fourth and Fifth Districts, although I do not believe those districts cover any *Rivereast* towns. In order to vote in a primary election, you must be registered to vote as a member of the party whose primary you wish to vote in.

New voters wishing to vote early can register in person until noon of the day before the day they plan to vote. The deadline for unaffiliated voters to change their registration has passed. New and unaffiliated voters planning to vote on Aug. 11 can register at their registrar of voters’ office before noon Aug. 10. Note that there is no same-day registration available during primary elections and voters wishing to change their party affiliation must have done so before May 11.

In addition to early in-person voting, Connecticut also offers no-excuse absentee ballot voting. To cast an absentee ballot, you can download an application form from the secretary of the state’s website, or get one from your town clerk’s office. After you fill out and return the application, you will receive your ballot. You must return your ballot, by mail, drop box or in person, but it must be returned by 8 p.m. on Aug. 11 to be counted.

Don’t forget to vote on or before Aug. 11! Too many people don’t have that right and too many people fought too hard and too long to get that right for many of us. If you don’t vote, you have no right to complain about the outcome.

Sincerely,
Martha Taylor Dumas – Portland
Note: Dumas is a member of the Portland Democratic Town Committee, but said she is writing as an individual citizen.

Editor’s Desk continued from page 4

Connecticut is actually one of only 12 states with fully-closed primaries. *CT Insider* reported in June that most states are more permissive – including four New England states that have “semi-closed” primaries, meaning unaffiliated voters can choose which party’s primary they wish to participate in.

Should Connecticut become the fifth New

First Selectman’s Salary

To the Editor:
The First Selectman (FS) nor any elected official position in Colchester gives themselves a raise because the increases for those positions are determined by the Compensation Policy for Non-union Employees (N-U) and Elected Officials (EO) adopted in 2015 which states “the Town will include in the proposed budget an annual salary/wage increase for non-union and elected officials equal to the average increase computed from all contracts in effect at the time.” (Town Website BOF) So repeatedly saying the First Selectman gave himself a raise is a false and misleading statement.

A one-time correction to the FS’s compensation was made at the 11/6/25 Board of Selectmen meeting and the salary in the proposed 26-27 budget for the position of FS is a 3% increase per policy.

The following is the history behind the policy and reason for the adjustment:

Minutes of BOF, 2/18/15 – R. Esteve motioned to approve the policy for elected officials and non-union employees with discussed changes, seconded by A. Shilosky. Approved unanimously - R. Tarlov, A. Shilosky, R. Esteve, J. Ringo, J. McNair and T. Kane.

Minutes of BOS 2/19/15 – R. Coyle moved to approve the policy with changes, seconded by D. Mizla. Approve unanimously - S. Soby, D. Mizla, R. Coyle, B. Curran, and K. Frantzen.

The policy was followed diligently until budget years 21–23 when FS A. Bisbikos independently chose to reduce the salary for the position of First Selectman by \$10,000 each year and not include the proper compensation amount in the budget for the position of FS as required by policy.

At the 11/6/25 BOS meeting First Selectman “B. Dennler recused himself and turned over the Chairmanship duties to the Vice Chair, Art Shilosky, at 7:19 pm.” A discussion ensued concerning the annual salary of the First Selectman, Then “A. Shilosky MOVED to restore the annual salary of the First Selectman to \$103,171.79 in accordance with the Town

Compensation Policy for Non-Union and Elected Officials effective the new term of office beginning on November 17, 2025, and to recommend the BOF transfer from Contingency to the First Selectman’s department in the amount of \$13,000 to cover the salary increase for the rest of the year until June 30, 2026. D. Turner SECONDED.” Motion carried unanimously. B. Dennler recused himself.

This action reestablished the correct compensation number for the position of First Selectman.

The facts matter.

Sincerely,
Rosemary Coyle and Art Shilosky
Colchester

Note: Coyle and Shilosky are members of the Colchester Board of Selectmen, but said they are speaking as individuals.

MAKE SURE
CUTIE PIE IS IN
THE RIGHT SEAT.

NHTSA.gov/TheRightSeat

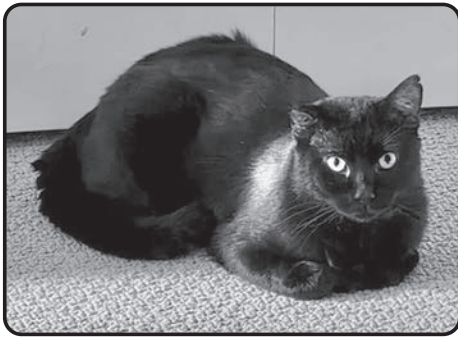




PET OF THE WEEK



Ladybug, 3 mths, is a LOVE. She is obsessed with cuddles and pets. She'll be held for as long as you want to hold her! She flops over with pets and just wants more. She is very brave and gets along with dogs and very likely children. She loves a good play too but her true love is pets. A beautiful tiger coat and unique eye markings. She's a gorgeous girl and she knows it!



With Hank, 3yrs, you may never go to the bathroom again without company. And we can guarantee you'll never make dinner without company, because Hank is very food motivated. Give him a snack and he will follow you anywhere. But honestly, just speak sweetly to him and he will be your new best friend. Hank would do best as your one and only. He is FIV+ but that does not mean he can't live a long and healthy life.

FOR MORE INFO ON ADOPTING CATS OR DOGS, CALL 860-569-0722
VOLUNTEERS & FOSTER HOMES NEEDED – CALL: 860-569-0722



Protectors of Animals, Inc. 144 Main St., Unit O, E. Hartford, CT 06118
A non-profit, all volunteer animal rescue organization,
rescuing abandoned, abused and impounded cats and dogs.

WWW.POAINC.ORG



CTB-6-26



Flower Power... Linda Dellano, Joan Lord, Val Marcia and Linda Keefe (pictured from left) brought the *Rivereast* to the “Pearls of Newport,” the 30th annual Newport Flower Show, held at the Rosecliff Mansion in Rhode Island.



Pearls of Newport... Vickie Gross and Mary Ann Wall of East Hampton brought the *Rivereast News Bulletin* to the “Pearls of Newport,” the 30th annual Newport Flower Show, held at the Rosecliff Mansion in Rhode Island.

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 and, if printed, you'll receive a gift card to Campagna Restaurant in Portland! Further details are listed below. Happy travels!



Ferry Fun... Lee Hart and Charley Bayha are pictured with the *Rivereast* aboard the ferry to Narragansett Bay.



Salmon River Fun.... Lou and Joyce Loffredo from East Hampton and Michael Mel-luzzo from Portland recently visited their son and grandson John Loffredo and his girlfriend Jordan in Salmon, Idaho. They enjoyed rafting and hanging out on the river bank. They also visited Challis, Idaho, where John placed second in his age group in the 32k River of No Return Endurance Run.

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

\$25 GIFT CARD

Campagna
Restaurant & Lounge

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

Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester



Fazio Stops By... Republican gubernatorial hopeful Ryan Fazio stopped by the July 28 budget referendum to speak with voters. He stopped for a photo in front of the Colchester Republicans tent. From left are Maricelis Torres, Bonnie Torres, Fazio, Republican Town Committee Chairwoman Olivia Duksa, Board of Education member Cari Duigou, and Jeff Duigou Jr. *Photo credit: Eddie Aledia.*

Ahavath Achim Chicken Barbecue

Congregation Ahavath Achim will hold a takeout-only chicken barbecue Sunday, Aug. 9, from 3:30-6 p.m.

Cost is \$20 for a full dinner, which includes half a kosher chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, dinner roll and cookies.

Orders can be taken over the phone – including on the day of the event – at 860-537-2809.

Dean’s List

Colchester residents Jennifer Belcher, Allyson Knorr-Anderson, Letisha Trabakoulos and Ray Talbot made the spring 2026 Dean’s List at Goodwin University in East Hartford.

Christian Life Chapel News

Christian Life Chapel is located at 392 S. Main St. For more information, call 860-398-9119 or email chapel.colchester@yahoo.com. The Rev. Don Rivers is pastor.

Worship Service: Sundays at 10 a.m. A livestream is available on YouTube and Facebook.

Children’s Worship: Sundays at 10:45 a.m. Kids learn about Jesus in ageappropriate ways.

Community Bible Study: Wednesdays at 7 p.m. All are invited.

Free Community Clothing Swap: Saturday, Aug. 22, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Bring your gently used clothes and accessories and swap them for other fun fashions.

Land Trust Upcoming Events

The Colchester Land Trust (CLT) is hosting the following upcoming events. All are invited. Visit ColchesterLandTrust.org for all details on upcoming 2026 events so far.

Trail Crew Volunteers Needed: The third Sunday of each month (weather permitting). Volunteers meet up at one of CLT’s properties each month to fight invasives, maintain meadows, and other needed stewardship tasks. This event is led by board member and stewardship chair Kevin Byrne, and he can be reached at: keybyrnect@gmail.com. Trail crew work parties are held the third Sunday of every month usually from 1 p.m. until no later than 3 p.m. (Volunteers can stay for all or part of the hours.) Details of each month’s plan will be emailed to you. Sign up at colchesterlandtrust.org.

CLT at Farmers Market: The CLT Booth will be at the Colchester Farmers Market on the Green on Sundays, Aug. 23 and Sept. 27. All are invited to stop by and learn more about the land trust.

Veteran Groups Form Memorial Committee

The veterans groups of Colchester have announced the establishment of the Colchester OIF/OEF Memorial Committee – and all are invited to attend the committee’s first official meeting on Thursday, Aug. 13, at 7:15 p.m. at 95 Norwich Ave., to learn more about this landmark project to honor local service members.

This initiative represents a unified effort between the Colchester VFW Post 6990, the Colchester American Legion Post 54, and the

Abundant Life Church News & Notes

Abundant Life Church, a Christ-follower church that believes in salvation through Jesus Christ, is located at 85 Skinner Rd. Worship is in person at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

Adult Sunday Bible School: Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Bible Study for Women: Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Sweet Aroma, Colchester.

Bible Study: Every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Prayer Meetings: Thursdays, 10 a.m. and Friday, 7 p.m.

Senior Center Upcoming Trips

Colchester Senior Center has the following upcoming trips. Trips are available to senior center members and their adult guests over the age of 18. Membership is free for Colchester residents aged 55 and older. There is an annual fee of \$15 for seniors residing outside of Colchester. For more information or full trip descriptions, or to register, call 860-537-3911 or email csc@colchesterct.gov.

Goodspeed – Annie and Lunch at Gelston House: Thursday, Sept 24, 7:45 a.m. The musical that stole America’s heart comes home to celebrate its 50th anniversary on the stage where it all began! Cost is \$105 per person. This includes transportation and lunch at the Gelston House. Space is limited.

Majestic Cities of Central & Eastern Europe: Oct. 4-17, departure time TBD. Enjoy multi-night stays, local tours, food and more in Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, and Krakow. The 14-day, 13-night trip includes airfare, hotels, and meals (12 breakfasts, one lunch, and six dinners). Contact senior center staff for availability and pricing.

Ocean City, Maryland: Oct. 13-16, departure time TBD. Spend three nights directly on the beach. Cost is \$949/person (double or triple occupancy).

Germanfest – Inn at East Hill Farm, Troy, N.H.: Thursday, Oct. 8, 7:45 a.m. Enjoy a homemade Oktoberfest luncheon at the Inn at East Hill Farm, live German music, and more. Cost is \$158/person and includes transportation and lunch.

Studio Two – The Beatles Tribute Band: Thursday, Oct. 15, at 10 a.m. Enjoy music and a family-style menu at the Farmington Polo Club. Cost is \$132/person, and includes transportation, entertainment and lunch.

Presentations on 2027 Trips: On Sept. 2, at 10:30 a.m., there will be a presentation on the **Discover Mackinac Island** trip running May 1-9, 2027. This tour of Illinois and Michigan runs nine days, eight nights, and cost is \$4,299 (double occupancy). Then, on Oct. 19, at 10:30 a.m., there will be a presentation on the **Cultural Treasures of Japan** trip running Oct. 7-20, 2027. This trip is 14 days, 13 nights, and cost is \$9,999 per person (double occupancy).

Senior Center News & Notes

Colchester Senior Center, 15 Louis Lane, has announced the following. **Unless noted, registration is required for all programs.** Credit cards are currently not accepted. For full descriptions of programs and to register, call 860-537-3911, email csc@colchesterct.gov, or for a full list of activities, visit www.colchesterct.gov/colchester-senior-center.

Monday, Aug. 10: 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise w/ Anne, Commission on Aging; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Mystery Art Adventures; 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Haircuts; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 11 a.m.-noon, Fitness Orientation; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg, Bridge, Setback.

Tuesday, Aug. 11: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10 a.m., LTCOP Meeting, Garden Club Fairy House Workshop; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle, CHOICES Counseling; 1 p.m., Cornhole; 1:15 p.m., Bingo; 4-8 p.m., Wellness Nights; 6 p.m., BUNCO.

Wednesday, Aug. 12: 9 a.m., Making Memories, Walking Group; 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Reflexology; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Hand and Foot Card Game, Sit & Be Fit Video; 11:15 a.m., TVCCA Hydration Presentation; 12:30 p.m., Holiday Fair Meeting; 1 p.m., Sew-cial Time; 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., Cardio Drumming; 2:30 p.m., Staff Meeting.

Thursday, Aug. 13: 9 a.m., Exercise w/ Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; no yoga today; 10:30 a.m., Shopping Trip, Water Cremation Presentation; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Sr. Benefits Counseling; 12:05 p.m., Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Root Beer Float Day, Dominoes, Needlework Club; 1:15 p.m., Bingo; 4-8 p.m., Wellness Nights; 6 p.m., Ping-Pong.

Friday, Aug. 14: No Social Service Hours today; 9 a.m., Open Art Studio; 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 10:45 a.m., Blood Pressure Clinic; no Yoga today; 11:15 a.m., Cha-

tham Health Education Series; 12:30 p.m., Tech Time with Harry; 1-3:30 p.m., Open Ping Pong; 1:15 p.m., Bingo.

Evening Driver Safety Course: Tuesday, Aug. 18, 3:30-7:30 p.m. By taking a driver safety course, you’ll learn the rules of the road, defensive driving techniques and how to operate your vehicle more safely in today’s increasingly challenging driving environment. Open to anyone 50 and over. The cost is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members. Register by Dec. 11.

Pizza & A Movie: Tuesday, Aug. 18, 5:30 p.m. This month’s movie is *Voicemails for Isabelle* (2026; rated PG-13). Cost is \$7.

Beach Party Luncheon: Wednesday, Aug. 19, 11 a.m. End the summer with an indoor beach party. Jose Paulo will return with his island sounds and upbeat dance music. A lunch of hamburgers with lettuce, tomato and cheese will be served, with macaroni salad, three bean salad, and strawberry shortcake for dessert. Dress for the island breezes. The cost is \$10 per person. Space is limited.

Healthy Food Series – Global Flavors: Tuesday, Aug. 25, 10:30 a.m. Discover how exciting healthy eating can be with flavorful recipes inspired by global cuisines. This program is free but space is limited.

Ice Cream Sundaes and Outdoor Piano Concert with Jay: Thursday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m. Bring your own lawn chairs. The cost is \$3 and registration is required.

Flamingo Felting Class: Monday, Aug. 31, 10 a.m. Needle felting is the art of sculpting wool. All are invited to come learn the process of creating a felt pink flamingo ornament. The cost of this program is \$10 per person and includes all the materials needed to complete one flamingo. Space is limited.

15% OFF

ANY ORDER

Dine In or Take Out

Please present coupon when ordering. Excludes Happy Hour. Not to be combined with any other offers. Valid thru 8/20/2026.

QUALITY SEAFOOD

Dine In or Take Out

Catering • Gift Certificates

179 Linwood Ave., Unit #D, Colchester, CT

860-537-6888 Fax 860-537-1678

New Hours: Tues–Thur 11:00AM–9:30PM • Fri–Sun 11:00AM–10:00PM • Closed Monday

www.ichibancolchester.com

REB-726

Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester

Town Officials Discuss Budget Plans

By Toriana Williams

The Colchester Board of Finance met on Aug. 3 to discuss additional rounds of reductions after the recent failure of the referendum on July 28. During a long special meeting, the board discussed a tentative proposal to reduce the town budget by about \$300,000 and the Board of Education budget by roughly \$500,000 to \$600,000 for a third referendum.

Members also discussed a fourth referendum scenario that would include another \$300,000 in town reductions and an additional \$500,000 in education reductions if needed.

Those reductions would lower the proposed tax increase to about 0.51 mills, or an average increase of about \$9 per month for the average Colchester property.

Board of Finance Chair Karen Belding, a Democrat, stressed throughout the discussion that no final decisions had been made and that the proposals were intended to start a public conversation before the board meets again.

Public Comment Divided

Before discussing possible reductions to the budgets, the BOF heard nearly an hour of public comments where residents both urged the board members to avoid making further cuts to the school and to do exactly that.

Some residents argued that students had already received significant reductions through the first two failed budget proposals. Others said they supported additional cuts if it meant lowering the tax increase enough to secure voter approval at a third referendum.

One resident said the community should view the proposed tax increase as an investment rather than a burden.

“I’m for more money for the schools and the town,” said Jeremy McKenzie. “I was willing to pay the equivalent of a Netflix monthly subscription to better our next generation.”

McKenzie then added, “People can disagree

about budgets, but we don’t get to make up our own facts. Budgets are a statement of our priorities and this budget sends a message about what we value as a community.”

Nima Fakhrara, who said his family moved to Colchester because of its schools, warned against reducing art programs.

“We chose Colchester to move there because of the education system and because of the strong music program and their athletes,” he said. “I know budgets are hard, but that doesn’t give us an excuse to not work on arts and kind of not do that. They aren’t extras. They’re often the reason a child discovers who they are.”

Fakhrara added, “They’re the reason many families choose to move to here in the first place. We invested in Colchester because Colchester invested in its children.”

Residents supporting additional reductions argued that voters had already sent a clear message at the polls and that the next proposal must be significantly smaller to earn their approval.

“The voters overwhelmingly said this budget’s too high,” said Jeff Mattson. “We need a budget passed. We don’t need to do this 10 times or five times or even four times. Give us a number that will pass the budget this time.”

Mattson himself suggested a 3% increase for the budgets but speculated even that increase may not be able to pass.

Republican Town Committee President Olivia Duksa, speaking as an individual, called for greater transparency before any new proposal goes back to voters. She said many residents have lost confidence in the budgeting process and asked officials to closely examine school spending.

“I urge the Board of Finance to urge the Board of Education to go line by line,” she said. “Please bring back trust and confidence to the voter because it’s lost.”

Possible Education Reductions

Belding explained that her working proposal would reduce the BOE budget by approximately \$500,000 in the next round.

“That puts them over a \$3,000,000 reduction from where we started from their original proposal,” she said.

Belding shared she had been using about \$572,000 in reductions as a planning figure while developing different budget scenarios.

Board members emphasized that the figure was intended only as a planning assumption and that no reductions had been finalized. They

Chicken Barbecue at Polish Club

The St. Joseph’s Polish Society at 395 South Main St. will be having a chicken barbecue Friday, Aug. 21, from 5-8 p.m.

Tickets are \$17 and include half a barbecued chicken, baked potato, corn on the cob, and salad. Dine-in and takeout are available. Mark Reichard will play from 6-9 p.m. Tickets must be purchased by Aug. 16.

Stop by the club during regular business hours to purchase your tickets.

asked school officials to continue reviewing possible savings and return with more detailed information before the board makes a final recommendation.

Possible Town Reductions

First Selectman Bernie Dennler, a Democrat, reminded residents that the town remains strong despite months of difficult budget discussions.

“I believe we live in a good town,” said Dennler. “Our politics can be ugly in this town, there’s no question about that. We’ve seen it. But I think that’s in part because people are passionate in this community.”

He rejected claims that residents are leaving Colchester because of taxes.

“I reject the notion that people don’t want to be in this town because people clearly want to live in Colchester,” said Dennler. “If they didn’t, there wouldn’t be 130 people on a Monday night listening to a Board of Finance meeting.”

Belding proposed finding approximately \$50,000 through the planned consolidation of town and school finance operations. Dennler explained that the savings were achievable while still maintaining an accountant dedicated to town operations.

Another proposal would eliminate newly created police and fire positions, generating roughly \$100,000 in savings.

“I still believe in all the reasons we had them on the page,” said Belding. “But with the choices we’re making, it feels like adding net new positions was my rationale for why those would be on a page.”

Dennler acknowledged the reasoning even though he disagreed with the cuts.

“I said I would never advocate for removing either of those positions,” he said. “It is not my recommendation. But we put it out to the voters twice and it did not move the needle on the referendum.”

Fire Chief Steve Hoffmann outlined how the department could reach around \$50,179 in reductions. Besides removing the new firefighter position, the proposal would eliminate an assistant chief stipend, delay purchasing one set of turnout gear, reduce equipment purchases, trim training expenses and cut recruitment spending.

“So look at revisiting that at a later date,” said Hoffmann of the firefighter position.

Hoffmann also described temporary cost-saving measures already being implemented while the town continues to operate without an approved budget. Those include pausing recruitment of new volunteers, reducing ambulance incentive payments, limiting outside training and reducing responses requiring overtime.

“Some of these measures are hopefully tem-

porary to be clear, correct?” asked Dennler. Hoffmann assured him they were.

The board then discussed reducing the road improvement budget by \$100,000.

Dennler said he would rather postpone road projects than reduce Public Works staffing.

“I believe that it is more important to preserve the staffing that we have in Public Works,” he said.

At the same time, he warned that delaying road improvements would eventually create larger problems.

“This is a ticking time bomb,” said Dennler. “At some point, this community – we are going to have to make a more significant investment in road infrastructure.”

The discussion then turned to community services, including the library, senior services, youth services and Parks and Recreation.

Belding suggested eliminating a vacant medical driver position, estimated at about \$20,000, because the town has been unable to hire someone at the current wage. She also floated another \$20,000 in library reductions.

Library Director Kate Byroade said the savings could be achieved by keeping a recently hired employee in a part-time position rather than moving the employee to full time.

Dennler then explained that, because the town is operating under a spending freeze, the library is already preparing to temporarily close Tuesday evenings and shorten Saturday hours.

“We’re going to close for now because we don’t know where we’re going to land. We need to save the money because of other expenses that we might incur,” said Dennler.

Belding said the most difficult proposal involved examining whether senior services, youth services and Parks and Recreation could be managed differently to save between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

“This is the one that is the hardest to articulate,” she said. “I’m the most uncomfortable talking about this one, but I’m going to put it out there anyway.”

Dennler cautioned that reductions of that size would almost certainly require layoffs.

“If you’re looking to get between \$150,000 and \$200,000, at minimum you are laying off two current employees,” he explained. “This is not something that’s going to be done by attrition. This is going to be real layoffs to existing roles, existing people.”

He added, “What you end up with will not be what you have today.”

The Board of Finance plans to meet again on Aug. 10 to decide which reductions to recommend. If members approve a proposal that night, officials are planning for a Sept. 1 referendum.

Steak Dinner at Polish Club

The St. Joseph’s Polish Society, at 395 South Main St., is hosting a steak dinner Saturday, Aug. 15.

Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. and includes steak, potato, veggie, and a roll. Matt will play music after dinner, from 7-10 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and must be purchased by Aug. 8.

Stop by the club during regular business hours to purchase your tickets.

Bible Baptist Church News

Colchester Bible Baptist Church holds Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., followed by the Sunday morning worship service is at 10:30 a.m. There is also a Sunday evening service at 6 p.m. There is a Wednesday Evening Prayer Service at 7 p.m.

The church is located at 38 Chestnut Hill Rd., and can be reached at 860-537-1050. Pastor Scott Rosen can be emailed at pastor@colchesterbible.org, and the church website is www.colchesterbible.org.

