Spring is here! I know I am looking forward to even warmer weather and more opportunities to be outside. With more of our community getting vaccinated each day, we can look forward to spending quality time with our friends and families. I was happy to be able to take a day off as First Selectman and volunteer at a Chatham Health District Vaccination Clinic on March 17, to do my part in helping make our community safer. I have attended several ribbon cuttings for new businesses, which is very exciting as the new businesses fill gaps, such as women's health care and offer greater local shopping opportunities. The Colchester Online Shopping Guide provides you with many local vendors from whom you can purchase. I encourage you to shop local when you can and support our small businesses, they are the heartbeat of our community.

There are so many exciting new programs and opportunities in this newsletter. Our summer camp is going to be up and running, along with t-ball, baseball and softball, experiences that were shut down last summer due to COVID. With all the distance learning and screen time I hope that your family can participate in our Unplugged weekend April 23 – 25. There will be more information coming out as we get closer. We are lucky to live in a town that is large enough to offer so many opportunities, but still small enough to have a strong sense of community. This newsletter and all its offerings are everyday examples of the "Best of Colchester."

Sincerely,

Mary Bylone

First Selectman, Town of Colchester