Colchester Federated Church News

Colchester Federated Church is located at 60 Main St. 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 under the Worship tab. Updated information is on the church’s Facebook page.

Twelve-Step Meetings: AA meets in the church library Monday-Wednesday and Friday at noon and Thursday at 10 a.m., and at 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. On Saturdays at 9:30 a.m., Al-Anon meets in the Jerusalem Room and AA meets in the Stage Room.

Closed for Vacation Monday, 8/10 thru Friday, 8/14 Re-Opening on Saturday, 8/15

QUONSET SURPLUS

11/13 Pickering St. • Portland
(860) 342-0612
Tues. - Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-2, Sun. 8-12:30

REB-7-26

Why Buy When You Can Rent?

WE RENT ALL TYPES OF TOOLS & EQUIPMENT FOR ALL YOUR HOME PROJECT NEEDS

Bobcat Skidsteer Loaders, Mini Excavator, Tractor with bucket & backhoe, Tillers, Edgers, Pole Pruners, Chainsaws, Stump Grinders, Gas Power Hedge Trimmers, 6” & 12” Chippers, Pumps, Yorkrakes, Power Augers, Dethatchers, Overseeders, Jackhammers, Hammer Drills, Hardwood Floor Nailers, Trenchers, Floor Polishers, Carpet Cleaners, Seam Irons, Power Stretchers, Floor Sanders & Edgers, Hilti Gun, Toilet Auger, Power Drain Snake, Wallpaper Steamers, 40’ Ladders, Tile Saws, Sod Cutter, Aerators, Pressure Washer, Power Towels, Compactors, Brick Paver Saws, Sheetrock Lifters & Dustless Sanders, Lolly Column Cutters, Party Canopies, Tow Behind Compressors and so much more . . .

Visit our website for more information and pricing
www.ctrentme.com

Rental Center

**Rt. 16, Linwood Ave. • Colchester
(860) 537-4256**
**Located with Gano’s Power Equipment
Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-6:00pm; Sat. 8:00am-2:00pm**



REB-30-23

BOYDEN Real Estate CO

232 S. Main St., Colchester
860-537-9559

BBB A+ ACCREDITED
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

YOU LIST... WE SELL!

OPEN SUNDAY 12PM-2PM



EAST HADDAM \$389,900

65 Falls Bashan Rd. Clean 3 bed, 2 bath ranch with 2 car garage close to 4 nearby lakes and pond. See this one soon!

Call Nick for details 860-334-2868

LIST WITH US Earn \$1000^{00*} Let Us Show You How!



Scott



Martin



Nick



Paul

GORGEOUS VICTORIAN



CLOSED \$825,000!

ESSEX \$799,900

193 Main St. Beautiful home close to Ivoryton Playhouse. Ready to occupy. Updated kitchen and 3 bath. Tastefully appointed. Come tour before it’s gone!

Call Paul for details 860-537-5400

BEAUTIFUL GAMBREL



UNDER CONTRACT ABOVE LIST PRICE

COLCHESTER \$524,900

168 Waterhole Rd. Beautiful 3 bed Gambrel. Newer windows, kitchen and flooring. 5-car heated garage. Beautifully landscaped property. Don’t wait! Move-in ready!

Call Scott for details 860-608-0769

***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.

REB-7-26

Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester • Colchester



Troop 13 in Colchester recently completed a week of summer camp at Camp Yawgoog in Rhode Island. Here you see some of the scouts enjoying the water obstacle course.

Troop 13 Camps in Rhode Island

Troop 13 in Colchester recently completed a week of summer camp at Camp Yawgoog in Rhode Island. Scouts earned 35 merit badges during the week.

One scout earned scout rank: Nathan Drylie. One scout earned First Class: Nick Peck. One scout earned Star: Jacob Blanda. One scout earned Life: Brody Hochholzer. Two scouts completed the Mile Swim for two consecutive years: Brody Hochholzer and Brandon Verruso.

Also, the troop placed first in the sweatshirt relay swim race, placed second in the Tin Man swim race, and placed First in the troop challenge that Zack won. The troop took second place in the camp water carnival. Several scouts accomplished a 30-foot repelling activity: Ben Adams, Brody Hochholzer, Joseph Chechile.

Overall, the troop earned Honor Troop for the week. Scouts also participated in the Kayak Race, Canoe Race, Mile Run, Trivia, Scavenger Hunt, and Bake Off.

This year's scout leaders were: SPL: Cody Blanda; ASPLs: Brody Hochholzer and Brandon Verruso.

All Troop 13 scouts earned the Scout Spirit Award for the week. This is awarded for supe-

rior scout participation, program engagement, boundless enthusiasm, and dedication to the Scout Law.

First-year scout Nathan Drylie earned the most merit badges at camp, with six.

Troop 13 has been attending Summer Camp at Camp Yawgoog for over 35 years.

Also, Life Scout Timothy Crowell (TJ) attended the National Scout Jamboree recently held at the Bechtel Summit Scouting Reservation in West Virginia. This 14-day event brought together 12,000 scouts from across the country and international scouts. Scouts were able to participate in whitewater rafting, shooting sports, climbing sports, water sports, and service projects to support the local community. The National Scout Jamboree is held once every four years at the Summit.

If you're a boy ahes 11 through 17, and like the outdoors and enjoy camping, Troop 13 may be for you. The Troop meets most Mondays at 7 p.m. at St. Andrew Church Hall in Colchester. For more information, stop by at any meeting or contact scoutmaster Brian Marburger at brian.marburger@comscast.net or 860-917-5896.

Veterans Honor Guard Seeks New Members

The Colchester Veterans Honor Guard is actively looking for veterans to become members.

When a veteran dies, the family can request military honors by providing evidence of military service to the funeral home. Military funeral honors have been a tradition in the United States military since its earliest days. In Connecticut, the honors are provided by the Connecticut National Guard and local volunteer veteran organizations – including the Colchester Veterans Honor Guard (CVHG).

The CVHG was established in 2004. Last year, members participated in more than 230 ceremonies.

The 20-member unit is welcoming new veterans to become members. Some members are ag-

ing and are no longer able to actively participate in ceremonies, and CHVG is looking for new veterans to replace them so it can continue to provide funeral honors to all deceased veterans. Each member usually participates in several funerals each month.

The CVHG meets the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Veterans Room of the old Senior Center at 95 Norwich Avenue. If you are a veteran that can give a few hours a week, you are invited to stop by a meeting to learn what is involved. Compensation is provided for expenses.

Contact Al Letendre at 860-537-6516 or le-tendrej@sbcglobal.net for more information.

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.westchestercongregation.org for login information. Sunday School for children meets during the worship service.

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

Scouts: The church sponsors Scouting America Troop 109. During the school year, Troop 109 meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Outreach and Other Opportunities: Knit-

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

For more information, visit westchestercongregation.org, email westcongregation@gmail.com or call the church at 860-267-6711. Pastor Ron Lake can be reached at 860-428-3460.

St. Andrew Church Cemetery Notice

Members of Guardian Angels Parish are working to clear St. Andrew New Cemetery and to help us preserve the beauty and dignity of this sacred place, we are working to clear the cemetery of items that interfere with mowing, routine maintenance, and the overall appearance of the grounds.

Families are asked to visit their loved one's gravesite and remove any glass lights, rocks, ceramic pots, shepherd's hooks, planted flowers, shrubs, trees, or other decorative items that are not permitted under the cemetery's Rules and Regulations.

Please note the following:

Decorations are limited to one display per lot in a portable plastic or metal rectangular box

placed no more than 10 inches from the monument.

As stated in the cemetery Rules and Regulations, trees, shrubs, flowers, bric-a-brac, lighting, and other plantings placed in the ground are not permitted and may be removed without notice.

Any non-permitted items remaining in the cemetery may be removed as part of this clean-up effort to ensure the cemetery can be maintained safely and respectfully.

If you have any questions, please refer to the Rules and Regulations that accompany your cemetery deed, or call the Guardian Angels Parish Office at 860-537-2355.

Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marlborough • Marl

Info on Upcoming Primary Election

Residents are reminded a primary election is coming up next week. The Democratic Party will hold a primary for Governor, and the Republican Party will hold a primary for state senate.

To participate in the primary, you must be registered in one of the two major parties. If you're currently unaffiliated, you can change your registration up until noon on Monday, Aug. 10, either online at voterregistration.ct.gov or in person at Town Hall by requesting a form from the town clerk or registrars of voters. Forms must be received by noon Aug. 10 to be eligible to vote the next day.

If you switch parties during Early Voting (hours below), you must do so in person by completing a new registration form at the office; you may then vote the following day. Unaffiliated voters who switch parties to participate in

the primary can switch back by simply filling out a new voter registration card.

You are eligible to vote in the primary if you will be 18 by Nov. 3, 2026, and are registered in either the Republican or Democratic party.

The registrars of voters will be available to help with in-person registration on Monday, Aug. 10, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Other dates may be available; call to schedule a time.

If you have mobility issues, curbside voting is available during Early Voting and on Election Day. Call our office on 860-295-6166 to arrange it.

Early Voting is taking place this week in the conference room at Town Hall. Remaining hours are: Thursday, Aug. 6, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Friday, Aug. 7, Saturday, Aug. 8, and Sunday, Aug. 9, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. all three days.

On Primary Day, Aug. 11, the polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., at Marlborough Elementary School.

Town-Wide Tag Sale Coming

Marlborough Parks & Recreation is organizing the annual Town-Wide Tag Sale, coming up Saturday, Oct. 3, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Registration forms are available in Town Hall or online at www.marlbroughct.gov.

Fee is \$25 with a deadline of Oct. 1; no exceptions.

Marlborough Farmers Market

Zina's Cucina is hosting the Marlborough Farmers Market every Wednesday until Oct. 14, from 4-7 p.m., on the Town Green.

Attendees can expect live music and artisanal goods such as goat milk soaps, fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods, a variety of crafts and more.

The first 100 shoppers will receive a free Marlborough Farmers tote bag. Produce farms selling at the market will also be accepting WIC and senior vouchers.

Zumba Classes

Colchester Parks and Recreation is offering a pair of Zumba classes on Sundays in August at the Colchester Senior Center, 15 Louis Lane.

Zumba + Lift is a music-driven fitness program that alternates high-energy Zumba dance cardio with dedicated strength training intervals. It uses 5-15+ pound dumbbells or resistance bands to build muscle and improve stability, but you never dance while holding the heavier weights.

The class will meet Sundays from 11 a.m.-noon, Aug. 9, 16, 23 and 30. Fee is \$46/resident, \$51/non-resident, or a \$12 drop-in fee per person per week. Minimum number of participants needed is five, and maximum is 20.

20.

Zumba Gold is a low-impact, modified version of the standard Zumba fitness program. It is designed for active older adults, beginners, and anyone needing a gentler, joint-friendly workout. The program features easy-to-follow Latin and international dance rhythms set to a slower tempo.

The class will meet Sundays from 10-10:50 a.m., Aug. 9, 16, 23 and 30. Fee is \$46/resident, \$51/non-resident, or a \$12 drop-in fee per person per week. Minimum number of participants needed is five, and maximum is 20.

For more information, visit www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department or call 860-537-7297.

BUYING GOLD

AND OLD COINS/CURRENCY/JEWELRY

Bring in this coupon, get 3% more!
(offer valid on gold/silver jewelry only)

Not a Pawn Shop!
Professional, Clean & Safe Environment

BUYING

- ✓ Gold, Silver, Platinum
- ✓ Unwanted Jewelry
- ✓ Old Coins & Currency
- ✓ Diamonds
- ✓ Old Pocket Watches
- ✓ Sterling Flatware
- ✓ Sterling Plates, Bowls
- ✓ Silver Plated Items
- ✓ Estates & Inheritances

FREE

- ✓ Verbal Appraisals
- ✓ Weighing
- ✓ Coin Grading
- ✓ Gold Testing

*Numismatist over 25 years
In business since 2008
Served over 15,000 customers*

Coins N' Gold Exchange

NEW HOURS:
Sat. 8:30-12 • Wed. 9-6
Thurs. & Fri. 9-5
*Closed Sun., Mon. & Tues.
after hours by appointment*

157 Route 66
Portland, CT
860-342-2100

✂clip and save✂

REG-6-25

DOUG'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

860-295-9366

RE2-28-25

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

Program on Communication and Grief

The public is invited to a no-cost presentation titled “Everybody Dies, No One Wants To Talk About It: Communication and Grief” at Marlborough Congregational Church, 35 South Main St., on Thursday, Aug. 13, at 11 a.m., upstairs in the Thienes Lounge.

Beth Alves, a professor at Connecticut State Community College Quinebaug Valley, will share feedback she gathered about communication when it comes to conversations about estate planning, death and grief (with the main focus on grief) -- a project she undertook after the unexpected death of her husband in 2022.

What she learned through interviews and survey questions helped her create a unit for her Interpersonal Communications class about how people communicate (or struggle to communicate) when it comes to the most difficult of topics.

For those who find it challenging to talk with someone whose friend, coworker, or loved one has died, the presentation will include the advice she received on ways to communicate with those who are grieving.

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday Worship 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 and recorded for later viewing. Church pastor is the Rev. Valerie Seaver. There is no nursery care or Sunday School in August; they will resume in mid-September. Children are always welcome at the worship service. The deacons have provided quiet activity bags, found in the narthex, for the youngest children to borrow and enjoy at summer services and bulletins with word games, mazes, and picture finds for Sunday school-age children.

Aug. 9: The service will be led by Seaver and will include an infant baptism. Her sermon title is “Look Up Child” based on Psalm 85:8-13 and Matthew 14:22-33. After worship all are invited to Coffee Hour in the Thienes Lounge for snacks and refreshments.

AA: The church sponsors three weekly meetings: Wednesdays at noon and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Room and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Fellowship Hall. **ACA** meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Youth Room.

Parks and Rec. Programs

Marlborough Parks & Recreation has announced the following. For full program descriptions or to register, visit www.marlboroughct.gov. For more information, call 860-295-6203.

Family Movie Night: Friday, Aug. 14, 8 p.m. All are invited to the town green for a showing of *Zootopia 2*. Bring a chair, some snacks and spend some time with family and friends. An ice cream truck and some activities for the kids will round out the evening.

Youth Programs: Netto Summer Day Camp: For grades K-7. Weekly through Aug. 14, at Blish Park. Campers will enjoy camp games, arts & crafts, swimming, sports, field trips and special events. All campers are supervised by counselors and lifeguards trained in CPR/First Aid. Fee per week is \$185/resident, \$195/non-resident.

Horseback Riding Lessons: Ages 5 and up. Lesson days and times are flexible. Fee is four lessons for \$175/residents, \$180/non-residents.

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

Zumba: Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Fee is \$50/resident, \$55/non-resident, or a \$10 drop-in fee. Class instruction provided by Anna Boose.

Pickleball: Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m., and Tuesday/Thursday, 9-11 a.m., at Blish Park. Open to all levels of play. Registration is free.

Senior Center News and Notes

Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Drive, is open for activities. For more information about any senior center program, or to register, call 860-295-6209 or email socialservices@marlboroughct.gov. Also contact the senior center for a list of regularly occurring weekly and monthly programs, such as billiards, Mah-jongg, chair massage, the Cookbook Club, Parkinson's Disease Exercise Class, blood pressure screenings, and more.

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

Events: FABBS Exercise: The August session of the Flexibility, Agility, Better Balance and Strength workout class runs Mondays, Aug. 10-31, from 10:45-11:45 a.m. each week. Movement and exercises are drawn from body building, yoga, ballet and more. Instructor Hilary Celentano. Cost is \$35/residents, \$40/non-residents. RSVP by Aug. 7.

Caregiver Support: Monday, Aug. 10, 4-5 p.m. All are invited to this presentation about Careforth and the support available to family caregivers in Connecticut. Learn what services eligible caregivers may receive. Light refreshments served.

Exploration Station: Sensory Play: Tuesday, Aug. 11, 10-11:30 a.m. Marlborough Senior Center and Richmond Memorial Library are teaming up for a special drop-in program filled with sensory activities and play for you and your grandchildren.

Friendship Tours: GermanFest at the East Hill Farm in New Hampshire: Oct. 8. Enjoy a homemade Oktoberfest Luncheon, then listen to live German music by Al Brogdon's four-piece Oompah Band. Stop at Yankee Candle's flagship store in South Deerfield, Mass. Cost is \$158/person. More information available at senior center.

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program: Electronic benefit card, preloaded with \$40. For use at participating farmers markets to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, honey, and fresh cut herbs. Use at the Marlborough Farmers Market every Wednesday. For Marlborough residents only. Income limit: Household 1 - \$2,461/month, Household 2 - \$3,337.

Transportation: Rides to medical appointments, employment, essential services, the Senior Center and recreation activities are available to seniors and people with disabilities. Transportation is available Mondays and Tuesdays only. Rides must be reserved two business days in advance. Call 860-295-6209 for more information. Visit www.marlboroughct.gov for the complete transportation policy.

Social Services: 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 open to qualified residents in need.

Eversource: There are low-income discount rates available for electric bills. Proof required; by appointment only.

Renters Rebate: Rebates are available for renters age 65+ or disabled. Checks up to \$700 for singles and \$900 for couple. Rebate is based on a graduated income scale and the amount of rent and utility payments (excluding telephone) made in the calendar year prior to the year in which the renter applies. For more information call the assessor's office at 860-295-6201. For application assistance, call the senior center. Renter's Rebate runs through Sept. 30.

Meals on Wheels: Provides meals and daily visits for people 60 years of age and over, and their spouses or caregivers. Apply directly with CRT by calling 860-560-5848, or call the senior center for a referral.



Arlene S. Cavalieri
Local Art at Town Hall

Marlborough Arts Center has announced a new solo art exhibit of local artist Arlene S. Cavalieri. Her paintings will be displayed at Town Hall from August through October.

Cavalieri's love of drawing and appreciation of art was recognized early. She had a supportive family who felt it was important to provide her an opportunity to pursue her dream. To enhance her skills her father enrolled her in Art Instruction, Inc. Cavalieri studied and continued painting for several years then put her paints on-hold to raise a family and start a career in corporate America. Once the family was grown Cavalieri returned to her love of painting. The support and encouragement of her family and husband was a pivotal point that enabled Arlene to follow her dream then, as it still does today.

To further her artistic skills, Cavalieri enrolled in a local oil painting class and then broadened her knowledge by taking various art workshops with several well-known artists. Her work covers two mediums: oil because of the soft muted colors she can achieve and Acrylic due to the vivid colors. Her compositions often feature ocean and pond scenes as well as landscape, animal and floral subjects. Her ocean paintings have won Dean Waite and First Place awards.

Cavalieri's paintings can be seen in fine art shows in Connecticut and her work has been showcased in Connecticut corporate events. While Cavalieri will occasionally paint Plein Air in the warm weather, she mostly enjoys painting in her studio year-round.

Marlborough Arts Center presents three-month solo exhibitions for member artists in the Marlborough Town Hall's hallway. For inquiries regarding Cavalieri's paintings, contact Barbara Lazzari in Town Hall's tax collector's office or contact Marlborough Arts Center at 860-467-6353 or info@marlborougharts.org.

St. John Fisher Church News & Notes

St. John Fisher Roman Catholic Church is located at 30 Jones Hollow Rd. Pastor is the Rev. Carlos Zapata, 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 at stjohnfisher30@yahoo.com. The church website is www.stjfchurch.org.

Liturgical Celebrations: Weekend Masses: 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. **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.

Faith Formation Programs: Vacation Bible School will be Aug. 10-14, from 9 a.m.-noon daily. The theme is “Armour of God.” Details may be found on the church website. Cindy Bryan, Eileen Gilles and Helena Thomas lead the programs for grades K-10, to include a high school youth group. Registration for the new academic year is now open. Access the church website or register directly by emailing stjfffaithformation@gmail.com. Register by Aug. 19 to avoid a \$20 late fee, which will apply after that date.

Ministry, Social and Parish Community

Events: An 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. For details, see the church calendar available on the church website.

Community Outreach and Service: The Community Giving Garden is actively producing fresh produce and meets Mondays at 5 p.m. The garden yields fresh produce delivered weekly to the Marlborough Food Bank. Monetary donations are accepted supporting the students and families at Marlborough Elementary School. Food drives are held weekly for the Marlborough Food Bank. Bags with specific shopping lists are available at the Masses. Sandwich-making and collection continues the last Thursday of the month for St. Vincent de Paul in Middletown. Other scheduled service opportunities can be found in the weekly bulletin.

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

HIC 0641273



PIELA

ENTERPRISE LLC

HOME IMPROVEMENT

(860) 995-8596

Showroom:

35 West High St

East Hampton, CT 06424

Email: andrew@pielallc.com

Website: www.pielallc.com

KITCHEN & BATHROOM
REMODELING

Our Services:

- **Kitchen & Bath Design** - Custom layouts to fit any space
- **Cabinetry & Countertops** - High-quality, stylish selections
- **Fixtures, Tile & Flooring** - Beautiful, durable materials
- **Full-Service or Materials-Only Options** - Tailored to your needs



CIT 4-2-26

'Bears on a Journey' Marks 25 Years

What makes Bears on a Journey so extraordinary isn't simply the number of bears they have sewn over the past 25 years. It is the unwavering dedication of the women behind every stitch. Week after week, year after year, they gather not for recognition or praise, but because they be-

Note: Sarah Elliott-Caratasios is director of the Portland Senior Center and the town's Municipal Agent.

Crafts and Community Tent: This year, the Crafts and Community Tent continues its theme of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle while leaning into celebrating America's 250th birthday. The popular Trashion Show will return on Friday night. Another returning event is the Triple Crown of Baking held in partner-

Volunteers Wanted: Volunteers are always welcome. There are open positions for a volunteer coordinator and ribbons/trophies coordinator. If interested in volunteering, email info@portlandfair.com.

hebrontravel@cs.com

CT License #HTG.0398151-HPG1 | CT License #HIC.0550849

Portland Committee on Solidarity

Foot Care: The center is taking appointments for a Foot Clinic with Stacey Cormier, RN; services starting at \$35. Call to register and for more information.

Portland residents Hannah Bierd, Laila Coleman and Jocelyn Morehouse made the spring 2026 President's List at Goodwin University in East Hartford.

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

Time Capsule Sealed for Next 50 Years



Local and state officials gathered near Town Hall last weekend to seal and bury a time capsule. The capsule, loaded with small bits of everyday life, will be unearthed and opened on July 4, 2076 – right on America's 300th birthday.

By Anne Lilburn

What will people 50 years from now think 2026 was like? This past weekend, Portland went out of its way to help the inhabitants of 2076 know, by sharing a little bit of today with the residents of the future.

A time capsule, loaded with small bits of everyday life, was sealed on Sunday and buried near town hall. When it is unearthed and opened on July 4, 2076, people will find scorecards from Portland golf courses, menus from local restaurants, America 250 memorabilia, maps of the town and the Air Line Trail, publications (including the July 3 edition of the *Rivereast*) and essays from students, America 250 committee members and First Selectman Mike Pelton.

A plaque commemorating the time capsule

described it as containing “items representing the life, spirit and aspirations of our community.”

Pelton said the event was a satisfying one, with appearances from Democratic Congressman John Larson and Republican state Rep. Christie Carpino. He said both emphasized that shared values could cross party and ideological lines.

“The Portland time capsule serves as a reminder that the world will continue to change over the next 50 years,” Carpino wrote in a Facebook post. “It is my hope that when it is unsealed in 2076, Portland’s values will remain the same. We are a community that values our first responders and the men and women who serve in the military, we love our



The town had particularly encouraged local kids to attend last weekend’s time capsule burial – in the hopes that they’ll also be present for the 2076 unveiling.

families, and we believe in taking care of our neighbors. These values are timeless.”

Pelton himself offered up a speech that referenced the Gettysburg Address.

“Twelve score and ten years ago today, our Founding Fathers declared that a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the belief that all are created equal,” he said, “would

take its place among the nations of the world.”

He added, “To those who open this capsule fifty years from now: know that we believed in our community, cherished our freedoms, and looked to your future with optimism. May you inherit a Portland that is even stronger, a nation that is even more united, and a promise that continues to endure.”

See More Tima Capsule Photos, page 29

Town-Wide Revaluation

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, the Town of Portland is conducting its statistical five-year revaluation of all real estate properties for the Oct. 1, 2026 Grand List.

The town has contracted Tyler Technologies, Inc. to perform market analysis, sales validation inspections, and field reviews as part of the mass appraisal process, which the assessments will represent 70% of fair market value, in collaboration with the assessor’s office.

Tyler Technologies, Inc. field personnel will carry official, town approved company identification badges and will have signed authori-

zation letters that include contact information for town officials, including the Portland Police Department.

Property owners are encouraged to review their property record cards available through the online assessment database and report any discrepancies, omissions, or property changes to the assessor’s office to ensure accurate, fair, and equitable assessments: www.portlandct.org/assessor.

Revaluation assessment notices will be mailed to taxpayers in December.

PHS Grad Now a Doctor, Taking Patients

Dr. Momina Afrede, a Portland High School graduate, is now a family medicine physician in her home state – and is accepting new patients in Rocky Hill.

Afrede graduated as the salutatorian of the Portland High School Class of 2009 and received a full scholarship to the Honors Program at the University of Connecticut, where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in biological sciences. She then went on to complete a Master of Science degree in healthcare administration and leadership in Illinois at Chicago Medical School/Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science.

Momina then earned her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and went on to complete her Family Medicine Residency Training with Northwell Health in Long Island, N.Y.

Afrede researched extensively while at UConn’s Honors program for a way to make inject-

able insulin into an oral form to make injections a thing of the past for type 1 diabetics. She wrote and published a book on her research called “Chemical and Biological triggers for the Improved Intercalation and Release of Glucose Oxidase in the Galleries of α-Zirconium Phosphate Nanolayers for a Noninvasive Oral Alternative to Insulin Drug Therapies.” She said she hopes one day there will be a cure to type 1 diabetes as well as other chronic conditions.

Afrede also fundraised and gathered medications with a global medical brigade team of nurses, physicians and premedical students, and then traveled with the team to Honduras to give free medical care to villagers in need. She also enjoyed volunteering for many years as an EMT in Connecticut.

Afrede is now taking patients at Rocky Hill Primary Care. Call 860-714-9510 to set up an appointment.

Fall Soccer Registration Open

Portland Soccer Club has announced fall 2026 registration for the Rec Season is open.

Players will be grouped according to birthdays on or after Aug. 1 of each year with kids born up to July 31 of the following year. When you log in at clubs.bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub, the registration system will ask for your player’s information, including birthdate.

Register by Monday, Sept. 7. Cost is \$75. Late registrations are subject to a late fee. Each Dribbler and Kicker player will receive a team jersey. Each Pre-K player will receive a jersey and a size-3 ball. The season is from September to October. All games are Saturday mornings at the Portland Recreational Com-

plex. Kickers have an additional practice on Wednesdays.

Players will be groups by birthdate: U4: 8/1/2022 to 7/31/2023 (PreK); U5: 8/1/2021 to 7/31/2022 (Dribblers); U6: 8/1/2020 to 7/31/2021 (Dribblers); U7: 8/1/2019 to 7/31/2020 (Kickers); U8: 8/1/2018 to 7/31/2019 (Kickers).

Financial assistance is available on a limited basis.

For additional questions, contact Chad Wilson (president) at nosliw.dahc@gmail.com; Chris Donahue (recreational director) at Donahuecj@sbcglobal.net; or Jeffrey LaBonte (assisting with registrations) at 714jrl@gmail.com.

First Congregational Church News

All are welcome to First Congregational Church, 554 Main St., for worship each Sunday. Pastor is the Rev. Judith Meyers. This week’s sermon title is “Hauntings.”

Sunday Worship: Worship starts at 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour to follow.

Sunday School: Sunday School for children ages K-8th grade is provided. This week, the topic is “God Keeps His Promises.”

Year-Round Giving: Neighbors in Need collects donations for the Portland Food Bank. Items needed are oatmeal packets, peanut butter, peanut butter crackers, canned protiens, individual snacks, and juice boxes.

For more information about church services or activities, go to firstchurchportlandct.org or call 860-342-3244.

Bereavement Support Group

St. Mary Church, located at 45 Freestone Ave., invites all to attend the Bereavement Support Group. The evening session meets the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. and the afternoon session meets the fourth Tuesday at 3 p.m. – both in the church hall.

Call Susan Bongiorno to register at 860-685-1966.

Nominations for Sprit of Portland Award

Nominations are being accepted for the 16th annual Ralph Paley Spirit of Portland Award.

The award was initiated to honor Portland’s unsung heroes. It was developed to show gratitude for that giving spirit in the Portland community, and in honor of Ralph Paley, who organizers say gave so much of himself to the town.

The deadline for nominations is noon Tuesday, Sept. 1. Pick up and drop off the nomination form at the Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave.

Kindergarten Registration

Valley View School is holding kindergarten registration for the 2026-27 school year.

Parents/guardians whose children will be five years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2026, should: contact Valley View School at registration@portlandct.us to indicate if you will be registering your child for kindergarten. Please provide your child’s full name, date of birth, phone number, address, and parent’s names.

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

Dog Tales

ADVENTURES IN GROOMING & PET CARE

Louise and Michael Walsh
860.342.BATH
283 Main Street
Portland, CT
dogtalespetspa.com

Tire Sale!

Check out our tire prices!

COMPLETE TRANSMISSION SERVICE AND AUTO REPAIR

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

PORTLAND TRANSMISSION

25 SILVER STREET, PORTLAND
860-342-4273



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

Democratic Primary Next Week

The Democratic primary for the party’s gubernatorial candidate and U.S. Congress candidate is being held on Tuesday, Aug. 11, at Portland Middle School, 93 High St., from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Registered members of the Democratic Party are eligible to vote in this primary. Early voting for the primary continues daily until Sunday, Aug. 9. Early Voting will be at Town Hall, 33 East Main St., on Friday, Aug. 7, Saturday, Aug. 8, and Sunday, Aug. 9, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. all three days. Curbside voting is available for early voting

and at the polls on Aug. 11. Look for the curbside voting signs and call the phone number posted when you arrive. Completed absentee ballots should be returned to the town clerk, mailed back to the town clerk’s office at P.O. Box 71 Portland, CT 06480, or left in the election drop box located by the rear entrance of the Town Hall. A recent state law updated the absentee ballot envelope process. Voters using this method are advised to pay close attention to the new instructions to ensure their ballot is received in good order.

Zion Lutheran News & Notes

Zion Lutheran Church is located at 183 William St. All are invited to participate in worship. Sara Stall-Ryan is pastor. **Worship Notes:** Zion offers Sunday worship each week at 9 a.m. Zion holds worship service outside once each month, weather permitting. The next outdoor services are scheduled for Aug. 30 and Sept. 27. Bring a comfortable chair. All are welcome. **Learning:** Sunday School for children ages 3 through 8th grade will be on hiatus for the summer and resume in the fall. **Men’s Ministry:** Zion is initiating a Men’s Group that will discuss and work on church projects and service projects around town. Call

Jerry Peuse at 860-894-2880 for more details. **Year-Round Giving:** Pull tabs are collected year-round and donated to the Ronald McDonald “House that Love Built,” supporting families with seriously ill children. Zion recycles computer ink cartridges to support office supplies for Sunny Hill Preschool and Zion. Pull tabs and used ink cartridges may be dropped off at the church on Sunday morning, or by calling the church office. For more information about any church activities, or if you are in need of pastoral assistance, call 860-342-2860, email zion.lutheran@snet.net, or visit zionlutheranportland.org.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

Portland Parks and Recreation offers various programs for adults and children. For a complete list, full course descriptions and costs, or to register, visit portland.recdesk.com or call 860-342-6757. Advanced registration is required. **Summer Concert Series:** Tuesdays through Aug. 11, at 6:30 p.m., at Riverfront Park. Schedule: Aug. 11: Wicked Peach. **Summer Quest:** Kiddie Camp is open to children ages 3.5 to entering Pre-K or Kindergarten, Base Camp is open to children entering grades 1-6 and Teen Camp is open to children entering grades 7-9. Contact Parks and Rec. to register. **Kids’ Blast:** This is an afterschool (3-6 p.m.)

childcare program available to students enrolled in grades K-6 in the Portland Public School System. Membership registration is open for the 2026-27 school year. **Tai Chi for Long Life:** Wednesdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m., or Saturdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m., at Riverfront Park. **Bench and Tree Donation Program:** Parks and Recreation is accepting donations for benches and trees at the Portland Recreational Complex. If you’re interested in dedicating a bench or tree, call Andy for more information at 860-342-6757.

Portland in Bloom: Street Garden Project Winners Announced

The Portland River Valley Garden Club and the Portland Economic Development Commission has announced the winners of the 2026 Street Garden Project. Now in its fourth year, the Street Garden Project encourages Portland businesses to transform their storefronts and public spaces into colorful displays that welcome residents and visitors. New for 2026, the club introduced the America’s 250 Award, recognizing displays that celebrated the nation’s 250th birthday through patriotic-themed to commemorate this historic milestone in our nation’s history. The club also introduced the Blooming Together Award, recognizing neighboring businesses whose collective efforts created an especially beautiful and inviting streetscape. Community participation reached a new milestone as well. The Portland’s Choice Award received a record number of votes this year, through both the online Facebook poll and in-person paper ballots. Residents enthusiastically cast their votes in support of their favorite displays, making this year’s People’s Choice competition the most engaging yet and demonstrating the community’s appreciation for the businesses participating in the project. Congratulations to all the 2026 award recipients. Award ribbons will be arriving in early August and dispersed to the winning businesses. And the winners are: **Street Garden Awards:** First Place: Fabian’s

Pizza; Second Place: PegArch Architecture and Design with Tropical CT; Third Place: Dog Tales Grooming & Pet Care **Portland’s Choice Awards:** First Place: Savvy Swap Consignment with Highland Sol Flower Farm; Second Place: Bud’s Café **America’s 250 Awards:** First Place: Dog Tales Grooming & Pet Care; Second Place: Connecticut Valley School of Music and Dance; Third Place: Tommy’s Pizza Palace **Special Recognition Awards:** Best Theme: BeStronger Personal Training, Dance with Miss Alicia and Inner Circle Martial Arts; Most Creative Garden: Magic Mirror Unisex Salon; Wow Factor: Portland Ale House; Marvelous Mix: Siltec; Pretty Palette: Winchester Café; Low Maintenance Marvel: Portland Memorial Funeral Home; Crafted with Care Award: Precise Grading & Earthworks LLC; Whimsy in Bloom Award: Magic Mirror Unisex Salon; **First Time Planter Award:** Scissor Happy; Tiny But Mighty Award: Sarah’s on Main; Pretty in Pink Award: The Wedding Dress; Blooming Together Award: Dog Tales, Siltec, Fabian’s Pizza, and Savvy Swap Consignment with Highland Sol Flower Farm; Green Thumb Tribute: Mirabito Energy Products, The Green Room LLC, Your Health Solutions, and Portland Parks & Recreation/Portland Youth Services. Interested in participating next year? Watch for 2027 Street Garden Project registration details next spring.

Residents Sought for Charter Commission

The Portland Board of Selectmen is seeking residents to serve on a Charter Revision Commission. The municipal charter serves as the local constitution, defining the structure, powers, and duties of the local government. The commission will review the current charter, identify areas for operational improvement, and recommend amendments to better serve the community. Commission members will review public feedback, research governance models, and draft recommendations for the Board of Selectmen. Final approved changes will eventually be placed on a public ballot for voter approval. Requirements for service:

- Applicants must be registered voters and full-time residents of Portland;
 - Members must attend regularly scheduled meetings, and public hearings over the course of 16-months (from date of appointment);
 - The commission must consist of five to fifteen electors (registered voters), not more than 1/3 of whom may hold another public office in the municipality, and with no more than a bare majority from the same political party.
- If interested in joining the commission, submit a letter of interest and a brief resume or bio to the first selectman’s office at mceppaglia@portlandct.org. Deadline for submissions is Aug. 31.

Exchange Club Touch A Truck

The Exchange Club of Portland will hold its annual Touch A Truck event on Sunday, Aug. 30, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Portland Exchange Grounds. The Exchange will have trucks and vehicles of all types for children to come and sit in. The event will be horn-free from 11 a.m. to noon. Proceeds from this year’s event will support the creation of a “Championship” sign honoring Portland High School’s state championship

teams. Over the past decade – and in earlier years – PHS has earned many state titles. This sign will celebrate those achievements. Admission \$5 per person and can be purchased at the gate. Hot dogs, ice cream and refreshments will be available for purchase. Parking is free. If you have a vehicle of any type for the Touch A Truck event, contact Jamie Leonard at 860-301-6998.

Dates Changed for Lancaster Trip

Zion Lutheran Church is sponsoring a five-day/four-night trip to Lancaster, Pa., Nov. 2-6; please note the trip dates have changed. Travelers will receive admission to the Sight and Sound Millennium Theater to experience their *Joshua*; a show at the Magic & Wonder Theater; the Amish Experience Fisher family homestead and school; and Jacob’s Choice at the F/X theater. Also included is a guided tour of Philadelphia; a guided tour of Lancaster; and a visit to the charming Kitchen Kettle Village.

The trip includes travel on a deluxe video-equipped motorcoach with restroom, four diners, four breakfasts, and four nights lodging in a single hotel. Cost of this trip is \$765 per person double occupancy (\$934 pp single or \$745 pp triple occupancy). A \$75 deposit is due by Aug. 31; with the balance due by Sept. 21. For details & reservations, please contact Barbara Shaw at 860-262-3531.

Vocal Chords Seek New Members

The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords (MHVC), directed by Samuel Tucker and accompanied by Alan Dougherty’s 10-piece orchestra, are searching for men and women to join the chorus. MHVC said it is especially interested in expanding alto, tenor and bass sections. No auditions or prior experience are required. Rehearsals start Tuesday, Aug. 25, from 6:45-9 p.m., at St. Francis Church’s Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, 10 Elm St., Middletown, as MHVC prepares for its holiday concert on Sunday, Dec. 6, at 2 p.m., at Portland High School. New members may join until Sept. 8. For 36 years, this community-focused group

has offered concerts featuring a wide range of musical styles. Its repertoire includes hits from past and present, along with classical and patriotic selections. The group’s 90 current members come from central and southern Connecticut and represent diverse backgrounds. You do not need any affiliation with Middlesex Health to become a member. Concert proceeds and funds from MHVC’s annual Patron Drive go back to the community through scholarships awarded to Middlesex County seniors who plan to study nursing or music. So far, the Vocal Chords have contributed \$94,000 to local students, thanks to our dedicated supporters and members. For more information, visit vocalchords20.org or call 860-342-3120. You can also find the Vocal Chords on YouTube and Facebook.

Backpack & School Supplies Giveaway

Mimma Burke State Farm Insurance, located at 201 Marlborough St., is holding its second annual Backpack & School Supplies Giveaway Tuesday, Aug. 11, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. There is no cost to receive supplies, and supplies are handed out first-come, first-served.

PHS Class of ‘71 Reunion

The Portland High School Class of 1971 will hold its 55-year reunion Saturday, Sept. 26, from 5-9 p.m., at Farrell’s Restaurant, 245 Marlborough St. Cost is \$55 per person and includes buffet dinner and dessert. Send payment by Sept. 1 to Deb Freitag (Smithwick), 1 Sunset Terrace, Portland, CT 06480. For more information, email debbfreitag@gmail.com or Kathy at kporyanda@gmail.com.

Flag Exhibit at Library

The “We the People” flag collages exhibit by John Bula will run at Portland Library, 20 Free-stone Ave., through Aug. 10. Bula’s “free-form puzzles” are his tribute to and illustration of American history. He has been assembling these collages of American Flags from cutouts from magazines, newspapers and advertisements for 28 years, with the average flag taking him three months to complete.

Trinity Church News

Trinity Episcopal Church, 345 Main St., invites the community to worship each week. Services are on Sundays at 9:30 a.m., and Bible Study starts at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday. The schedule can always be located at www.trinity-churchportlandct.org. Trinity is open for prayer and meditation and the church office is open from 2-4 p.m. each Friday. All are invited to join the Anglican Prayer leading sessions at this time as well. Check out www.trinitychurchportlandct.org for more information. If you have any prayer requests to lift up, email the church office at trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com.

Crafters, Vendors Wanted

Crafters and vendors are wanted for are wanted for two events coming up this fall at Trinity Church, 345 Main St. Space is available for \$20 for each event. The first event is a Fall Craft and Vendor show on Sept. 19, with spaces located on the field next to the church. The second event is a Holiday Craft and Vendor Show on Nov. 21, which will be held inside the church. Space is limited for both events. For additional information and a registration form, email carol.hill@comcast.net.

A Combination of Traditional Care and Modern Technology to Provide You the Best Dentistry



Amita Aggarwal, D.M.D

Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

322 Main St., Portland, CT

(Conveniently located next to Post Office)

860-342-3303

New Patients Are Welcome

Quality care in a comforting & understanding atmosphere

Specializing in all phases of general and cosmetic dentistry

YOUR SMILE IS OUR PRIORITY!

RE4-26-24

Portland

COLLISION LLC

"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



RE11-6-20

Lasagna Dinner: Saturday, Aug. 15, 4 p.m. Offering a take-out meal of homemade meat or vegetable lasagna, salad, roll, and choice of desserts. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Andover Food Bank.

Monthly Meetings: Building and Grounds, Community Events planning, Finance, Liturgy, Pastoral Care and Vestry. Also, the Women's Club typically meets the third or fourth Sunday each month for crafting and fellowship. The St. Peter's 200th Anniversary Celebration Planning group meets the third Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. All are welcome to join. A Meditation Class is held the fourth Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary. All are welcome.

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

TWC Upward Running Club: Upward Running at The Worship Center. This class is designed to improve faith, fitness and fellowship within our community through a walking and/or running program custom made for your fitness level. Download the app, or contact the church office for more details. Training sessions still meeting at the church on Saturdays from 8-9 a.m.

Pay by cash or check when you pick up your dinner at the Legion in the back parking lot drive through.



City Fish Market

GOLDEN FISH HOOK

884 Silas Deane Highway
 Wethersfield, CT 06109
860.522.3129
WWW.CFISHCT.COM





Summer's Still Sizzling!
IF IT SWIMS, GRILL IT!

FRESH Fresh Salmon, Swordfish, Tuna, Lobsters, Scallops, Shrimp and More. Visit City Fish for the Freshest Seafood and Keep Your Grill going, all August long!

PREPARED ITEMS TO COOK/EAT: Shrimp Cocktail • Crab Cakes • Crab Dips • Stuffed Clams • Smoked Salmon

FOR THE GRILL: Seasonings • Marinades
 Grilling Sauces • Cedar Planks

THE FRESHEST SEAFOOD IN CT!

RETAIL MARKET HOURS

Mon & Tues 9AM-5PM; Wed-Fri 9AM-6PM;
 Sat 9AM-5PM; Closed Sunday

RESTAURANT HOURS

Tues 10AM-5PM; Wed-Fri 10AM-6PM;
 Sat 10AM-5PM; Closed Sun & Mon

CT18-6-26

Douglas Library News & Notes

Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron • Hebron

Hebron Resident Brings Wales to Connecticut

By Toriana Williams

Hebron resident Glenn Holley has worked in the automotive industry for more than 35 years, but music has always been what he’s passionate about in life. What began as a lifelong love of live music and one legendary guitar player has expeditiously grown into an annual effort to bring world-class Welsh guitarist James Oliver to American audiences.

Along the way, Holley has grown his love for music into more than just a mere hobby. He has built a friendship that spans an ocean, helped fulfill another musician’s dreams and remained dedicated to sharing the music he loves with others.

Holley, who has lived in Hebron for about 28 years, is quick to point out that he does not promote dozens of artists.

“The only real music promotion that I’ve done is with James,” said Holley. “He was kind of my entrance into the music world, if you will.”

Really, though, Holley’s journey into music promotion started with another musician entirely: the late guitar legend Danny Gatton. Holley has admired Gatton for decades and even purchased one of the guitarist’s prized instruments, a 1954 Gibson ES-295.

“I bought it with the intention of sharing it with other guitar players,” he said. “I don’t play, but I bring it to a lot of shows. I meet a lot of people and I offer them, ‘Hey, would you like to check out the guitar? You’re welcome to play it.’”

Over the years, that guitar has been played by many well-known musicians including Albert Lee, Pat Metheny and countless others. Holley shared that he treasures seeing the instrument continue its story instead of sitting untouched.

“Instruments are made to be played,” he said.

That philosophy eventually led him to James Oliver, a guitarist from Wales whose playing style immediately reminded Holley of his idol Gatton.

“I first saw James on a YouTube video, and I had never seen him before,” Holley recalled. “The first thing I thought of, while he was playing is, ‘Oh my gosh, he plays like Danny Gatton does, my all-time favorite guitar player!’”

Holley reached out to Oliver through Facebook with a kind invitation.

“I said, ‘I saw your video, unbelievably impressive. If you’d ever like to come to the United States, I’d be honored for you to play my Danny Gatton 1954 Gibson.’”

Oliver’s response was full of enthusiasm.

“He said, ‘Oh my God, Danny Gatton is one of my main influences. He’s one of my guitar heroes, and I would love to play that guitar.’”

The two quickly bonded and became friends, exchanging messages every day. After about six months, Holley decided it was time to make things more real.

“I said, ‘Well, how about if I fly you over and I’ll book a tour for you?’” he said. It was a bold idea, especially considering Holley had never promoted a concert tour before.

“How hard could it be?” he recalled thinking.

That first tour, in 2022, was the beginning of an annual tradition. This year marks their fourth American tour together, with stops throughout Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York and New Jersey before ending in Nashville, Tenn.

For Holley, helping Oliver achieve his dreams is one of the greatest rewards he could receive.

“We’re really trying to help him live out his dreams,” he said. “He’s always wanted to go to Nashville, so we said, ‘All right, we’re going to make that happen.’”

Holley’s admiration for Oliver is obvious. “He is an elite guitar player. My jaw drops every single time I watch him play,” said Holley.

Oliver played an astounding 341 shows last year, headlined festivals across Europe and built a YouTube audience with more than 11 million views. Yet Holley believes many Americans still have not discovered Oliver’s talent.

“I feel like somebody of his talent needs to be seen,” said Holley. “If I can help expose him to more people, that helps him and gets his name out there a little bit more.”

While promoting concerts may sound glamorous from the audience’s perspective, Holley said much of the work happens behind the scenes. Or backstage, if you will.

“I think a lot of club owners perhaps maybe are a little jaded,” he chuckled. “It’s extremely difficult to get anybody to call you back or re-

turn an email or a phone call.”

Finding venues, matching schedules, advertising shows and convincing clubs to take a chance on an artist at all requires an unmatched persistence.

“It’s an awful lot of work, but it’s really satisfying, and it’s a lot of fun as well,” he said.

Even after years of doing it, Holley remains motivated by his friend and his talent.

“He’s just such a wonderful guy,” said Holley of Oliver. “Anything that I can do to further his career or help his career, I’m absolutely happy to do.”

Their friendship goes far beyond the stage. Oliver stays with Holley and his family whenever he tours the United States.

“My wife and kids adore him. He’s a really, really terrific young man,” said Holley.

Family plays an important role in Holley’s music journey. His record label, Gress Records, is named after the initials of Glenn, his wife Rebecca, his brother-in-law Ed and his sister-in-law Sarah.

“We all collectively own that guitar,” explained Holley. “We bought it as a family.”

Although the rest of his family does not share his obsession with music, they wholeheartedly support his passion. “They all kind of are involved a little bit,” he said.

That burning passion for music ignited long before Holley ever thought about promoting.

“When I was 10 years old, I had about 35 Elvis albums,” he laughed. “I was an Elvis nut when I was a kid.”

Since then, he has attended thousands of concerts, seen the Grateful Dead more than 50 times, followed his favorite artists across the country and spent decades supporting local musicians. He has also belonged to the Connecticut Blues Society since 1996.

“I try to support a lot of the musicians ... by going to their shows and obviously contributing to their tip jar,” he said.

Holley believes live music thrives only when

communities show up to support it.

“It’s very important that musicians can get paid a living wage,” he said. “The more people that can come out and support live music means it will be sustainable.”

That belief is one reason he wanted Oliver to perform close to home at the River Room in Willimantic.

“It’s a rare chance for local residents to see a world-class virtuoso ... right in our backyards,” said Holley.

The show will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 7 p.m., at the River Room, 50 Riverside Drive. Tickets can be purchased at tinyurl.com/3r9xhrrkd. Oliver will also perform on Sunday, Aug. 16, at 3 p.m. at the Talcott Mountain Collective, 140 Nod Rd in Weatogue. There is a \$5 cover charge for attendees 21 and over.

Holley said he hopes audiences understand they are witnessing something special. “[Live music] is an art form that should be shared and enjoyed by many,” he said.

One of Holley’s favorite memories came during an Oliver performance at New York City’s famous Cutting Room.

“The crowd was just screaming their heads off,” he recalled. “[Oliver] just knocked them dead like he always does.”

Whether Oliver is playing for two people or 2,000, Holley said the reaction is always the same. “Everybody is going to be impressed when they see him play.”

Meanwhile, Holley’s own dreams continue as well. He plans to release another Danny Gatton album through Gress Records and hopes to produce a tribute album featuring famous guitarists playing Gatton’s beloved 1954 Gibson.

Still, his greatest satisfaction comes from sharing music with others and helping talented artists find new audiences.

“It’s fun to get to promote the guitar and keep Danny Gatton’s name alive and also support James,” said Holley.

Parks and Rec News & Notes

Hebron Parks and Recreation is offering the following. For full program descriptions – including costs – and to register, please visit hebronct.recdesk.com/community or call 860-530-1281.

Summer Camp Registration is open. For more information, contact Parks and Rec.

Recess and Playground Adventure Camp: Aug. 10-14, 9:30-11:45 a.m., at Veterans Memorial Park. Kids will play classic playground games such as freeze tag and hide and seek, and will also engage in some competitions such as chalk drawing, hula hooping, and sports games. For grades 1-4.

Hebron Day: Aug. 29, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Vet-

erans Parks and St. Peter’s Pickleball Courts.

Tuesday Night 30+ Adult Pick-Up Basketball: Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m., at the Hebron Elementary School main gym. Participants are required to register/pay online and check in with staff upon arrival. Runs through Aug. 25.

Tai Chi: Thursdays, 6:15-7:15 p.m., from Sept. 3-Oct. 15, at Gilead Hill School. This is a low-impact form of exercise focusing on a series of slow, graceful, and continuous movements.

Take Great Photos with Your Smartphone: Wednesday, Sept. 9, 6-9 p.m., at the Parks and Recreation Office. For both iPhones and Androids.

Absentee Ballots, Early Voting for Primaries

Republican and Democratic primaries are Aug. 11; absentee ballots are now available, and early voting is underway.

Absentee ballots are available at the town clerk’s office, located at 15 Gilead St. Office hours are Monday through Wednesday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Friday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. For information, call 860-228-5971.

Also, Early Voting is underway, in the lower meeting room of the Town Office Building, 15 Gilead St. Remaining hours are: Friday, Aug. 7, Saturday, Aug. 8, and Sunday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. all three days.

Primary Day is Tuesday, Aug. 11. Polls will be open from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. at Hebron Elementary School, 92 Church St.

Senior Center News & Notes

Russell Mercier Senior Center has announced the following programs. For more information, see the online senior newsletter at hebronct.com/town-departments/senior-center, or call the center at 860-228-1700.

Registration is required for all programs, unless noted, by calling the center or stopping in. If the program has a fee you must pay at the time of registration with cash or check. Register at the programs/transportation office window.

Special Events: Popcorn and a Movie: Mondays at 1 p.m. Aug. 10: *Song, Sung Blue* (2025, PG-13, two hours and 13 minutes); Aug. 17: *Project Hail Mary* (2026, PG-13, two hours and 36 minutes).

Summer Roll Cooking Demo: Wednesday, Aug. 12, 1 p.m. This is a free program.

Four-Week Pottery Workshop: Fridays beginning Aug. 14, 9-11 a.m. Learn simple techniques to make your own unique pottery pieces; no experience needed. All materials provided. Open studio time will also be available.

Family Ties Tie Dye Ice Cream Social: Wednesday, Aug. 19, 1 p.m. Bring the kids,

grandkids, and great-grandchildren!

End of Summer Cookout: Wednesday, Aug. 26, 12:30 p.m. Menu will consist of cheeseburgers, beans, pasta salad, watermelon, and cake. Games will also be offered.

Trips: Logee’s Greenhouse and Zip’s Diner: Thursday, Aug. 19, 10 a.m. Cost is \$5, plus money for shopping and lunch. Visit the nursery located in Danielson, followed by lunch.

UConn Dairy Bar: Thursday, Aug. 27, 1 p.m. Cost is \$2 plus money for your ice cream.

The Big E: Wednesday, Sept. 23. Cost \$5 per person; tickets can be purchased online or at the gate. It’s Connecticut day at the Big E! Sign-up begins Aug. 24 for Hebron residents and Sept. 8 for non-residents.

Annie at the Goodspeed Opera House with Lunch at the Gelston House: Thursday, Dec. 3. Cost is \$112 per person (includes transportation, ticket, and lunch). Space is limited; purchase tickets by Oct. 3.

Recurring Daily/Weekly Happenings: Some programs have a fee, and some are no-cost, and most require pre-registration. More information in the monthly newsletter or at the senior center.

Monday through Friday: Exercise Equipment Room, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., or 9 a.m.-noon on Fridays.

Mondays: Massage, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Enhance Fitness via Zoom with Paul Smith, 9-10 a.m.

Tuesdays: Tech Connect Appointments, 9-11 a.m.; Knitting/Crocheting Group, 10:15-11:45 a.m.; Hand and Foot Canasta (cards), 12:45-3:15 p.m.; Card-Making, 1-2:15 p.m. (pre-registration required).

Wednesdays: Enhance Fitness via Zoom with Paul Smith, 9-10 a.m.; FABBS, 10:45-11:45 a.m.

Thursdays: Massage, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Yoga, 9-10 a.m.; Sunshine Singers, 10:15-11:45 a.m.; Tai Chi, 10:15-11:15 a.m.; Mahjongg, 12:45-3:15 p.m.; Bingo, 1-3 p.m.

Fridays: Enhance Fitness via Zoom with Paul Smith, 9-10 a.m.; FABBS, 10:45-11:45 a.m.; Caregiver Support Group (3rd Friday), 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Golden Oldies Men’s Social Group (4th Friday), 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Tired of Paying Too Much for Auto Insurance?

Lobo Insurance Agency, LTD

(860) 228-1025

10-B Main St., Hebron, CT 06248

www.loboinsurance.com

loboinsurance@snet.net

Trusted Choice

Independent Insurance Agent

HOME

LIFE

AUTO

BUSINESS

OVER

30

YRS

Est. 1988

REES-15-20

LIKE US ON Facebook



RivereastNewsBulletin

Hebron Car Wash

WASH THE POLLEN OFF YOUR CAR!

Everyday Low Price \$10.00 Basic Wash

18 Liberty Dr., Hebron (behind the Hebron Post Office)

860-228-WASH OPEN 24/7

REES-1-26

Discovery Zone learning Center



45 Pendleton Dr. Hebron 860-228-3952

152 Hebron Rd. Marlborough 860-295-8003

2 Orlando Dr. Columbia 860-228-8885

Infant, Toddler, Preschool, School Age Programs

Monday-Friday 7am-6pm Year Round

Ask about our curriculum & special programs!

REES-18-21

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

Belлтown Stars Shine in Soccer Championship

By Josh Howard

Eight East Hampton High School soccer players helped Sporting CT’s U16 girls win the 2026 DPL National Super Group Championship in Virginia Beach this summer.

Abigail Hambidge, Cassie Owocki, Giuliana DonAroma, Addison Perkins, Quinn Rurka, Hadley Galovich, Ava Ploszay, and Alexis Bailey all played pivotal roles as the club team – based out of Middletown – took home the trophy.

Head coach Goran Vasic said it was a fitting finish for a team that lost their first game of the season before going undefeated the rest of the way, closing with the championship on the national stage.

“Everybody was clicking at the same time,” noted Vasic, who also coached the group a year ago. “This year they turned the corner and adjusted to my coaching style. They became closer as a group, and the results were just amazing.”

In the championship-clincher, Hambidge scored late in the first half before Owocki – the team’s goalie – closed it out in the second half as the team defeated FC Dutchmen Surf (New York) 1-0.

DonAroma and Perkins were team captains for a group of 15 girls, over half from Belлтown.

“We’re all best friends and we’ve just played better and better over the years,” noted DonAroma. “The eight of us have stuck together and we just have a special bond.”

Once the group got to the national event in Virginia this summer, the team’s cohesion was on full display as they beat Rush Union (Georgia), San Marcos (California), Sarasota Inc (Florida), and New England Force (Massachusetts) in the semifinals to reach the title match

Lake Friends Wine-Tasting Fundraiser

The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug (FOLP) will hold its annual Wine-Tasting Fundraiser on Sunday, Sept. 13, from 1-4 p.m., on Laurel Island. Proceeds from the event will support FOLP’s projects and ongoing efforts to preserve and improve Lake Pocotopaug.

Tickets are \$50 per person and include round-trip boat transportation to Laurel Island, wine tasting, limited beer tasting, a souvenir glass and a light snack. Soda will also be available for non-drinkers.

Guests are invited to relax and explore the island. A teacup raffle will feature a variety of prizes. Jack Solomon will be available to answer questions about the history of Laurel Island, and a representative from the Lake Commission will be on hand to discuss Lake Pocotopaug and an-

Light Up the Lake

The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug invites boat owners to decorate their boats with lights and gather for the annual Light Up the Lake on Saturday, Aug. 8, at 8:30 p.m., in the waters in front of CVS/bow & arrow sign.

Then slowly cruise around the lake, when you hear the four blasts of an air horn, passing by Sears Park first, and continue cruising around the lake past many lake and beach associations and bays. Boaters are asked to cruise at no-wake speed.

Potluck and Organ Concert

Haddam Neck Congregational Church, 408 Quarry Hill Rd., Haddam Neck, will host a Potluck Picnic and Broadway Showtune Organ Concert on Sunday, Aug. 9.

The event begins with a potluck picnic in the church yard at 2 p.m., followed by a performance of Broadway showtunes in the sanctuary on the church’s Ahlborn-Galanti organ at 4 p.m., featuring organist Bob Carangelo accompanied by Tim Throckmorton – both are Middle Haddam residents. Bring a dish to share and a lawn chair; beverages will be provided.

Carangelo, a Waterbury native, began his keyboard career at the age of 6, when his parents purchased a Magnus reed organ. Eventually, he moved into the Hammond family of organs and ultimately a Hammond B3. He studied with a number of musicians, including Les Chandler, Betty Pullman, Lorraine Boisvert, and the renowned concert pianist and organist Rosa Rio.

As a teenager, he began playing the theater pipe organ and performed a Rosalind Russell review at the Palace Theater in Waterbury. While he played with a number of bands at wedding receptions and clubs, music was not his only love. He earned degrees from Quinnipiac University in math and sciences and is currently a systems engineering consultant.

Throckmorton has been seen on various stages in over 50 musical productions, including portraying many of the leading tenor roles in Gilbert & Sullivan operettas and four regional

against FC Dutchman Surf.

“We didn’t know how long we’d be there because it depended on if we kept winning, but once we were there, we wanted it so bad,” recalled DonAroma. “I think we had a lot of faith in ourselves. We definitely thought we could win [and] we were ready for whatever team came next.”

It’s been a crazy rise through the ranks for the group, who just a few years ago won only two games the entire club season.

Vasic said the team approached the national championships this summer with a sense of purpose and, despite the sun and beach right outside their front door, the hyper-focused team spent the trip studying game film of the next opponent.

“They took it very seriously because they knew they had a very good season and that we had a good chance to win it all,” recalled Vasic. “The parents had fun [and] the players took care of business.”

Vasic added that Owocki was a brick wall in goal all season, allowing only a pair of goals prior to the national tourney. Owocki was aided by a strong defensive front, highlighted by Rurka.

“We had a very good defensive end and all the forwards did a good job,” stated Vasic. “Last year we struggled scoring goals, but this year they just exploded and we had multiple games where we scored five, six, seven times.”

Once the final whistle had sounded in the championship match, DonAroma said it was a “surreal” feeling, adding, “We knew what we had to do and we came down there with a plan.”

The national title was years in the making for the eight Belлтown players who have been play-

swer questions.

Boat transportation will run continuously from 1-4 p.m., departing from Ace Marine East LLC at 70 North Main St. Event parking will be available at Sears Park.

Outside food and alcohol are not permitted. Smoking is prohibited, and private boats will not be allowed to dock on the island. The event will be held rain or shine.

A limited number of tickets are available and may be purchased in advance or at the dock, subject to availability. Tickets are also available from any FOLP member.

For tickets, contact Kevin Kuhr at 860-395-7548. For additional information, visit Friends of Lake Pocotopaug on Facebook.

This is not an organized boat parade. You do not need to fill out an entry form; just feel free to join in. Participate at your own risk. The Friends group said it cannot guarantee that boats will go around the whole lake or pass by at any particular time. Sears Park will be open past dusk for people to park and watch the boats going by.

Property owners, businesses, and lake associations are encouraged to put lights up too!

For more information, call Cap Egan at 860-395-7844.

Gilbert & Sullivan troupes, including CT Gilbert & Sullivan Society in Deep River. He also has had the good fortune to play roles in many operas, including *Die Fledermaus*, *La Boheme* and *La Cenerentola*. On the lighter side, he has performed in *1776*, *Anything Goes*, *Company*, *I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change* and *The Fantasticks*.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, Throckmorton has spent much of his creative energies co-writing and performing in an original musical about John Muir’s life and legacy titled *Earth-Planet, Universe: The John Muir Legacy Musical*. When not on stage he has navigated a successful career as a financial planner, law partner, senior bank executive and more recently a coach and facilitator for nonprofit boards and staff.

For more information, visit www.haddamneck-congregationalchurch.org or call 860-993-5311.

Tennis Program for Adults

The East Hampton Recreation tennis program for adults is held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8-11 a.m., at the East Hampton High School courts.

Players from all *Rivereast* towns are welcome. This mixed-doubles program is free, requires no partners and is open to all levels of adult play, except beginner. Pre-registration is not required; just show up.

For more information, call or text Natalie Hurt at 860-227-8538.



Sporting CT U16 team, featuring eight players from East Hampton, won a national championship in Virginia Beach.

ing together since town soccer before joining forces at Sporting CT as they made their way to high school.

A year ago, the group helped the Bellringers make the Shoreline Conference (SLC) championship match and reach the Class M state semifinals.

DonAroma, who is one of a handful of all-conference players returning this fall, said the high school team eyes even bigger and better things this fall.

“We have that passion going into the season,”

she added. “We’re really excited for Shorelines and States this season.”

Vasic said he will be closely following the group of Bellringers as they aim for more championship success this fall.

“It’s a really good group of girls that get along really well. Some are best friends, and they will be best friends the rest of their lives,” Vasic expressed. “Hopefully this is just the beginning of more great things to happen for them.”

East Hampton Lions Community Picnic

All are invited to join the East Hampton Lions for a fun-filled Community Picnic before the Light Up the Lake Parade! The picnic will be at Sears Park Saturday, Aug. 8, from 5-8 p.m.

Bring your own picnic dinner, or purchase a picnic meal featuring a hot dog, chips, and a drink for \$5. An ice cream truck will also be on site with delicious treats available for purchase. Also, you can take a scenic horse-

drawn wagon ride for \$10 per person. (Children riding on a parent’s lap ride are free.)

At 6:30 p.m., there will be classic potato sack races and three-legged races for participants of all ages.

There will also be plenty of family-friendly activities throughout the picnic, including: face-painting, a coloring table, and inflatables for the kids.

Senior Center Upcoming Trips

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., is offering the following coach trips with Friendship Tours. Advance registration is required. For more information or to register, stop by the center or contact the center at 860-267-4426 or seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov.

Twin Lobsters and a Show at the Student Prince, Springfield Mass.: Tuesday, Aug. 25, departing Stop & Shop at 9:45 a.m. Enjoy a lunch of twin lobsters or prime rib at this restaurant in the heart of downtown Springfield and a show with Freddie Marion performing hits by Wayne Newton, Kenny Rogers, Sammy Davis Jr. and more. After lunch, spend time at the MGM Springfield Casino. Cost is \$149.

Beatles Tribute Band & Lunch: Thursday,

Oct. 15. See Studio Two, a Beatles tribute band, and have lunch at the Farmington Polo Club. Cost is \$132 and includes coach bus transportation. Depart from Stop & Shop, 11 East High St., at 10:30 a.m.

Joshua in Lancaster, Pa.: Nov. 13-15. Featuring two shows: Joshua at the Sight & Sound Theater and the Holly Jolly Holiday show at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theater. Cost is \$745 per person double/triple occupancy.

Christmas in Newport: Tuesday, Dec. 8, featuring a visit to the Breakers and Marble House mansions and lunch at the Wyndham Atlantic Resort. Cost is \$152. Depart from Stop & Shop, 11 East High St., at 8:45 a.m.

KENNETH BARBER & ASSOCIATES, LLC



YOUR ATTORNEYS

“The first week of August hangs at the very top of summer... like the highest seat of a Ferris wheel when it pauses in its turning.”
—Tuck Everlasting

Barber-Law-Firm.com

P: 860-267-2263

29 West High Street
East Hampton, CT 06424

 Visit us on Facebook

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

Nelson’s Campground Sold to Private Equity Firm

By Anne Lilburn

Nelson’s Family Campground in East Hampton has a new owner. Eagle Management, an affiliate of private equity firm Camber Creek, purchased the property in late June for approximately \$9.52 million.

Nelson’s, which was originally founded by Nelson Gustine in 1964, sits on 165 acres of land and boasts 400 campsites. In 2022, the property was sold to a New York-based firm, Castle Park Investments, which then sold the property to its new owner this June. Castle Park also owned nearby Wolf’s Den campground in East Haddam, which it also sold in June to the same firm, for \$7.5 million.

On its Facebook page on June 24, Nelson’s Family Campground posted that the campground was under new ownership and management and said that “our deep commitment to maintaining Nelson’s Family Campground as a place where families and friends may continue to make lasting memories remains the same.”

Reached for comment, staff at both Nelson’s and Wolf’s Den confirmed that it was business as usual on the sites, and said that nothing had immediately changed for campers, but on local Facebook groups, some residents expressed worry that the properties might cease operating as campsites or be developed in other ways under new management.

The Rivereast reached out to Eagle Management to ask if their plan was to continue operating Nelson’s as a campground, and to find out if locals could expect big changes at the properties.

“At this time, we don’t have any information to share regarding this matter,” wrote Eagle Management representative Jessica Weissman. “If and when there are developments or details we’re in a position to discuss, we’d be happy to reconnect and provide an update.”

Melissa Engel, who owns Markham Meadows, East Hampton’s only other campground, said she was sad to hear that Nelson’s had sold again.

“It’s very sad to me, the number of previously privately owned campgrounds – for years, for generations – that have sold to corporations,” said Engel.

She said that her parents opened Markham Meadows a few years after the Gustine family opened Nelson’s. She described the campground business as a challenging one. Engel, who as many know is also the Chair of the town’s Republican Town Committee, blamed high property taxes for part of that challenge.

Engel also pointed out that campgrounds cannot operate in their campground capacity year-round, due to weather constraints, thereby limiting their off-season income and forcing them to get creative about ways to make money off their land in the winter. She also cited natural weather-related events as a challenge.

Still, Engel said she had no intention of selling Markham Meadows, despite having “a file folder of people looking to buy.” After watching her parents run the campground, she said, it was too much in her blood.

nect with nature, and learn about gardening and the environment. Scholarships are available for one-week East Hampton Recreation programs. Families interested in applying for a scholarship should contact the East Hampton Recreation Department for application information and eligibility requirements.

Golf Tournament: Thursday, Sept. 3, at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. The event will feature a 10 a.m. shotgun start. This is a four-person scramble format. Lunch/dinner and two drink tickets are included for every golfer. Not a golfer? Register just for dinner (\$50). Sponsorship options available as well. A highlight of this year’s tournament will be a Hole-in-One contest, where golfers will have a chance to win a 2026 Nissan Rogue SV. There will also be a raffle contest and prizes. The tournament benefits East Hampton Sears Park Playground equipment. Cost is \$145 per golfer.

and take a leadership role in shaping how the library serves teens like you. For grades 8-12.

Teen TCG Club: Grades 8-12: Friday, Aug. 21, 1-3 p.m. Players of Magic: The Gathering, Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh!, and more are invited to join us for an afternoon of friendly competition. Magic: The Gathering decks will be available for new players to use.

Children’s Programs: Dig Into Adventure! Dino Dig at Seamster Park: Tuesday, Aug. 11, 10 a.m.-noon, at Seamster Park. Excavate dinosaur bones, fossils, shells, and hidden treasures in a giant sandbox dig site, then cool off with a Popsicle treat. Best for ages 2-9. Register or drop in; held at Seamster Park. Sponsored by the Friends of the East Hampton Public Library.

School Supply Swap: Friday, Aug. 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturday, Aug. 15, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Browse free donated school supplies. No donation is required to shop; however, if you wish to donate, drop-offs can be made Monday, Aug. 10 – Saturday, Aug. 15, during library hours. Only donate new or gently used items in good condition.

Mommy and Me Yoga: Monday, Aug. 17, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Caregivers will be guided through gentle yoga poses and movements while little ones are welcome to join in or play freely in the space. For caregivers and children ages 18 months-5 years. Bring your own mat or blanket; registration required.

Read to a Therapy Dog: Grades K-3: Tuesday, Aug. 18, 4:30 p.m. Readers will be assigned a 15-minute time slot to read to Jovie, a certified therapy dog. This is an opportunity to read aloud in a comfortable environment, which can help improve comprehension and confidence.

Back-to-School ‘Unshop’ Clothing Event

Buy Nothing East Hampton is holding its annual Back-to-School ‘Unshop’ Clothing Event this month.

Residents are asked to donate outgrown clothing, clean and sorted by size from Aug. 8-20 at 20 Oak Knoll Rd. and 85 Champion Hill Rd. Items collected include school-appropriate clothes in sizes 4T through Adult XL (please no

The new East Hampton-based organization The Commissions on Aging in Connecticut. (COACT) is looking for a volunteer with office computer skills to spend 4 to 8 hours per week helping to grow and administer the group.

The new organization is encouraging sharing of ideas, plans and best practices among town Commissions on Aging (COAs) and similar groups, in the hopes of improving the lives of older adults.

Volunteer Sought

swimwear or Halloween costumes). School supplies in like-new condition, as well as backpacks and lunchboxes, are also welcome.

Parents and children can then come and “unshop” on Saturday, Aug. 22, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at 20 Oak Knoll Rd. All items are free. Please do not bring donations the day of the event.

The volunteer would with outreach to expand COACT’s database of contact information for leaders of town COAs, and would also be a contact person for newly interested people. Other desirable help would be note-taking and distribution for monthly meetings, creation of flyers, and updating a calendar of task due dates.

If interested, contact organizer Eric Rosenberg, MD, at COAchair@EastHamptonCT.gov for more information.

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.

Chicken Barbecue: The next drive-thru Chicken Barbecue will be held Saturday, Aug. 8, from noon to 5 p.m., at the church field.

Men’s Group: The Men’s Breakfast Bible Study will meet Wednesday, Aug. 12, from 7-8 a.m. to share scripture around what the Bible says about being a man. There will be coffee, pastries and conversation

Children’s Ministry: Children’s Ministry, for children in kindergarten through fifth grade,

Senior Center News & Notes

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., announces the following. **Advance registration is required for all programs** unless noted; register at myactivecenter.com or by contacting the center at 860-267-4426 or seniorcenter@east-hamptonct.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 for more information and a list of regular weekly and monthly activities, including games, quilting, the Trailblazers walking group, Bible study, tap dance, 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.

Linefit: Held Mondays, Aug. 17 and 31, Sept.

Middle Haddam Public Library News

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

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

Meditation with Omar: Tuesday, Aug. 11, 6 p.m. Omar Milton will offer a preview of an upcoming meditation series coming to the li-

Congregational Church News

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, 59 Main St., welcomes all to Sunday worship at 10 a.m., with the Rev. Robin Bloundon providing the sermon.

For more information, visit cc-eh.org or call the office at 860-267-5989. Office hours are Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Portland Resident’s Artwork at Library

Artwork by Portland Artist Karen Piazza is featured at Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles Rd., Middle Haddam – and an artist reception is next week.

Piazza is a watercolor artist and potter. Her favorite subjects to paint are cafe and market scenes, representing her years living in France. She also creates functional pottery with a decorative flair, often texturing and hand-painting her pieces.

An artist reception will be held Friday, Aug. 7, from 4-6 p.m., with refreshments and time to chat with Piazza about her work.

For more information on Piazza, visit westerlyarts.com/karen-piazza.

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

Vocal Choir: Rehearsals will resume in the fall, on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. New members welcome.

Adult Bible Study: Sundays at 10:15 a.m., though it’s on hiatus for the summer. The next study will resume in the fall.

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

14 and 28, Oct 19 and Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. Fee is \$18 for the series, or drop-ins welcome for \$5 each week. Class taught by Mariana Sigleski.

Bike Rides for Seniors: Friday, Aug. 7, 10 a.m. Ride at the Air Line Trail, 69 Smith St., East Hampton. For riders 55 and older. Bring your bike, helmet and water bottle. 860-267-4426 for ride information and to register.

Trips: East Hampton Lunch Bunch: Enjoy lunch together on Friday, Aug. 14, at the Lakeside Bar and Grill in East Hampton. Meet at the Senior Center at 11:30 a.m. and travel by Xtramile Bus to the restaurant. Bus ride is free but bring money for lunch.

Picnic on Laurel Island: Wednesday, Aug. 20, departing at 11:15 a.m. Enjoy your lunch and a view of Lake Pocotopaug during an afternoon on Laurel Island. Drive yourself or take the Senior Center bus for a \$4 donation. Island owner Jack Solomon will transport visitors by boat to the island.

brary in August. Cost is \$15. Call the library to register.

Chatham Community Chess Club: Wednesday, Aug. 19, 6-9 p.m. All ages and skill levels welcome; lessons available. For more information, contact pjhoffman1@juno.com.

Save the Date: All are invited to the library’s celebration of the nation’s 250th year on Sunday, Sept. 13. The Dirty Blue Shirts, a Living History Collective, will offer a variety of maritime-related demonstrations, talks and exhibits. Refreshments will be served on the library’s new porch.

Mahjong: Mondays, 10:30 a.m. All levels of experience welcome. Contact the library for more information.

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

Yoga with Erin Day of Ten Summit Yoga: Mondays and Saturdays at 9 a.m., and Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Cost is a \$17 drop-in fee. To register, email tensummitst@gmail.com or call 860-262-0246.

Lions Club Scholarship Raffle

The East Hampton Lions Club is conducting a raffle to support its annual scholarship program. The club each year offers four \$1,500 awards to East Hampton graduating students.

The raffle offers a \$2,026 grand prize this year. First prize is \$226, with two winners, second prize is \$156 with two winners, and third prize is \$56 with two winners. Winners of the first, second and third prizes are reentered for the grand prize drawing. Seven hundred total tickets will be sold.

The drawing will take place Saturday, Oct. 24, at 2:26 p.m., at the Lions Picnic Pavillion, 62 N. Main St. Winners need not be present.

For more information or tickets, call Lion Tom Denman at 860-519-4951.

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

HOF Association Accepting Nominations

The East Hampton Athletic Hall of Fame Association is accepting nominations through Aug. 26.

If you know of who you feel is a worthy candidate – which could be an athlete, coach, team, or contributor – email seidlt@sbcglobal.net for a nomination packet or go to the Hall of Fame website at ehahof.wixsite.com/bellringer for information.

Epoch Arts Accepting Tag Sale Donations

Epoch Arts is accepting donations this weekend for its annual September Two-Weekend Tag Sale.

Drop-off times are 8 a.m.-2 p.m. on Aug. 8. Drop-off is located at the lower end of the building in the garage area by Helping Hands, 27 Skinner St.

A small group of volunteers will sort, clean and price the donations. Items not accepted: recliners, couches, headboards, mattresses, bed-frames, high chairs, cribs, car seats, comput-

The induction ceremony will be Friday, Oct. 30, at 6 p.m., at Blackledge Country Club.

The Hall of Fame’s objective is to recognize exceptional local athletes and achievements.

Also, the association’s membership and committee are very small and new members are sought, preferably those who have a knowledge of history of sports in East Hampton to join our team. Email seidlt@sbcglobal.net if interested.

ers, printers, keyboards, TVs, VCRs, exercise machines, textbooks, encyclopedias, old-style phones, large toys, doors, ironing boards, strollers, single chairs, paint and cleaners, file cabinets, office chairs, large dog beds, lighting that can’t be plugged in, medicine, animal diapers and fish tank pumps.

Tag Sale 2026 is Sept. 11 and 18, noon-5 p.m., and Sept. 12, 13, 19 and 20 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, visit www.epocharts.org.

Christ Episcopal Church News

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

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

Returnable Cans and Bottles: All are asked to place donations in the cans by the shed. Note: Glass bottles and aluminum cans should be separated prior to drop-off.

Food4Lives Warm Weather Clothing Drive: Patty Kloo is collecting warm weather new or nearly new clothing for un-housed persons in

Middletown. Needed are T-shirts, shorts, pants, light sweaters, hoodies, sweatshirts, sandals/sneakers and underwear in adult sizes small to XXL. Clean items should be placed in the blue tote in the Parish Hall.

Labor Day Tag Sale: Save unwanted items in good condition for the Tag Sale. Contact Dick Napolitano at rnep1137@gmail.com for additional information.

Haddam Neck Fair Cookie Booth: Parish members are need to donate money to cover the cost of cookie dough and to work shifts at the fair on Labor Day weekend. Dawn Gingras can be reached at mgingras39@gmail.com if you have questions. Sign-up sheets are located in the back entry of the church.

Information/Assistance: Contact Senior Warden Donna Hryb at 860-633-0472 or donnadubehryb@gmail.com for more information.



Ileana Douglas

Actress and Author Ileana Douglas to Visit East Hampton

By Anne Lilburn

Residents looking for a bit of Hollywood in East Hampton will have the opportunity on Saturday, Aug. 15, when the village center will host a “Date Night Stroll” from 4-9 p.m. The event will include a meet-and-greet and book signing with actress and author Ileana Douglas from 5-7 p.m. at Old Bank Flowers and Greenery.

Douglas – who is known for her many film and television appearances, including roles in *Goodfellas*, *Cape Fear*, *To Die For*, *Ghost World* and *Goliath* – is also a Connecticut native who grew up in Old Saybrook and later returned there during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Douglas will be signing her 2023 book, *Connecticut in the Movies: From Dream Houses to Dark Suburbia*. The book “shines a spotlight on over 200 films that have shaped the perception” of Connecticut and is described as “an exhilarating journey through the overlooked world of Connecticut cinema.”

Among the movies Douglas mentions in the book is the 1946 Christmas classic *It’s a Wonderful Life*, which prominently featured a bell manufactured by East Hampton’s own Bevin Bells.

Lori Caldwell, one of the organizers of the Date Night Stroll, is excited about the award-winning Douglas coming to Belltown – and she hopes the event is well-attended.

“We really want to make this successful and welcome her to our event,” Caldwell said in an email. “She’s charming and very personable. And we’re lucky to have her join us.”

For more information about the Aug. 15 event, search for “Date Night Stroll East Hampton” on Facebook.

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. Early Bird Bonanza will be at 6:20 p.m., with regular game play starting at 6:30 p.m. There will be a progressive jackpot and cash prizes.

The café will be open before games and during intermission, offering hot snacks.

Police News

7/25: Cory Hunt, 29, of Marlborough, was issued a summons for evading a motor vehicle accident, East Hampton Police said.

7/27: Michael Bartolotta, 49, of East Hampton, was arrested and charged with violation of probation, police said.

7/28: Jonathan Massey, 26, of Moodus, was arrested and charged with violating a protective order, police said.

From July 27-Aug. 2, officers responded to 16 medical calls, five motor vehicle crashes and nine alarms, and made 26 traffic stops, police said.

Barbecued Chicken Dinner

Haddam Neck Covenant Church is hosting a barbecued chicken dinner drive-thru takeout event on Saturday, Aug. 8, by reservation only.

This is the famous barbecued chicken the church has sold at the Haddam Neck Fair for over 40 years. The dinner includes a barbecued thigh/leg chicken quarter, baked beans, coleslaw, dinner roll and water bottle, for \$15; cash only, please.

Call in your reservation to the HNCC Church office at 860-267-2336 or email to officehncc@gmail.com and indicate your pick-up time between noon and 5 p.m. Order deadline is Aug. 4.

HNCC is located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd. in East Hampton.

Democratic Primary Aug. 11

Absentee ballots are now available for the Democratic primary for the party’s gubernatorial candidate.

The primary is being held on Tuesday, Aug. 11, with early voting from Monday, Aug. 3, to Sunday, Aug. 9. Early voting will be at the East Hampton Town Hall, 1 Community Drive, and Primary Day voting will be at East Hampton High School, 15 North Maple St.

This primary is only open to registered members of the Democratic Party.

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 a.m. at St. Bridget and 9 a.m. at St. Patrick.

During the week, Masses are celebrated at 8 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays at St. Patrick, and at 8 a.m. on Fridays at St. Bridget.

Confessions are Saturdays at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick and 6:30 p.m. at St. Bridget.

The parish website is www.sjprii.org.

Like us on Facebook



RivereastNewsBulletin

STARR AUTO INC.

Collision & Auto Body Repair

3 Generations of Service in East Hampton

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

860-267-4225 OR 860-808-9191

2 Starr Place, East Hampton, CT

RE11-6-20



EAST HAMPTON FAMILY DENTAL

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



Meet Our Dentist:
Dr. Vijaya Canakala

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

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

41 West High Street, East Hampton, CT 06424
www.EastHamptonFamilyDental.com

RE3-26-21



Family Owned & Operated Dumpster Rentals

Free Pick Up & Delivery

For projects small or large, we have the right dumpster for you. Residential & Commercial Construction, House Cleanouts, Landscaping Debris, and Scrap Metal.



15 YARD - \$525 (2 tons)
20 YARD - \$625 (3 tons)
30 YARD - \$725 (4 tons)
40 YARD - \$825 (5 tons)
1 Week Rental

24 Old Coach Road, East Hampton, CT 06424

www.BelltownRecycling.com

RE5-30-25

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
VISA www.BrothersOil.com
HOD 114 • 57-308374
WHEN THE HEAT'S ON US...WE DELIVER!

CIT6-25-26

Obituaries

Marlborough

Sanda Marie Nickols
On Monday, July 26, the world lost a beautiful light with the passing of Sanda Marie Nickols. Sanda was born in Middletown to Paul and Alice Stemmler on Aug. 16, 1945. She graduated from Portland High School and attended Colby College, where she earned her BS degree in 1967. She pursued a career at The Hartford Insurance Company where she soared to the top of her field becoming one of the first women executives at the company.



Sanda, fondly known as Sandy, was a generous, kind, and loving person who looked at life as a joyful gift. She married Don Paquette, moved to Marlborough, and was a devoted mother to her two children, Robin and David who were always her first priority. She married her second husband, Richard Nickols, in 1988 and built a life with him in Union Hall, Virginia until their return to Connecticut in 2017.

Sandy was an adventurous spirit who enjoyed exploring new places. She traveled extensively through all seven continents and opened her heart to the beauty of the people and places she visited. In addition to her love of travel, she was also an avid fan of the UConn Huskies women's basketball team even before the team brought home championships. She loved skiing, theater, and art, and during her time in Marlborough, was an active member of the Marlborough Arts Center involved in promoting local talent. Sandy herself was a woman of many talents. She painted, created beautiful, hooked rugs, learned pottery, and developed a true talent in the art of stained glass, creating pieces for family and friends. Her brilliant smile, genuine interest in everyone she encountered, and infectious enthusiasm for life brought her many loyal friends along her life's journey. She lit up the lives of all she touched.

Sandy was predeceased by her parents; her ex-husband, Don Paquette; and her beloved husband Richard Nickols. She is survived by her son, David Paquette and his wife Kelly of Rocky Mount, Virginia; her daughter Robin Paquette, of East Hartford; and her cherished granddaughters Michelle Paquette of East Haddam and Meagan Levine, of Meriden. She also leaves behind her devoted brother, Jay Stemmler and his wife Denise; her sister Roxanne Navratil and her husband William; and her sister Laura Mil-lane and her husband Michael.

In addition, she leaves many nieces and nephews, grand nieces, and grand nephews.

Sandy's family would like to thank the staff of the Portland Care and Rehabilitation Centre for their excellent care and kindness toward Sandy during her stay.

Family and friends may call Friday, Aug. 7, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Doolittle Funeral Home, 14 Old Church St., Middletown. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the funeral home immediately following calling hours. Interment will follow in the State Veterans Cemetery

In lieu of flowers, donations in Sandy's memory may be made to Cure Alzheimer's Fund.

To share memories or send condolences to the family, please visit www.doolittlefuneralservice.com.

Colchester

Sharon Rose Gerber
Sharon Rose Gerber, of Groton, passed away Monday, July 27, at the age of 53. Born on April 16, 1973, Sharon was a daughter of Richard and Rita (Rodenbach) Gerber. She was a graduate of Hamden High School, Class of 1993, and made her home most recently in Groton. She was born in Cape May County, N.J., and lived for many years in Hamden and Bethlehem, Pa.



Sharon loved animals. She was born with significant challenges, but she persevered and showed amazing development, surpassing what many experts had predicted.

Sharon is survived by her fiancée Michael Lynch of Groton, who says, "She was a true angel in my life." Sharon is also survived by her daughter, Michelle Gerber; her father, Richard Gerber and stepmother, Thea; sister, Catherine Locke and her husband David (all of East Haddam); brother, Peter Gerber and his partner Charles Langley Jr. of Philadelphia, Pa. She also is survived by many extended family members and friends who will cherish her memory.

Sharon was predeceased by her infant son, Alexander Martus, and her mother.

A visitation will take place at the Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home in Colchester on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 10-11 a.m. The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Burial will immediately follow the religious services.

Memorial contributions may be made to Children's Heart Foundation (childrensheartfoundation.org).

For online condolences or to share a memory with the family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Zdzislaw Nastalczyk
Zdzislaw "Stan" Nastalczyk, 73, of Moodus and formerly of Colchester, passed away at his home Thursday, July 30. Born Feb. 19, 1953, in Niederpocking, Germany, he came to the United States in 1956 with his parents, Heidi and Walter Nastalczyk, and his sister, Bozena. After moving around, they settled in Colchester.



Stan graduated from Bacon Academy and went on to Cheney Tech. He worked for Stanadyne and Jacobs Chuck for a number of years, but his true love was woodworking, and he went to work for Les Woodworking in East Haddam and then WDJ Architectural Woodworking from which he retired.

Stan loved sports and the outdoors and was an avid fisherman and hunter. In his spare time, he loved riding his Harley and catching blue crabs. In the winter he would snowmobile up north and ice fish with his friends. He was a kind and happy-go-lucky person who would help his friends and relatives in anyway he could. Stan was a member of the Colchester Polish Club, and the Colchester Fish and Game Club and enjoyed coaching the junior hockey team in town.

Although he never married or had any children, he leaves behind two sisters, Bozena Gardner and Elizabeth Unghire, and a brother, Marion Nastalczyk, along with his nieces and nephews. In 1999 he settled in Moodus, where he met some of the nicest people in the world.

Stan will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

East Hampton

Wendy Lee Given
Wendy Lee (Carlson) Given, 57, of East Hartford, formerly of East Hampton, passed away at home Friday, July 31. She was born June 10, 1969, in Hartford, to Mary (Ocelik) Ley and Stephen Carlson. She grew up in East Hampton, where she later raised her sons, Joseph and Brandon.



Wendy held many jobs throughout her life, but found her greatest joy in caring for others, whether helping residents in a nursing home, caring for children at a daycare, or later devoting herself to raising her own sons as a stay-at-home mom. Her eclectic approach to life led her to various passions over the years.

She also enjoyed life's simple pleasures: going out for drinks with friends, watching her favorite programs, and spending time on cross-stitch, puzzles, scrapbooks, and other creative hobbies.

She is survived by her mother, Mary; her father, Stephen and wife Kathy; her two sisters, Tammy (Carlson) Angeli and husband, Mike, and Jamie (Carlson) Grimshaw and husband, John; her two sons, Joseph Scovill and wife, Sarah, and their daughters, Mackenzie and Kali, and Brandon Scovill and his partner, Jovon Alfred; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Wendy will be remembered by friends and family for the duality that often defined her character, for she was sweet yet strong, loving yet defiant, and gentle yet fierce. Perhaps most of all, her unique and infectious laughter will be deeply missed. Her loved ones take solace in knowing she is now at peace, reunited with her beloved "third son", Georgie.

Calling hours will be held Friday, Aug. 14, at Spencer Funeral Home in East Hampton from 2 to 4 p.m., followed by a memorial service and reception.

Those wishing to honor Wendy's memory may make a memorial donation to the RSDSA (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Association) or the RSD Foundation.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Colchester

Arlene Marie Ford
Arlene Marie Ford, 78 of East Hartford, departed this life peacefully Monday, July 27, while surrounded by loved ones. She was born Sept. 21, 1947, in Colchester, to the late Carter and Thelma (Charles) Ford.



Arlene graduated from Bacon Academy in Colchester with the Class of 1965. Following graduation, she attended the Morse School of Business in Hartford and began a career in financial services at Travelers Insurance Company then moved on to Connecticut Bank & Trust where she worked her way up to a branch manager. She later joined the State of Connecticut Department of Revenue Services as a revenue examiner, serving with dedication and professionalism until her retirement in September 2013.

Arlene had a generous spirit and a loving heart. She enjoyed travel, shopping, and giving her time in service to others. For many years, she volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and CRIS Radio for the blind, sharing her kindness and commitment with the community.

Arlene will be remembered for her strength,

intelligence, quiet grace, and deep love for her family and friends. She brought warmth and kindness to those around her and carried herself with dignity throughout every season of life. Her presence was a blessing, and her memory will remain a comfort to all who knew and loved her.

She leaves to cherish her memory her sisters, Virginia Green of Springfield, Mass., and Geraldine (Winston) Blake of Hartford; a sister-in-law, Barbara Ford of Seffner, Fla.; nieces and nephews, Vanessa Migliore, Dossie (Emily) Green, Cheyenne (Richard) Gibson-Madden, Mason (Rose) Ford Jr., Crystal Green, Tanya (Kenard) Hubbard-Walston, Tiffany Hubbard, Reuben Mitchell, Candace (Patrick) Dunkelly, and Matthew (Jennifer Clemons) O'Connor; 26 great-nieces and great-nephews; and a host of cousins and dear friends.

In addition to her parents, Arlene was predeceased by her sister, Thelma Hubbard; her brother, Mason Ford Sr.; and her nephews, Kevin Ford and Richard Ford.

Calling hours will be held Saturday, Aug. 8, from 10 a.m. to noon, at Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, with a Celebration of Life beginning at noon. Interment will follow the service at Linwood Cemetery, 56 Linwood Cemetery Rd., Colchester.

In lieu of flowers, charitable donations may be made to CRIS Radio, 315 Windsor Ave., Windsor, CT 06095.

Lebanon

Ella Mae Kuzel
With God's promise of eternal life, we announce the passing of our beloved mother, Ella Mae Clinch Kuzel, of Lebanon, on Saturday, July 4. She was born May 28, 1935, in Norfolk, Neb., to the late Mary and John Clinch.



After graduating from high school, she attended St Joseph School of Nursing in Colorado, and earned a Bachelor of Science in nursing. She spent the majority of her career caring for patients at the Norwich State Hospital. She married the love of her life, Norman Kuzel, on Jan. 10, 1959. Together, they raised seven children.

Ella Mae was a woman of deep faith and a devoted communicant of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Lebanon. She faithfully served her parish as a Eucharistic minister and was an active member of the Ladies Guild. She loved singing and in earlier years she was part of a Navy choral group, The Julie Singers. An accomplished pilot, making her first solo flight at the age of 16. Ella Mae embraced adventure and carried that same spirit throughout her life, especially in her love of travel, visiting all 50 states. She enjoyed participating in the many programs offered through the Jonathan Trumbull Library, including the Gardening Club and book discussion groups, where she formed lasting friendships and shared her love of learning.

Above all else, Ella Mae treasured time spent with her family. She will be remembered for her unwavering love, kindness, and generosity, and was deeply cherished as a devoted wife, loving mother, proud grandmother and dear friend.

Ella Mae will be sadly missed, but always remembered with love by her children and their spouses Skip Kuzel of Port Gibson, Miss., Shawn (Randy) Smith of Norfolk, Va., Sherrilyn (Kieran) Flannery of Lebanon, Shayla (Glen) Coutu of Lebanon, Shirleen (Michael) Garrahy of Rocky Hill, Shane (Alice) Kuzel of Pomfret, and cherished family friend Mary Horan; her brother, John Clinch; her sisters, Kathleen, Gloria (Gregg), and Elizabeth (Wilber); her 18 grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren; and numerous extended family members and friends.

She was pre-deceased by her husband Norman; her daughter, Shannon Michele; two grandchildren, Nicholas Emil Kuzel, Abbey Marie Coutu; sisters, Janet Lea, MaryAnn (Tom), Patricia (Terry); sister-in-law, Barbara; brother-in-law, John McElroy.

A visitation will take place at the Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home in Colchester on Friday, Aug. 21, from 5-7 p.m. A funeral Mass will be held at St. Andrew Catholic Church on Saturday, Aug. 22, at 11 a.m. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Francis of Assisi Ladies Guild in Lebanon, 67 West Town St., Lebanon, CT 06249 (please make checks payable to Guardian Angels Parish) and St. Patrick's School, 601 S Tabor Street, P.O. Box 57, North Platte, NE 69103.

For online condolences or to share a memory with the family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Tri-County Memorials

Monuments • Markers • Mausoleums



10% OFF
any
monument

(in stock) w/ this ad, must present ad at point of sale, not valid w/ any other offer. Certain sizes on certain products. Expires 7/31/26.

Stone & Bronze Memorials
Cemetery Lettering • Pet Markers
Duplicate Work • Designing
Pre-Need Financing Available*
Title 19 Specialist
Manufacturer's Perpetual Warranties*
Vandalism Insurance
MANY NEW COLORS IN STOCK!

402 West Main Street, Norwich, CT
860-886-6200
231 Boston Post Road, Waterford, CT
860-443-8744
366 Windham Road, Willimantic, CT
860-456-8658

www.TriCountyMemorials.com
tcmemorials@aol.com

DOMINICK & SONS

MONUMENT WORKS, INC.

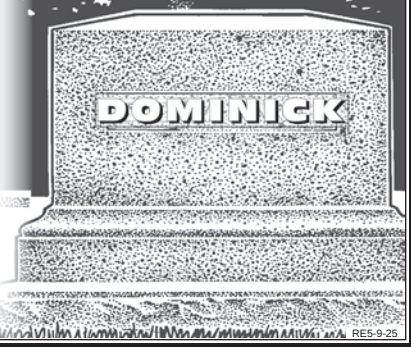
Monuments & Marker Sales & Service Since 1982

- Cleaning • Repairing
- Cemetery Lettering

215 Lebanon Ave., Colchester
located w/ Colchester Florist

860-537-3289

"A monument should cost no more than a family can afford."



Obituaries

Lebanon

Danny Overturf Sr.

Danny Overturf Sr. of Lebanon passed away Tuesday, July 14, at the age of 66. Born in Windham July 4, 1960, Danny was the son of Wallace and Marie Overturf.



He grew up in Lebanon and attended Lyman Memorial High School. Following graduation, he began a career as a truck driver. In 1996, he married the love of his life, Dawn. Together they built a life in Lebanon and would have celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in September.

Danny found great joy in the outdoors. He enjoyed bass fishing, hunting, and taking long rides on his Harley. A devoted dog lover, he cherished his faithful companions, Ammo and Tosha, who brought him years of friendship and happiness. Danny was also a proud and dedicated member of the Elks for 26 years.

Danny will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his wife, Dawn; his son, Danny Overturf Jr.; and his granddaughters, Hailey and Kenzie Overturf. He is also survived by his brother, Steve Overturf (Future); his sisters, Holly Spicer (Mike) and Tracy Stanger (Mike); and many extended family members and friends.

He was predeceased by his parents and his nephew, Justin M. Spicer.

Danny will be remembered for his passion for the outdoors, his loyalty to friends, and his strong-willed personality. He was vocal, genuine, and never afraid to speak his mind. While he could be stubborn at times, those who knew him understood that his honesty came from being true to himself. His memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

A celebration of Danny's life will be held in the coming weeks at the Elks Lodge in Willimantic. Details will be announced when they become available.

For online condolences or to share a memory with the family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Andover

Diana Bonneau

Diana (Johnson) Bonneau, 79, of Columbia, beloved wife of Thomas N. Bonneau, died peacefully on Friday, July 31, at St. Francis Hospital, surrounded by her family. She was born in Norwich on Nov. 3, 1946, daughter of the late Herbert and Eda (Brochetto) Johnson.



Diana grew up in Amston, and was a graduate of RHAM High School. She met and married the love of her life, Thomas Bonneau, on Feb. 5, 1966, and they began their life together in Andover, where they lived until 1979 when they moved to Columbia. Diana worked as a special education bus driver for many years for the Andover Elementary School and finished her career working for a 24-hour answering service, two jobs she truly loved.

Diana enjoyed camping with her family at Strawberry Park Campground in Preston, where they have camped for over 30 years. She was an avid UConn women's and Connecticut Sun basketball fan. She loved her dogs, enjoyed visiting local wineries and breweries and loved spending time at Andover Pizza with friends and family.

Diana was a treasure. A warm and spunky person that could light up the room with her personality. She made people smile, feel comfortable, and made conversation easier. She was the life of the party. Diana's most proud accomplishment in life was her family, whom she cherished. A kind, caring, loving, and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, and friend to many, she will be dearly missed.

Along with her husband Tom, she leaves her children, John Bonneau and his wife Debi of Manchester, Michael Bonneau and his wife Sandra of Vernon, and Pamela Reuthe and her husband Bill of Andover; her grandchildren, Jessica Kaczynski (Matt) of Coventry, Megan Feragne of Vernon, Jordan Bonneau of Manchester, Peter Bonneau of Manchester, Ashley Farland of Manchester, Jessica Farland of Manchester, Ashley Veilleux-Bonneau of Willimantic, and Kimberly Bonneau of Waterford, Mich.; several granddogs and her great grandchildren, Ryan, Tyler, Brittney, and Gemma; her sister, Denise Liebig (Steven); and her sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Rosemarie Downham, Raymond Bonneau (Phyllis), Doris Duffany

(Thomas), Nancy Okraska (Michael).

She was predeceased by her brother, Herbert Johnson, Jr., and her sister, Lorna Tiedemann.

Her family will receive friends Sunday, Aug. 9, from 2-4 p.m., at the Ladd-Turkington & Carmon Funeral Home, 551 Talcottville Rd. (Route 83), Vernon.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the ASPCA and/or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

For online condolences, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton

John Russell Forbes IV

John Russell Forbes IV, 39, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, July 27. Born Feb. 2, 1987, John was the son of John Russell Forbes III and the late Alice Banning Forbes.



John is survived by his father, John Russell Forbes III of East Hampton; his beloved son, John Russell Forbes V; and his young daughter, Hailey Jane Forbes. His children were the center of his world. He is also survived by Rebecca Forbes, mother of Hailey Jane Forbes, and Sarah Aitken, mother of John Russell Forbes V. Also surviving are Sarah's children, Michael and Kayla Wiley, and Michael's daughters, Sylvia and Delilah.

He is also survived by his sisters, Jamie Banning of Fort Myers, Florida, and Janice Beardsley of Charlestown, R.I.; his aunts and uncles, Jane and Ronald Robinson, Karen Cooper, John Banning, and Paul Banning. He was preceded in death by his uncles, Tom Forbes, Wayne Forbes, Frank Banning, Robert Banning, and Edwin Banning. He is also survived by his nieces and nephews, Melissa Cromwell, Autumn Cromwell, William Urban, Erin Beardsley and Samuel Beardsley; along with many cousins, extended family members, friends, and coworkers who will miss him dearly.

John loved the simple things in life. He loved riding his motorcycle, fishing, exploring new places, and spending time outdoors. He was never one to sit still for long. Whether he was riding dirt bikes with his son, cutting down massive trees, or working on his next project, he enjoyed staying busy and wasn't afraid of hard work. He cherished time spent with family and friends and made the most of every moment with them.

John had a way of walking into a room and making people laugh. His quick wit and easy charm will be remembered by everyone who knew him.

More than anything, John loved making memories with his children. He enjoyed teaching his son to fish, ride dirt bikes, and appreciate the outdoors. With Hailey, he loved taking walks, watching fireworks, and making her smile. Those moments meant the world to him.

John will be remembered for his sense of humor, his adventurous spirit, his hardworking nature, and, above all, the love he had for his children. His family hopes the memories they shared with him will continue to bring comfort, laughter, and smiles for years to come.

A celebration of John's life will be held Saturday, Aug. 15, at 10 a.m., at Spencer Funeral Home in East Hampton. Burial will follow at Lake View Cemetery in East Hampton. Family and friends are invited to gather to honor and remember him.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Marlborough

Dale Enders Drum Jr.

January 30, 1956 – July 29, 2026

Dale Enders Drum Jr., 70, of Marlborough, passed away Wednesday, July 29, surrounded by the love of his family. Born in Amityville, N.Y., on Jan. 30, 1956, he was the son of the late Dale Enders Drum Sr. and Marian (Whittle) Drum.



Dale is survived by his wife of 47 years, Patricia (Conway) Drum; his four children, Julia Pandolfi and her husband, Matthew Pandolfi, of Boston, Mass.; Krista Frallicciardi and her husband, Frank Frallicciardi, of New Canaan; Daniel Drum of Marlborough; and Victoria Drum of Marlborough, CT.

He is also survived by his sisters, Marian Drum of Bridgewater, and Madeline "Sunny" Ferringo of Williamstown, N.J. He was the proud grandfather of Brayden and Kennedy

Pandolfi and Eva and Ryleigh Frallicciardi. He was also a devoted uncle who cherished time with his many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister, Martha (Drum) Cavanna, and his brother-in-law, Frank Cavanna, of Glastonbury.

Dale was a dedicated family man with a unique sense of humor and quick wit that left people smiling long after they had spent time with him. Dale and Patricia created a home filled with love, joy, and unwavering support. His happiest moments were marked by family meals, early morning walks on the beach with his wife and dogs, and days spent with dirt on his hands, working in his garage or yard.

For more than 50 years, Dale proudly owned and operated businesses throughout Connecticut. After settling in Marlborough 30 years ago to raise his family, he founded Marlborough Lawn & Tree, where his son worked alongside

him and continues to run the business. Over the years, Dale built lasting relationships with customers who came to know him beyond his work.

The family would like to extend their deepest gratitude to the physicians, nurses, and staff at Yale New Haven Smilow Cancer Hospital for their exceptional care, compassion, and for fighting alongside him until the end.

A Memorial Mass celebrating Dale's life will be held Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 10 a.m., at St. Bridget Church in Manchester, with a reception to follow. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that you consider donating blood or platelets in Dale's honor. With ongoing blood shortages, this gift can help ensure that others receive the lifesaving care they need. Donations may also be made to the Fund for Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale New Haven Health.

THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD IS SPONSORED BY:

THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

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

4 Local Offices | 100+ Real Estate Agents | Invested in the Community

www.carlguild.com • (860) 474-3500

CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Neil Manausa

8

10

12

14

16

18

20

22

24

26

28

30

32

34

36

38

40

42

44

46

48

50

52

54

56

58

60

62

64

66

68

70

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

68

69

70

ACROSS

1 Washington, e.g.

6 Take hurriedly

10 Late singer Mama

14 Navigational system, acron.

15 First name in country singing

16 Whodunit terrier

17 Modify

18 First garden

19 Jr. year exam

20 Dimension

23 Five-star pres.

24 The house's take

25 Irregular

27 Flexible

31 Bring to a stop

33 Classical highlight

34 "This" in Madrid

36 Paint alternative

39 Risky undertaking

41 Real nature

43 Excavated entrances

44 Political cartoonist

46 College athletic org.

47 Sends up a flare

49 Start a paragraph

51 Cordwood measure

52 Normandy town

54 Energy unit

55 Safe banking procedure

61 Fast gun of Tombstone

63 Diversify

64 English preacher/poet

65 Calm side

66 PM times

67 Blue-pencils

68 Branch office?

69 Method: abbr.

70 Certain services

DOWN

1 Grand hit

2 Webster's work, for example

3 Geographic region

4 Cures

5 Hang in

6 Fraternity member

7 Zoo fare, perhaps

8 ___ in one's bonnet

9 Headline type

10 Upper limit

11 Aid

12 Dracula's downfall

13 Stuff

21 Admonition to the chef

22 Lock

26 Belgian port

27 Magma

28 Upset

29 Little things

30 ___ of Agincourt

32 Norma, et al.

35 Dispatched

37 Confident words

38 Jim-dandy

40 Manipulators

42 Rural steps

45 Makes certain

48 Christopher and family

50 Sleepy one

51 Around too long

53 Secret rendezvous

54 L.L. ___

56 Guinea pig

57 Lombardy commune

58 Step ___!

59 Player's fee

60 Famed Fed

62 Buddy, for one

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

★ Chatham Health, cont. from page 1

actually being smaller, said Chatham Health's Director of Health Russell Melmed.

"You know, the paradox of public health is that when we do things really well, we see less of them," he said. "And so what Vickie has been reporting is that since we started handing out these blood pressure monitors, she sees her regulars far less than she used to. The people who have been coming to the clinics on a regular basis, now when they come into her clinics, they want to talk to her about problems they're having with their machine, and she has to just talk to them through the technology, not taking their blood pressures."

With that said, he emphasized the importance of those blood pressure clinics, noting that Han had "quite literally saved some lives" in the past when people walked in with dangerous uncontrolled hypertension and she sent them to the emergency room.

Having knowledge about one's health is essential, said Soby, who said it was important that "people learn and then they are in control of their health and have the information to make as good a health decision as they can at the time and in the circumstance."

Melmed said that the district had worked with community health providers including Middlesex Health to identify their main priorities in the community, which led them to these targeted programs.

Melmed said "95% of the participants, in our prioritization exercise, identify chronic conditions like COPD, heart failure, blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, as a priority area. So it's

just about everybody that feels the same way about it and they're not wrong."

Han said that Chatham Health recently received \$107,148 in additional funding that would support expanding some of their preventative outreach efforts with tobacco cessation programs that align with CDC best practices.

"The single largest killers of people are chronic diseases, including cardiovascular disease, and tobacco use is the leading single cause or contributor to preventable death in our population, and they're linked, right?" said Melmed. "So if you are a smoker, [and are] a tobacco smoker in particular, it's really bad for your circulation. It's really bad for your heart, really bad for your lungs. It exacerbates diabetes and everything else."

Focusing on tobacco cessation, he said, will be a good way to "fill the gaps in terms of prevention work in the community."

That tobacco control work will involve public workshops aimed at helping people quit smoking, and while those will likely not start up until the beginning of next year, Chatham Health is already looking to hear from the community about interest in that program, as well as their other preventative health workshop programs (for chronic diseases and diabetes care).

Han said that anyone interested in participating, should feel free to reach out to her directly. She said that the health district would attempt to plan events at times that worked for those who were interested. She can be reached at vickie.han@chathamhealth.org or at 860-214-0308.

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

★ Budget Freeze, cont. from page 1

up. Electricity and outside contracts go up," he said in an email. "It is like a household budget. If you had to operate a household with no [cost of living adjustment] while up against inflation, you would have to cut back in other areas. So that's what we need to do right now."

Dennler expressed hope that the changes will only be temporary if voters approve a new budget at the next referendum. Tentatively, that referendum is slated for Sept. 1. The Board of Finance plans to meet again next Monday, Aug. 10, to decide which reductions to recommend. If members approve a proposal that night, the Sept. 1 referendum date will be set.

"My hope is that most of these measures don't need to be permanent," he said. "If a budget passes on Sept. 1, I think we could go back to normal operating hours. We would have to make some other changes, but we could operate."

However, he warned that additional reductions could become permanent if the town is forced to make deeper cuts.

"If that fails and we end up with the Board of Finance's more extreme scenario they discussed Monday night, then some of these changes might have to be permanent," said Dennler. "If the town side faces another \$600,000 in cuts, that's reality."

(A story about the Board of Finance meeting Dennler referenced appears on page 11.)

Dennler acknowledged that some capital projects may eventually need to be delayed, but he said pushing those expenses into the future will not solve the town's financial challenges.

"My goal is to find ways to implement whatever the cuts need to be as sustainably as possible," he said. "I know there will need to be cuts to capital, but capital costs just kick the can on future bills, so some of it will have to be made by adjusting current services."

He added that the decisions were difficult, but in the end, just as necessary.

"This is not an easy decision," Dennler said. "None of this is popular, but it is the responsible thing to do. Other communities in our area are facing similar tough choices right now. It's a tough time, but we will get through this."

Not everyone agrees with the administration's approach.

Board of Selectmen member Tim Vaillancourt, a Republican, sharply criticized the temporary reductions. He argued they unfairly target residents who voted against previous budget proposals.

"I believe closing the transfer station on Tuesday and failing to put out sand and salt feels like punishment to the citizens for demanding fiscal responsibility," said Vaillancourt.

Referencing a discussion at Monday's Board of Finance meeting wherein officials explored the possibility of future managerial cutbacks if a fourth budget referendum were needed, Vaillancourt added, "Threatening to lay off the senior center director seems punitive to a lot of seniors who voted for fiscal responsibility."

Vaillancourt also questioned whether the proposed reductions would produce meaningful savings.

"How much money will these measures save?" he asked.

He went on to criticize the idea of planning for another budget referendum beyond the possible Sept. 1 vote. He said Board of Finance Chair Karen Belding, a Democrat, "let the cat out of the bag" Monday night "and said they are planning for a fourth referendum before the third one [even happens]."

Vaillancourt added, "People are engaged and pissed off. They are clear-eyed about where the blame lies. This sits squarely in the lap of the administration. They have taxed us to death, and we have had enough. Wait until we do revaluation next year."

For Serious Traders

STOP CHASING. START SEEING.

The market is talking. VeroChart helps you see what it's saying.

It turns raw market data into clear, actionable insight — giving traders the confidence that comes from truly understanding what they're seeing. Built for active traders, the platform delivers institutional-grade tools once reserved for professionals, now accessible at a transparent, affordable price. With real-time order flow, tape visualization, and precision charting down to the second, traders gain context — not just price. No complicated plans. No hidden data fees. Just powerful market insight designed to reveal why the market moves, as it moves.

Founding members can lock in early access starting at \$49/month. Scan the QR code below to join the waitlist and see the market more clearly.

WWW.VEROCHART.COM

CIT7-30-26

Having a Tag Sale?

Reach more than 75,000 Homes For Just \$19 A Week

Includes 25 words; .20 cents each additional word (Now through September 15, 2026)

A \$45 Value

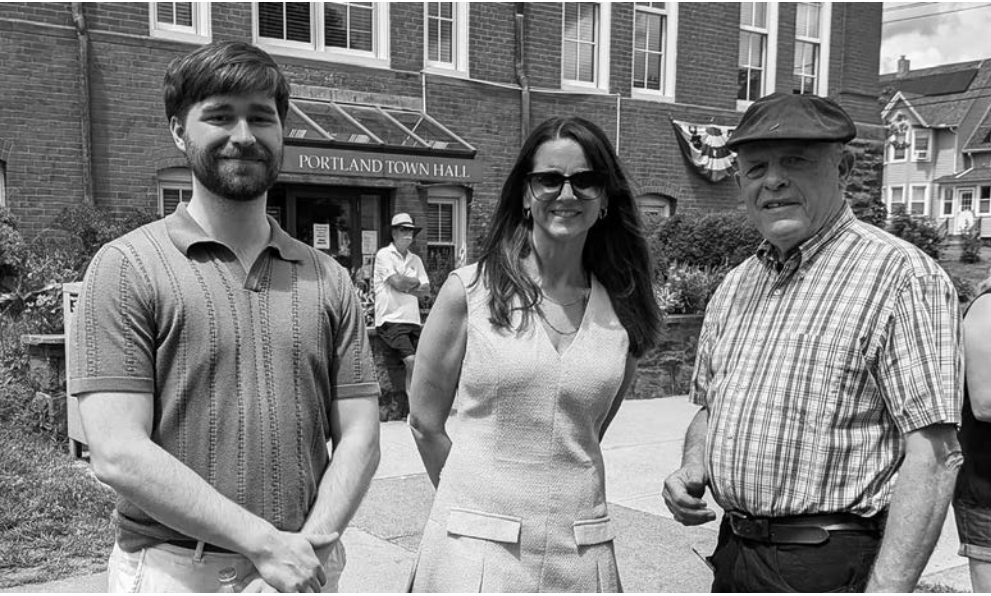
Your Tag Sale ad will appear in:

- Rare Reminder, mailed Thursdays to 40,500 homes in Newington, Wethersfield & Rocky Hill/Cromwell
- Glastonbury Citizen, mailed Thursdays to 5700 paid subscribers in Glastonbury
- Rivereast News Bulletin, mailed Fridays to 27,500 homes in Portland, East Hampton/ Cobalt/Middle Haddam, Marlborough, Hebron/Amston, Andover and Colchester.

Just e-mail us at classifieds@rarereminder.com or call 860-563-9386.

Deadline is every Tuesday at 10am for that week's papers.

080626



Time Capsule Fun... Here are some more photos from last weekend's dedication of the time capsule. Congressman John Larson, state Rep. Christie Carpino, First Selectman Michael Pelton, members of the town's America 250 Committee, and many local kids gathered for the burial. The capsule will be unearthed on July 4, 2076.

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
IWWA ACTIONS

At the Regular Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Agency Meeting held on Wednesday, July 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the East Hampton Town Hall and Via ZOOM, the following decision was made: IW-26-007: 85 Lake Drive, Stephen Motto, Construct a new single-family residence within Upland Review Area and LPP Review Area. Map 03A/ Block 44/ Lot C6 – Approved
Chairman Joshua Wilson

1TB 8/7

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
TOWN OF ANDOVER
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026 - 7:00PM
TOWN HALL COMMUNITY ROOM
IN PERSON and VIA WEB-BASED
PLATFORM (ZOOM)

The Andover Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on the evening of AUGUST 18, 2026, to allow the public the opportunity to ask questions and provide input on the following application:
Application #26-12C: The Andover Planning and Zoning Commission is proposing to modify existing regulations and add new regulations as required by Special Session Public Act 25-1 *AN ACT CONCERNING HOUSING GROWTH*. The proposal provides for Middle Housing development of between 2 and 9 dwelling units in commercial and mixed-use zones. The full text of the proposed amendment is available on the Town of Andover website and in the Town Clerk's office or from the Building and Land Use department.
Interested parties may ask questions and/or offer comments, either verbally or in writing. Public access will, upon request, be arranged for individuals without access to a computer. Please contact the Building and Land Use Office a minimum of 24 hours prior to the hearing date @860.742.7305, X - 4220.
Patrick Ira Dougherty
Planning and Zoning Commission Chairperson

2TB 8/7, 8/14

LEGALS

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at their Meeting on Monday, August 10, 2026 at 6:30pm at the East Hampton Town Hall - 1 Community Drive, Room 117 and via Zoom to consider the following application: ZBA-26-006: Kevin & Amanda Reed, Requesting the following variance to section 4.1.E Area & Dimensional standards to allow reduction of side setback variance from 10' to 3' and increase Maximum Lot Coverage from 44.06% to 44.20% for construction of a deck, on 5 Hawthorne Map 10A/ Block 82/ Lot 34A
Applications are on file in the Land Use Office and Town Clerk Office 860 267-7450

2TB 7/31, 8/7

LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTIONS
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission took the following actions at a Special Meeting, which was held on Wednesday, July 29, 2026 at 7:00pm on the following:
Petition 2026-08 - Petition of Friends of RHAM High School Football, Inc. for Special Permit approval to install temporary outdoor lighting at RHAM High School athletic competition field between September 8th and October 6th, 2026, per Section 5.F.3.3 and 5.F.3.5 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, 85 Wall Street, Residence-1 District. **Approved, with condition.** The video recording of the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting can be seen using the following link:
<https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/ea497f3eaad4a321c0c051eb359dd941de067e19956284aab5c8c6cccd2841bda>

1TB 8/7

TOWN OF PORTLAND
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, August 20th, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Portland Public Library, 20 Freestone Avenue, to consider the following:
PZC Application #26-01: 920 Glastonbury Turnpike across from Isinglass Hill Road. Request for a Special Permit Renewal of a Sand and Gravel Excavation Permit to Excavate and Remove 470,624 Cubic Yards of Earth Material. Application and property of the Portland Aggregates LLC. Map 119, Lot 2 and 3. Zone R-25.
PZC Application #25-23: 252 Main Street. Request for a Special Permit to modify existing office space on second floor into a new residential unit. Application of Peter Filanda and property of 250-252 Main Street, LLC. Map 28, Lot 45. Zone B-3/TCVD. At this hearing interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received. A copy of this application is available for public review in the Portland Land Use Department.
Dated at Portland, CT this 3rd day of August 2026
Robert Ellsworth, Chairman
Planning & Zoning Commission

2TB 8/7, 8/14

LEGAL NOTICE
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, on the following:
P. Petition 2026-10 – Petition of the Town of Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission to amend the Hebron Zoning Regulations to comply with Special Session CT Public Act 25-1 *An Act Concerning Housing Growth*. Sections to be amended are listed in the Application.
Planning and Zoning Commission
Aug 12, 2026, 7:00 – 10:00 PM (America/New_York)
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.goto.com/888622381>
You can also dial in using your phone.
Access Code: 888-622-381
United States: +1 (224) 501-3412
Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:
<https://meet.goto.com/install>
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 29th day of July 2026.
Frank Zitkus, Chair

2TB 7/31, 8/7

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at their Meeting on Monday, August 10, 2026 at 6:30pm at the East Hampton Town Hall - 1 Community Drive, Room 117 and via Zoom to consider the following applications:
ZBA-26-006: Kevin & Amanda Reed, 5 Hawthorne Drive. Requesting a variance to section 4.1.E Area & Dimensional standards to reduce the required side yard setback from the existing 10' to 3.95' and to increase Maximum Lot Coverage from 44.00% to 44.14% for construction of a deck over the existing patio area, on 5 Hawthorne Drive in the R-1 District, Map 10A/ Block 82/ Lot 34A
ZBA-26-007: Michael Scranton, 15 Schoolhouse Drive. Requesting a variance to Sections 8.3.1 (Accessory Structures to be subordinate) and 8.3.1.5.b (Max aggregate sq. ft of Accessory Structures) to permit the construction of a 720sf addition to the existing garage (for a total size of 4,584sf) and to allow the maximum aggregate square footage of all Accessory Structures to be 4,588sf. On 15 Schoolhouse Dr. in the R-2 District, Map 02C/ Block 21/ Lot 35.
ZBA-26-008: Kevin Flannery, 15 Flannery Row. Requesting a variance from Section 4.2.E to reduce the required side yard setback in a R-2 District from 25' to 10' to allow construction of a barn. Map 06/ Block 37 /Lot 9-4
Applications are on file in the Land Use Office and Town Clerk Office 860-267-7450

2TB 7/31, 8/7

COLCHESTER ZONING
BOARD OF APPEALS
LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom and in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 127 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415 to hear and consider the following petition:
Application No. ZBA 2026-001 of Dean and Janice McLear (Owner/Applicant) – 119 Melanie Lane (MBL #02-10/018-11A) – Application for variance from Section 8.11.7.F.1b of the Town of Colchester Land Development (Zoning) Regulations to reduce the side yard setback requirement from 50' to 25'.
At this hearing interested parties may be heard and written communications received. A copy of this petition is available for public review in the Planning and Zoning Department at Colchester Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester CT 06415 and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).
Zoning Board of Appeals
Laurie Robinson, Chair

2TB 8/7, 8/14

TOWN OF HEBRON
TAX COLLECTOR'S LEGAL NOTICE

Personal Property Taxes levied on the Grand List of October 1, 2025 become due and payable on August 1, 2026. Personal Property tax bills shall be due in a single installment on August 1, 2026. The Personal Property tax bill will utilize a mill rate of 36.96 mill, as approved by the Board of Finance on June 23, 2026. Personal Property Taxes received/postmarked by **September 1, 2026**, will be considered timely. Payments received/postmarked September 2nd or later will be subject to interest of 1.5% per month or 18 % annually from the due date in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes. Initial interest starting September 2nd is 3% of outstanding taxes with a minimum of \$2.00 per tax account. **State Statutes dictate that failure to receive a bill does not invalidate amount due.**
Please make **checks payable to: Town of Hebron**. Payments may be mailed to our lockbox collection service: **Town of Hebron CT Tax, PO Box 843137, Boston MA 02284-3137**. A secured drop-off box is located on the lower level, south side of the Town Hall building at 15 Gilead St, Hebron, CT 06248 for payments. Please see the town's website www.hebronct.com for on-line payment options. Credit/Debit cards and e-checks cannot be processed at Town Hall. Only Cash and Checks can be processed at Town Hall in the Tax Office.
The Collector's office is located in the lower level of the Town Hall at 15 Gilead Street. Our hours are Monday to Wednesday 8:00am to 4:00pm, Thursday 8:00am to 6:00pm, and Friday 8:00am to 1:00pm. The Tax and Assessor's Offices will close from 12:30 to 1:15 Monday – Thursday for lunch to accommodate a reduction in staff.
Respectfully,
Brigit M Tanganelli
Hebron Acting Revenue Collector

3TB 7/31, 8/7, 8/21

TOWN OF COLCHESTER
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Colchester Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on August 19, 2026, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Colchester Town Hall Meeting Room at 127 Norwich Ave, Colchester, CT and online via Zoom to hear and consider the following application(s):
PZC2026-012 Jeffrey Naples (Applicant/Owner) Special Permit Application for a dog day care per Section 8.8.20 of the Land Development (Zoning) Regulations at 155 Westchester Road (MBL 05-14-016-000). Zoning District: Rural Use (RU) and Arterial Commercial (AC).
At this hearing, interested persons may be heard and written communications received. A copy of these applications is located in the Land Use Department and Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday). Application materials are also available on the Colchester Planning & Zoning Commission webpage at <https://www.colchesterct.gov/planning-zoning-commission>.
Planning & Zoning Commission
Joseph Mathieu, Chair

2TB 8/7, 8/14

www.creators.com

S	E	T	T	R			T	S	Y	S			T	S	E	N
S	T	I	E	D	I		S	E	V	E			E	E	A	L
E	N	N	O	D			Y	A	R	V			P	A	R	P
A	N	O	L	D	E		R	C	U	R	S			T	U	B
			O	L			S		R	E			S	T	E	S
T	N	E	N	D	I		S	T	R	E			A	L		
A	V	C	N		T		S	V	A	N			S	T	I	A
E	C	N	E	S	S	E			E	R	U	T	N	E	V	
I	N	A	I	S	T		A	S	T	E			A	R	I	A
			T	S	E		R	A	R	E			B	E	R	L
			S	O	E		R	E	K	A			R			
E	K	I			T		N	E	M	E		R	U	S	A	M
A	T	S	P				N	E	D	E			D	M	E	A
A	S	T	A				A	B	E	R			N	A	R	L
S	A	S	C				B	A	R	G			E	A	T	S

SIZED UP

RIDERS AREN'T ALWAYS IN THE RIGHT.
BUT THEY ARE ALWAYS FRAGILE.

In addition to being vastly outnumbered by cars, bike riders are much more exposed.

So, even when a rider does something boneheaded, remember—your broken headlight is easier to fix than their broken bones. Take the high road and give bicyclists the space they need to ride safely. Check our website for more road sharing tips.

ORTHOPAEDIC
—TRAUMA—
ASSOCIATION
ota.org

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS
orthoinfo.org

VISIT ORTHOTRINFO.ORG/BIKESAFETY

TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH, CONNECTICUT
Invitation to Bid
3 Wilhenger Drive Exterior Painting

Sealed Bids for the 3 Wilhenger Drive Exterior Painting Project will be received by the Town of Marlborough at the Town Clerk's Office until 10:00 AM local time on Thursday, August 27, 2026. Received Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time.

Bids shall be Lump Sum.

Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents on-line at marlboroughct.net or CT DAS CT Source website and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Building Land Use/Building Department by calling 860 295 6202 or e-mail Building@marlboroughct.net.

To receive the documents via package services, send a completed pre-paid pickup label from either UPS or FEDEX to the Issuing Office. PDF copies are available upon request after receipt of the non-refundable fee.

The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered as the Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 19 2026, at 3 Wilhenger Drive Marlborough, CT. Attendance at the pre-bid meeting is highly encouraged but is not mandatory.

The successful Bidder will be required to provide a Performance Bond in the amount of one hundred percent of the Contract Price. The Owner is exempt from payment of Sales and Use Taxes on all materials and equipment to be permanently incorporated in the Work. These taxes shall not be included in the Bid.

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirement for all contractors and subcontractors to provide affirmative action to ensure equal opportunity employment as noted in the Governor's Executive Orders 3 and 17.

The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good, capable of being accepted, and may not be withdrawn for a period of sixty [60] days, Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of bids.

The Town reserves the right to waive any technical defects in the bids; to reject bids which do not conform to the terms and conditions described in the specifications; to reject any, any part of, or all bids; to waive informalities or irregularities in the bidding process; and to accept that bid which the Town deems to be in its best interest, whether or not it is the lowest dollar proposed.

All work to be performed in connection with the proposed project will be subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations.

If the Town determines, in its sole discretion, to proceed with the work, the successful bidder must execute and deliver an Agreement and furnish valid Certificates of Insurance with full policies, a Performance Bond, and to the Town prior to the start of any work. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that it has received all addendums to this Invitation to Bid prior to submitting a bid. This Invitation to Bid is not binding in the Town.

The Town reserves the right to revise or amend the plans and specifications from time to time as it deems necessary.

This Invitation to Bid has been prepared solely to solicit bids and does not constitute a contract offer.

The Town reserves the right to amend, cancel, postpone, withdraw, or resubmit this Invitation for Bid at any time if it is in the best interest of the Town to do so.

The Town is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority/Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to apply.

Town of Marlborough, Connecticut
By: David R. Porter, Town Manager
Date: June 30, 2026

2TB 8/7, 8/14

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING COLLECTIONS & ACCUMULATIONS, FREE REVIEW: Comic Books, Vintage Toys, Sports Cards, Adv Signs/Cans (Soda, Beer, Gas Station), Zippos, License Plates, Jewelry, Postcards, Etc. Call/Text 860-817-4350

TAKING CONSIGNMENTS: Art, jewelry, collectibles, décor, vintage & antique clothing and items. Cash buys also available. Call Mercantile on Main to learn more, 860-305-9400.

WANTED GRANITE STONES: mill stones, tether stones, entry steps, fence posts, feeding troughs, well covers, sinks, posts, curbing, stone boot scrapers, and carriage steps. 860-216-8144.

WANTED TO BUY: your sterling silverware, tea set, or any item made of sterling. Top cash price paid on the spot. I can come to your home or meet you at a place of your choosing. Call/text Dominic at 860-836-5013 or email dmbappraisal@sbccglobal.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.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

ESTABLISHED WOODWORKING SHOP FOR SALE: in Glastonbury rented space. Fully Equipped. 20 x 52 plus storage space. 860-633-5530.

CILDCARE

PORTLAND LICENSED HOME DAYCARE: has infant opening. Call or text for information. 860-301-5972.

PETS

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-heel-dogtraining.com.



REAL ESTATE

RENTALS

CANDLELIGHT APARTMENTS, GLASTONBURY: RENT NOW, one bedroom available, renovated, first floor. Rent is currently \$1,750 per month. Includes heat/hot water, trash, sewer. Onsite storage and assigned parking available. Property is a SMOKE FREE Complex. Please call via text or cell 860-913-6723, Office 860-529-1725.

FOR LEASE COLCHESTER: 2-story cold storage barn including one garage. 780 sqft each level. Near Route 2. Close to enter. To view property or information call Harold at 860-662-2700. Available immediately

Century 21 Allpoints Realty



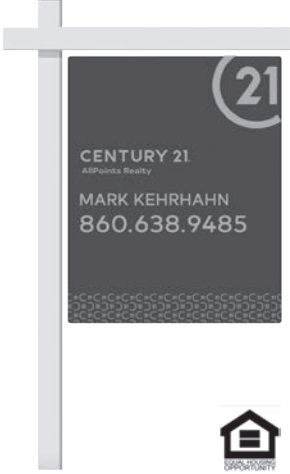
Whether you're considering selling your home, or beginning the quest to find your first/next home, let me partner with you to accomplish your goals! As a team member of Century 21 Allpoints, we have the experience, resources, relationships and proven track record to guide you through this volatile Market.

Mark Kehrhahn,
for all Your real estate needs!

860-638-9485
Markk.realestate@gmail.com

#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



CLASSIFIEDS PAY

in The Glastonbury Citizen, Rivereast News Bulletin and The Rare Reminder

Email your Classified Line Ad to admin@glcitizen.com & call with your credit card no.

- \$16.00 per week for 25 words or less in *The Glastonbury Citizen*;30¢ for each additional word.
- \$15.00 per week for 25 words or less in the *Rivereast News Bulletin*;30¢ for each additional word.
- \$24.00 per week combination rate, 30¢ for each additional word for insertion in both the *Citizen* and the *Bulletin*.
- \$35.00 per week combination rate;30¢ for each additional word for insertion in the *Citizen*, *Bulletin* and *The Rare Reminder*.

Please make checks payable to: *The Glastonbury Citizen*



The early stages of communication disorders are easier to spot when you know the signs.

IDENTIFY THE SIGNS



For info: IdentifyTheSigns.org

EMPLOYMENT

DONDERO ORCHARDS IS SEEKING: enthusiastic individuals to join their kitchen team! Stop by 529 Woodland Street, South Glastonbury for an application!

MAJOR LANDSCAPING IN HEBRON: Weeding and other outside assistance. Transport provided as necessary. Wage negotiable. Paid daily. Good for High School Students. 860-377-0188. Text best.



Dondero Orchards is looking for enthusiastic individuals to join their kitchen team!!

Job Requirements:

- Willingness to learn
- Strong work ethic
- Comfort in a fast paced environment
- 18 years or older

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Preparing sandwiches for lunch service
- Prepping fruits & vegetables
- Assembling pies
- Making pickles
- Cleaning • & more!

Please stop in to 529 Woodland Street for more information and to fill out an application or Call (860) 659-0294 and ask to speak to Sandy.

RE7-24-26

New Beginnings for Life is a smaller company with a big heart that cares for individuals with intellectual disabilities. We are seeking kind, patient, and passionate candidates to join our team. We have individuals who need care and companionship in Colchester and surrounding towns. We have great benefits, and the rate of pay is \$17.25 per hour.

For our day support program, which is from 8am-4pm and 2pm-5pm, the towns are in Salem, Groton, Hebron, Lebanon, Higganum, East Haddam, New London, Norwich, East Hampton, Colchester.

For our group home positions we have Monday-Sunday open second and third shift which is 3pm-11pm and 11pm-7am.

These positions are in Colchester.

If you are interested in becoming a part of our team, please feel free to call us and ask for more information at 860-531-9426

RE3-15-24

TOWN OF HEBRON PROGRAM SUPERVISOR II

The Town of Hebron Parks and Recreation Department is seeking a full time Program Supervisor II. The purpose of this position is to develop, promote, initiate and supervise a wide variety of passive, active and developmental recreation programs. Other responsibilities will include assisting in hiring, training and supervision of the seasonal staff, program instructors and site supervisors. Applicants must possess a valid driver's license, be available for night and weekend hours, and have at least five years experience in recreation or related field or any combination of experience and education. This 40 hour work week union position starting salary range is \$53,095 to \$55,890 DOE with a full benefit package. Please send letters of interest and resume to the Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248. Job description is available at the Town Manager's Office. For more details visit <https://hebronct.gov> Deadline for application is Friday, August 21, 2026. The Town of Hebron is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

1TB 8/7

YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE!

Call us at: 860-633-4691

TOWN OF HEBRON FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR/ ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST

The Town of Hebron is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of Accounting Specialist. Under the direction of the Finance Director, the Accounting Specialist performs research and analysis concerning the general operating, capital projects and special revenue budgets of the Town and maintenance of the general ledgers associated with all Town funds. Provides assistance with cash management, financial reporting and assists with the preparation of the general fund budget. The successful candidate should have proficiency with the use of financial accounting software and Office 365. A bachelor's degree in accounting and experience with the principles and practices of municipal accounting is preferred. Salary range of \$68,000 to \$72,000 depending on experience with a generous benefits package, including medical, retirement and paid time off. Resume, cover letter and a Town of Hebron employment application should be sent to Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248. Application deadline is Monday, August 31, 2026. Hebron is an EOE.

1TB 8/7

WESTSIDE MANOR IS HIRING!
Full-Time & Part-Time Housekeeper
Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–4:00 PM

Duties: General housekeeping and maintaining a clean, safe, and comfortable environment. Benefits are available for full-time employees. If you are dependable, hardworking, and take pride in your work, we encourage you to apply!

Part-Time 2nd Shift Attendant
Hours: 3:00 PM–11:00 PM, \$18.00/hour

Responsibilities: Housekeeping, meal preparation, and medication administration. Employees will be cross-trained, and duties will vary based on the scheduled assignment. Medication administration training will be provided and is mandatory for this position. Every other weekend is required and is a mandatory part of the position. Full job responsibilities for both positions will be discussed during the interview.

Walk-In Interviews: Monday–Friday, 10:00 AM–2:00 PM
9 WEST HIGH STREET, EAST HAMPTON

RE7-31-26

EMPLOYMENT



Sadlers is currently hiring full and part time servers and dishwashers. Must have experience and flexibility. We are looking for some day and night availability as well as weekends. Dishwashers: school nights and weekends. Good pay and great food comes with the job. Year round availability preferred. Applicants may apply between 3:00 & 5:00 daily. 61 North Main Street, Marlborough We are closed on Mondays.

RE 8-7-26



Are you a morning person looking for a job in a new small mom & pop store. **We are seeking a part time Cook/Baker and an Associate.**

You'll have the opportunity to serve our valued customers, and be part of a friendly, community minded team. You'll learn to prepare the best Organic coffee, muffins, breads, and cookies. You'll learn how to care for plants and Organic produce, and blend some of the finest Organic Olive Oils.

The Good Earth Gift & Garden
Located at 582 Norwich Ave.
Colchester, CT. 06415
860-537-4798

Call or stop by and obtain an application and possible interview time.

RE8-7-26

TREE & LANDSCAPING



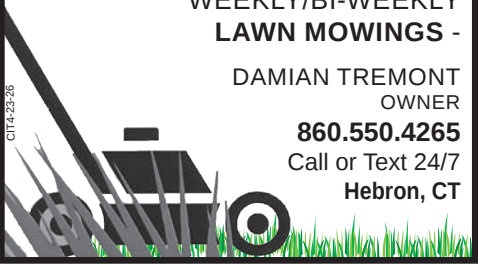
Quality Work
Same Day
Call Returns

— **FOUR SEASON SERVICES** —
CALL NOW FOR SPRING CLEANUPS
Weekly Mowing
Pruning • Brush Clearing
Mulch • Stones • Snow Removal
Call Jaime **(860) 478-8457**
www.jbelandscaping.com

RES-13-26

BUDGET LAWN CARE

SPRING & FALL CLEAN UPS
WEEKLY/BI-WEEKLY
LAWN MOWINGS -



DAMIAN TREMONT
OWNER
860.550.4265
Call or Text 24/7
Hebron, CT

CIT-23-26

TREE REMOVAL

We Climb
Licensed Arborist
on Staff

Lower impact to your property.
We go where heavy equipment can't.

YARD EXPANSIONS
FIREWOOD FOR SALE
Lot & Brush Clearing

We Now Accept All Major Credit Cards • Fully Insured
C & C Lawncare – East Hampton
(203) 435-5355

RE3-27-26

DB STUMP Removal LLC
860-205-3266

LICENSED & INSURED • VETERAN DISCOUNTS

- Stump Grinding / Removal
- Brush Cutting
- Yard Expansions & Restoration
- Lawn Aeration & Overseeding



www.dbstumpremoval.com
f DBStumpremoval

CIT-13-26

— **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!

CIT-18-24

EASTBURY
Landscaping & Home Improvement
Reliable • Affordable • Quality Work You Can Trust.

SERVICES

- Tree & Land Clearing
 - Tree & Brush Cutting & Removal • Stump Removal
- Property & Hardscape
 - Grading & Drainage • Concrete • Shed Pads
 - Walls/Walkways & Patios
 - Gravel Driveways & Extensions
- Cleanup & Prep
 - Demo & Debris Removal



For more info call or text
860-906-7825
Eastburyhomeimprovement@gmail.com
Licensed & Insured

RES-29-26



Certified Arborists
of Marlborough LLC
CT Licensed Arborist #5-6236

LOCALLY OWNED
FULL SERVICE TREE EXPERTS

Remove your high-risk trees
BEFORE the storm season arrives!

860.573.0428
toddrcohen@hotmail.com
Veteran Owned
& Operated

Senior, Veteran, & First Responder Discounts

FULLY LICENSED & INSURED

RES-8-24

Spring/Fall Clean-ups • Dethatching
Shrub/Tree Removal
Pruning • Brush Clearing
Patios • Retaining Walls • Paver Walkways
Mulch • Stones
Sidewalk Edging



30 YEARS
EXPERIENCE

CALL CHRIS
860-644-2595
QUALITY WORK
REASONABLE RATES

L&L Landscaping

RE4-18-25

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

RES-7-25

RYANS TREE SERVICE

Hazardous Tree Removal We Climb or Bucket
Truck Service

CALL NOW
FOR LOW
SUMMER RATES!

- Lot Clearing & Yard Expansions
- Stumpgrinding & Grading (including muddy driveways)

Accepting Most Major Credit Cards    

FULLY INSURED State Lic. #SFPH000902 **FREE ESTIMATES**

Call 860-209-5772



RES-31-26

Cottage Grove Landscaping, LLC

Site Work • Demolition
Septic Installation & Repair
City Water & Sewer Installation

Chris Reichardt
860-895-3913
DMCR # 003584 • PLM # 0282599-P7
SSSI # 005555 • HIC # 0563995

RE-7-11-25



Lawn TECS SR LLC.
Yard Grooming / Lawn Maintenance
H (860) 295-1479 • C (860) 214-9923
RLFrancks@comcast.net

Summer Is Here!

Schedule Your Cleanups Today
We're into summer and it's time to start thinking about cutting that overgrowth area back and don't forget your drains.

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



RES-20-26

Patios/Walkways
Landscape Design
Lawn Installations



AMV LANDSCAPING
Commercial - Residential
Locally in East Hampton, CT

- Scheduled Mowings
- New Lawn Installations
- Spring/Fall Cleanups
- Light Excavation/Drainage
- Landscape Rock/Mulch Installation
- Landscape Bed Design/Plantings
- Demolition
- Snow Removal/Salting
- Junk Removal/Clean outs
- Retaining Walls/Walks

Fully Licensed & Insured – HIC # 0661818

860.913.6203

RE6-5-26



Dorsey Construction
Summer is Here!
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

RES-26-26

NEED A TRIM?



WANT TO REGAIN YOUR LAWN COMPOSURE?
WE CAN HELP!!!

LAWNS-N-STUFF
“WE DO MORE THAN CUT THE GRASS”
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • FULLY INSURED
NOW SCHEDULING WEEKLY MOWING

- MULCHING
- SHRUB TRIMMING
- TREE WORK /PLANTING
- FERTILIZING
- GARDEN INSTALLS
- WALLS/WALKWAYS
- DUMP RUNS/HAULING
- MINI-EXCAVATING
- DRAINAGE
- BOBCAT WORK

860-295-9692
Marlborough, CT

REF-5-24

Your Dream Backyard Awaits



PATIOS • WALKWAYS • FIREPITS
Summer's too short not to enjoy your outdoor space. We'll build you the perfect spot to relax, entertain, and make memories.

LET'S GET OUTSIDE
Custom patios, walls, beautiful walkways, and cozy firepits designed for your backyard.

860-295-9692
Marlborough, CT
Limited spots available this season—reach out today!

RE4-24-26

TREE & LANDSCAPING



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

Toper's Lawncare Plus LLC

(860) 295-0097

Property Maintenance • Landscape Bed Renovation

Spring Cleanups • Tree & Shrub Planting & Removal

Topsoil, Mulch & Decorative Stone Installation

Seasonal Cleanup • Dethatching • Plug Aeration

Over-Seeding • Yard Expansion • Drainage • Excavation

Lawn Installation/Repair • Weekly Mowing

Tick/Mosquito Control

Brush Removal including roots

SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

HIC.0600529

RE3-29-24



Toper's Lawncare PLUS

TSMINOR ENTERPRISES, LLC

— RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL —

Storm Clean Up & Tree Removal

Mulching and Planting

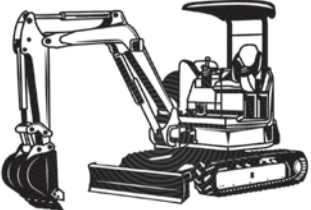
Lawn Installation

Land Clearing

Tree, Brush and Stump Removal

Patios, Walkways and Retaining Walls

Drainage: Gutters, French Drains, Drywells



Dumpster Rental (10-15yd)

Junk Removal and Demolition

860-716-0661

tsminorenterprises.com

FULLY INSURED

HIC# 0653158

RE7-17-26

Shorts Landscaping LLC

FULLY INSURED

FREE ESTIMATES

CT HIC Lic #0635384

Weekly & Bi-Weekly Mowing

Walks • Patios • Retaining Walls

Light Excavation & Drainage

COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL

— CALL STEVE —

(860) 917-5459

Serving Colchester & Surrounding Towns



RE3-20-30



ALL-WOOD

Lawn Mowing Services

Senior & Veteran Discounts

Free Estimates

860-798-4155

CIT6-4-26

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

WE'RE HIRING! Call us today for more info.

"Weeding out all your garden woes."



CIT6-23-23

KC

LAWN & LANDSCAPE

Now Accepting New Customers For:

Weekly Mowing

Mulching • Pruning

Commercial & Residential

www.kclawncarellc.com

HIC.0642096 Fully Lic. & Ins. • Free Estimates

Portland, CT

860-342-0352





RE4-24-26

SERVICES

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.

DEE'S ANTIQUES, PAYS \$\$ CASH MONEY \$\$:

Buying gold jewelry, sterling silver jewelry and gold and silver coins. Military items, musical instruments, vintage advertising signs and memorabilia, old toys, old hunting, and fishing items. Servicing the community and family respectively for 50 years. Call 203-235-8431.

DUMP RUNS/LIGHT HAULING:

Same day appointments available. Cleanouts, basements, garages. Even junk in the backyard. We can take as much or as little as you want. Mark 860-295-9692 or 860-916-9577.

FLOOR SANDING AND REFINISHING:

Custom staining and finishing. Repairing and laying of all wood floors. Free estimates. James Gorman 860-647-9261.

FRED'S HANDY MAN SOLUTION:

Licensed & Insured. Carpentry, painting, flooring, bathrooms, items repaired or replaced, doors, locks, shades, switches, plugs, garbage disposal, faucets, fans, lighting, 860-904-0158.

ABLE MASON & RESTORATION LLC:

Chimney built, liner & wood stove installation, Brick, block, stone veneer, pavers, patio, tile and bathroom remodel, all masonry repairs. Licensed & Insured. Call 860-978-2947.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:

Let us re-invent your home. We specialize in bathroom, kitchen, basement renovations. Painting, window installation, decks & patio. Free estimate, Licensed & Insured. RK Home Repair LLC 860-331-1791.

INTERIOR PAINTING, DRYWALL REPAIR/ REMODELLING:

Expert textured ceiling repairs, flooring installation, kitchen and bathroom updates/remodelling. Handyman services. Over 35 years experience in all phases of remodelling. Reasonable prices/low hourly rates, licensed and insured. Call or text Mark at 860-805-8122.

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR RENOVATIONS:

Dry wall repairs, sheet rocking, water damage, interior/exterior painting, 6" gutter installation and gutter repairs. Call 860-347-0509.

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.

LEON MASONRY LLC:

Built on Craft. Driven By Quality. Specializing in all types of Masonry Work-Inside and Out. Licensed & Insured. 432-423-5521 OR 860-888-9763.

NEED A RELIABLE PLUMBER:

or Home Repair Pro? Call Justin - Your Local Plumbing & Bath Specialist! From leaky pipes to full bathroom makeovers, we do it all: Pipe repair; Water heaters, toilets & garbage disposals; Kitchen sinks & faucets; Tub & shower valve replacements; Full & partial bath remodels. Fast. Friendly. Affordable. Free Estimates, Licensed & Insured, Call or Text Justin Today: 203-440-5496 Quality Work You Can Trust!

RIP GRAVESTONE CLEANING:

Tired of the dirty back breaking job of cleaning your loved ones gravestone, with advertised products that don't really work? Have your headstones safely, effectively deep hand cleaned of dirt, mold, mildew, etc. Insured, References, Results, Owner operated, no contracts. Call, text 860-798-5770.

WINDOW CLEANING/ POWERWASHING:

: Themarcofclean-windows.com. Since 1991 and loving it! Local & Insured. In/out, Outside only special. Text Marc at 860-508-0447.

WINDOW CLEANING:

Residential, \$9 per window inside and out. Call 860-883-6775. Mr. Squeegee.

WOOD FLOORS:

Questioning whether your wood floors really need sanding? Have existing surface finish deep cleaned, revitalized, with a durable acrylic/urethane floor finish. The best alternative to the mess, expense of sanding. A great affordable appearance booster for home sellers. Carpets safely dry cleaned. Experienced, references, insured. William Agostinelli 860-704-8486 Calls Only. Support Small Business.

Classifieds Pay

The Glastonbury Citizen & Rivereast News Bulletin

Call 860-633-4691 or email your classified line ad to admin@glcitizen.com

JOHN LACY PAINTING

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR Quality Craftsmanship

Walls - \$159 18' x 16' avg. room

860-416-8354 john_lacy@icloud.com



Insured

Free Estimates

40 YEARS EXPERIENCE

RE3-15-24

LAWN MOWING:

Local! Professional, competitive rates. 30 years of experience. Call Thomas 860-267-7515.

POISON IVY ~ HAND WEEDING:

pest plants and vines removed from trees, walls, and gardens/land clearing. NO CHEMICALS EVER. Call Mike 860-398-0500. Portland.

TREE SERVICES:

Beech leaf disease management, arborvitae maintenance, tree pruning, shrub pruning, removals, consulting by licensed arborists. LaPila Arborists, LLC 860-965-5546.

JIM'S TREE STUMP REMOVAL

Fast Service

Reasonable Rates

Free Estimates

860-267-9957



RE4-2-21

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

CIT3-9-23



HOWES Landscaping & Tree Service LLC

860-608-1480

Howes your yard?

Specializing in TREE REMOVAL and all your LANDSCAPING NEEDS!

Plantings, Mulch, Yard Expansion, Skidsteer Service and Much More!

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL Free Estimates • Fully Insured

RE4-3-26

NO TREE TOO TOUGH...

Tree Removal • Stump Grinding

Multi-Tree Discounts • Crane Service

Brush Clearing • Lot Clearing

— RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL —

RSK TREE SERVICE

Ryan Krajewski

860-573-1244

GLASTONBURY, CT

Licensed & Insured

VISA M C A E

All calls returned with 24 hours!

CIT7-9-26

SERVICES



BB PLUMBING LLC

PLUMBING AND BACKFLOW TESTING

(860)882-9108

BBplumbing860@gmail.com

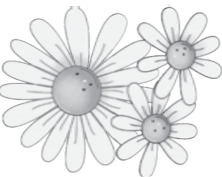
PLM.0292062.P1

RE8-7-25

Columbia Sealcoat Co.
COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL
Protect & Renew Your Pavement

Crack & Patch Repair
FREE ESTIMATES
860-228-7171 LIC/INS

CT3-3-20



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

RE3-13-20

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

ELC. 0209770-E1

RE10-4-24



PLUMBING & HEATING

from dripping faucets to all your major plumbing/heating needs

Water Heaters
Leaky Pipe Repair/Replacements
Garbage Disposal Replacements
Faucets/Toilets
Call Leo at 860-267-2354

Lic. # P204015H389727

RE3-9-26

Insured

ASPHALT MAINTENANCE

ampavingct.com

PAVING CONTRACTORS, LLC

DRIVEWAYS • PARKING LOTS • DRAINAGE
ALL TYPES OF CONCRETE WORK
BLUESTONE PATIOS & WALKWAYS

(860)-632-PAVE(7283)

FULLY INSURED Licensed Contractor • CT Lic. #579594
Commercial & Residential • FREE ESTIMATES • 7 days a week

Over 25 years in business

RE3-13-20

Asphalt Solutions

Sealcoating
Crack Filling
Paving

SUMMER SPECIAL!
\$100 OFF

Call Tyler 860-333-0070

Major Credit Cards Accepted – Licensed & Insured HIC 0657488

CTE-25-26

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**

195 Jones Hollow Rd., Marlborough, CT
860-295-9566
Established 1990 – Proud of Our Great Service Record
FULLY INSURED • CT Lic. # 0537749

CT3-5-20

Caso's HVAC, LLC

Heating • Cooling • Installation • Service
Natural Gas Conversions

We Install High Efficiency Heating & Cooling Equipment
(HIGH EFFICIENCY BURNS LESS FUEL)
Specializing in Boiler Repair, Central Air,
Hydro Systems, and Sheetmetal for new and existing homes.
We Offer Maintenance Contracts
Residential & Commercial • Over 20 Years Experience

CT Lic# 51 394141 **(860) 267-5851** Insured

RE3-13-20

JRG ENTERPRISES CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

DRIVEWAY SEALING & REPAIR
HOT CRACK SEALING
BRUSH MOWING & CLEARING

CALL JIM GROSSMAN AT 860-305-1823

RE3-20-26

H₂O

equipmentcompany inc.

Providing safe clean water since 1967

Phone: 860-267-0110
www.h2oequipment.com

24/7 Emergency Services
Installation & Repair
Well Pumps
Pressure Tanks
Pressure Issues
Water Testing
Water Softeners
Neutralizers, Iron & Sulfur Filters
Ultra Violet Treatment for Bacteria
Reverse Osmosis Systems
Drinking Water Systems
Arsenic/Uranium/Radon/
PFAS Mitigation
Well Extensions & Well Work
Well Inspections
Chlorination & Yield Tests

License #J1-279759
License # W5-0000085

RE2-2-24

House Washing, Roof Cleaning, & More!

No Water, No Problem!
Just let us know.

Suds & Sunshine LLC

860-942-3913

FREE ESTIMATES

Google Us ★★★★★

HIC. 0654618 – Insured

RE4-3-26



ELEVATE EARTH & WATER WORKS LLC

SEPTIC SYSTEMS
EXCAVATION SERVICES
WATER & SEWER MAINS
Drainage, Grading and More!

(860) 334-6425
earthandwaterworks@gmail.com

Call or Email for a FREE Estimate!

Licensed & Insured

RE4-11-25

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

RE2-2-24

Free Estimates

ALL PURPOSE PAVING, LLC

State of the Art Equipment

MUDDY DRIVEWAY? CALL US TODAY!

No Job Too Big or Small
Lic# 00548924
"All Work Guaranteed"

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.

RE3-7-25

TAYLOR PAVING LLC

Now on our 41st Season!
"Original Owners Since 1985"

DRIVEWAY PROBLEMS? FREE ESTIMATES

On Your Asphalt Paving Work, Permanent Base Stonedust Products, Processed Gravel, Compaction, Excavation & Drainage Work
When your asphalt millings fail in a year call Al!

(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

RE4-2-26

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

RE11-6-20

RADIANT FLOOR HEATING LLC.

RADIANT FLOOR HEATING

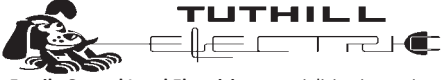
Quality You Can See. Comfort You Can Feel.
Simple, efficient, long-lasting, comfortable heating
Serving Eastern CT and Rhode Island
860-500-6915

CT Lic S1388447 RI Lic 0008848

RE7-31-26



SERVICES



TUTHILL ELECTRIC

Family Owned Local Electricians specializing in service changes, generators, remodels, outlets, lighting and more!

www.Tuthillelectric.com 860-395-7638

FREE ESTIMATES • Fully Licensed & Insured E1 #0197601



Modern Electrical Services LLC

Repairs • Panels • EV Chargers
Lighting • Outlets • Upgrades

(860) 949-1632
mes-ct.com / ELEC 021087-E1



CLEAR BLUE WATER SYSTEMS
Residential & Commercial

- Well Pumps & Holding Tanks
- Water Softeners & Filtration
- Rust & Iron Removal
- PH Correction
- Odors Eliminated
- Radon & Uranium Mitigation
- Reverse Osmosis Drinking Water Systems

860.342.0432
clearbluews@yahoo.com
www.clearbluewatersystems.com

Complete Service & Installation of
Well Pumps & Tanks
Water Softening Filtration
Drinking Water Systems

Lic.# W1-357 • PLM-0284625 • HIC-0627753

HOME IMPROVEMENT

STARKEY HOME REMODELING: Call today for a free estimate on all your Interior and Exterior needs. Roofing, decks, sheds, windows/doors, gutters, landscape services, porches, patios, framing, carpentry, siding, kitchens/baths, basements, flooring (tile, hardwood, laminate & vinyl), painting/staining, insulation, trim, etc. Locally owned. Licensed/Insured. James 860-573-3597.

ALL STAR MASONRY: Affordable prices. Our prices can't be beat. Patios-walkways-steps-walls-concrete-chimney-pavers-blue-stone-drainage-decking and more. 35 years' experience. Fully licensed and insured. HIC#0563329. <https://mersiniv12.wixsite.com/allstarmasonry>. Call Bebe 860-960-9167.

D&A TILE: Free estimates. Licensed and insured. All types of tile work, kitchens, baths. All work guaranteed. 25 years experience. Call 860-508-0893.

GENERAL HOME REPAIRS: Handyman, painting, rotted wood, framing alterations and structural repairs. Fully licensed/insured. Call/Text Ben Egri 860-712-6257.

GUTTER & ROOF CLEANING: Clogged gutters? Roof moss, stains? LOCAL. RELIABLE. Insured, #HIC.06517074. Free estimates. Text/Call Marc anytime, 860-498-2524.

HARDWOOD FLOORING: Installation, repairs, sanding, staining, dustless refinishing. Carpet and vinyl, LVT and ceramic, all flooring. Finish carpentry and decks. HIC#0624266. Fully insured. Free estimates. BROTHERS HOME IMPROVEMENT & FLOORING, LLC. Locally owned/operated info@brothershomeimprovementct.com, www.BrothersHomeimprovementCT.com 860-432-5716, 860-882-7672.

PRINCE OF GUTTER CLEANING: Hand cleaned out then rinsed. Starting at \$125. Insured. Josh Langdon 860-922-4621.

SHAW DRYWALL

HANGING & TAPING

First Class Service & Quality Work

860-228-0680

CT. LIC. #0623063 FULLY INSURED

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 Insured

www.myallwoodflooring.com

Veteran's Painting & Restoration

- Interior & Exterior Custom Painting
- Decks Restored
- Cabinet Refinishing
- Professional Log Home Restoration

Finishing, Refinishing & Maintenance
WE OFFER SUPERIOR CUSTOM PAINTING, CRAFTSMANSHIP, KNOWLEDGE & SERVICE

Let those of us who served... serve you.

Call John at 518.538.8096

Classifieds Pay

The Glastonbury Citizen & Rivereast News Bulletin

Call **860-633-4691** or email your line ad to admin@glcitizen.com

FRANKLIN Painting LLC

877-646-7774

Your Neighborhood Painters

Factory Finish **CABINET RE-SPRAYS**

INTERIORS: Walls, Ceiling, Trim
EXTERIOR Painting & Staining

www.franklinpainting.com

Bonded & Insured - HIC #570442



Frank, Owner



Scan for an appointment

SeaSide Restoration

FINANCING AVAILABLE
\$10,000 * \$117 MONTH

GENERAL CONTRACTOR BUILDER

ADDITIONS • KITCHENS
BATHROOMS • TRIM & PAINTING

ROOFS DONE IN ONE DAY!

860-853-0493

Over 25 Years Experience in Masonry

Gotta & Sons Masonry LLC

Specializing in Chimney Repairs & Hardscapes

Retaining Walls – Cultured Stone Veneers
Patios & Walkways – Indoor/Outdoor Fireplaces

We Service all of Central Connecticut • Free Consultation & Estimate

860-918-9048 Fully Licensed & Insured, Lic. 0640485
www.gottaandsonsmasonry.com

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HOME DESIGNS BY BRUNO

See Me Before You Build!

3D Plans • Permit Plans
Budgets

860-537-5345

all about blinds

89 Main St. East Hampton
Custom Window Treatments

Shades • Shutters
Sheers & Draperies

860-267-8330
allaboutblindsct.com

Michelangelo's Home Painting

Making Your Home A Masterpiece

Fully Insured – Free Estimates – Interior/Exterior

Gregory Ottone
CT License #HIC.0624453
860.682.5479
michelangeloshomepainting@gmail.com

DAVIS PRO PAINTING LLC

Power Washing

860-573-6860

- On Board Water Services
- Free Estimates • Fully Insured

Davispropaintingllc@yahoo.com

Elliott Construction, Inc.

new construction, home improvements, roofs, decks, additions, renovations, interior/exterior painting

860.303.8265 elliottflom27@gmail.com

in business since 1977 • licensed & insured

Marc Viccaro HOME IMPROVEMENT

- Decks • Windows & Doors
- Interior & Exterior Carpentry
- Finished Basements
- Structural Repair & Remodels

860-604-3411 **Marc Viccaro**

HIC # 0650133 • CT Licensed & Insured

Licensed HIC# 0587738 & Fully Insured

STARR BUILDERS LLC

From Additions, Decks, Roofs & Doors to Finished Basements, Siding & Floors

(860) 267-1496

starrbuilders@sbcglobal.net Free Estimates

Deart Associates LLC

- Painting, Staining, Powerwashing
- Cedar & Vinyl Trim & Siding Repair
- Deck Repairs • Carpentry
- Ceiling Texture Removed & Skim Coated

Call Today!

FREE ESTIMATES – LICENSED & INSURED

860-295-6475 • 860-916-7939

ALL TYPES OF MASONRY

Patios • Walls • Paver Driveways
Stone for Pools, Patios, Decks
Stone & Bluestone Brick & Pavers

ADMasonry

Free Estimates • CT Lic. #06096-1701 • Insured
— GLASTONBURY BASED —
Cell **860.368.9486**
Office **860.657.9185**

30 Years Experience

FOUR SEASONS PAINTERS LLC

EXTERIOR/INTERIOR Painting

- Specializing in Wood, Aluminum & Vinyl Siding
- Staining, Powerwashing
- Carpentry, Replacement Windows & Home Improvements
- Free Estimates, Insured

Kevin Greer 860-646-7760 Lic. # 574298
www.FOURSEASONSPAINTERS.net

KKS Construction

Property Maintenance Residential / Commercial

Carpentry – Roofing
Windows – Doors

860.550.0932

Lic 0570333 / Ins - Est. 1995 kimsadlon@cox.net

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

Brian Becker Construction

Remodeling | Additions | Decks
Repairs | Excavation Work
Lot Clearing | Driveways
Foundations | Yard Expansion

— FULLY INSURED & REGISTERED —
Located in Middle Haddam, CT

860.978.7608

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

HOME IMPROVEMENT

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

RE3-13-20


REMODELING SPECIALIST
860.295.1295

• ADDITIONS • BASEMENTS • DECKS
• DORMERS • BATHROOMS • SIDING
• GARAGES • KITCHENS • ROOFING

Certified Green Professional
Certified Aging in Place Specialist
smwelch.com • Insured • CT 607510

CIT3-5-20

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

CIT3-5-20

**CHARTER PAINTING & RESTORATION**
Since 1969
56th 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

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**

CIT3-5-20

PARKER PAINTING

Interior/Exterior • Powerwashing
Light Carpentry
Ceiling & Sheetrock Repair
Water Damage Repair
— FREE ESTIMATES —
LICENSED & INSURED **860-338-0156**

CIT3-5-20


E.L. CONTRACTING
— NO JOB TOO SMALL —

Ed Loveland

860-680-1832 (C)
EDL7@comcast.net
License #609553
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL • FULLY INSURED

RE3-18-22


Swanson PAINTING

Michael Swanson, owner
Powerwashing, Light Carpentry, Laminate Flooring
OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
MAKING HOMES BEAUTIFUL!

CALL: 219-575-0370

RE12-29-23

CHRISTOPHER HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC.
YOUR ROOFING AND SIDING EXPERTS

Roofing | Siding | Gutters | Windows

\$1000 OFF or FREE Gutters with Full Roof or Siding Replacement
with this ad

FREE Estimate **860-381-9336** Financing Available
christopherimprovement.com

CIT9-25-25


STARKEY HOME REMODELING, LLC

• Roofing, Gutters
• Decks, Sheds, Porches
• Windows/Doors
• Landscape Services, Patios
• Additions, Framing
• Siding
• Kitchens, Baths
• Basements
• Flooring (tile, hardwood, laminate & vinyl)
• Painting, Staining
• Insulation, Trim, etc.

JAMES
860-573-3597

Call Today for a Free Estimate on all your Interior and Exterior needs.
Locally owned. Licensed/Insured. Lic. #0632872
UNLOCK YOUR HOMES POTENTIAL

CIT3-5-20

CLEANING SERVICES

HOUSE CLEANING:
Need some help to get your home clean? I'd be happy to help. I have 10+ years of experience, I offer reliable service, reasonable rates and I do an amazing job. References upon request. Please call or text for free estimates. ARIANE'S CLEANING, 860-331-5309.


CHRISTINE'S CLEANING
COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL
Building Maintenance Services. Economical Rates & Prof. Skills. New Customer Discount Available.
860-798-7961

CIT3-5-20

Place Your Classified Ad Online!

Visit **www.glcitizen.com** and click "Classifieds"
Fill out the fields and submit payment via PayPal.

7-3-2025

FOR SALE

COBBLE STONES FOR SALE: 2,000+ pieces, \$2,000. Boat & Motor & Trailer, \$500-\$1,500. Call 860-966-9364. If no one answers, please leave a message.

NORDICTRACK FOR SALE: Very good condition. Located in Portland. \$25. Call 860-798-2418.

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.

MED-MIZER ACTIVE CARE DELUXE ROTATING BED: Never used. New condition. Very heavy! Trailer needed for transport. Owner will help load trailer. Located in East Hampton. Call 860-209-9254.

TAG SALES

ESTATE SALE: 9 Mark Twain Dr, East Hampton. Aug 8-16. Weekends 9-3, Weekdays call for appointment. 860-638-9340. Power tools, garden tools, office furniture, vintage household items. Something for everyone.

MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE: Friday, 8/7, 2pm-6pm. Saturday, 8/8, 8am-3pm. 5 Glenwood Drive, East Hampton. Décor, household, clothes, shoes, and more.

CIT4-2-26

M.J. Emonds MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS LLC
17 Nutmeg Lane, Glastonbury
860-657-4554
www.emonds.com


Hvac, Air Conditioning, Sheet Metal Fabrication
WWW.EMONDS.COM
Lic. #392776

SUMMER is HERE! STAY COOL!

Call for all of your air conditioning needs.


COMFORT SPECIALIST
VISA

CIT6-20-24

Does Your Driveway Need Help?

Driveway Replacement Specialist

• Fast Dependable Service
• Experienced Staff
• Competitive Pricing

• Driveways
• Parking Lots
• Roadways



New England BLACKTOP INC.
860-633-4554
www.NewEnglandBlacktop.com

Satisfying All of Your Paving Needs in Glastonbury! Celebrating 53 YEARS of Quality Service! — SINCE 1973 —

Locally Owned & Operated

FREE ESTIMATES