

Support for military community

AN ambulance service has announced the launch of a new support network for the military community.

The East of England Ambulance Service (EEAST) said the Armed Forces Network will be a “space where veterans, reservists and their families can come together” to improve the support offered to staff.

The network will be launched during Armed Forces Week.

It will not only provide support for staff but also focus on the unique needs of veterans who are patients.

Neill Moloney, CEO of EEAST, said: “Within EEAST, we have a wide range of people from within the military communities, whether by being veterans, reservists, military co-responders who volunteer with us in their spare time, or by being the spouses of those currently serving.

“We hope our Armed Forces Network will provide a space where veterans, reservists and their families can come together to improve the support we offer to staff.

“We also recognise that EEAST’s patients that are veterans can also have complex and specific needs and we hope that the lived experience of members of the Armed Forces Network will also help us improve the support we provide to those patients.”

Learn to spot signs of child exploitation

A WEEK-LONG campaign is set to raise awareness about the risks of child exploitation in Essex.

The Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) and its partners are leading the initiative, which aims to educate the public, as well as those who work closely with children, about the signs of child exploitation and how to report concerns.

Activities and training sessions are taking place across the county, focusing on high-risk areas such as public transport, leisure, hospitality, and sports clubs.

Community outreach teams are visiting leisure and hospitality venues to inform staff about potential victims of child exploitation and guide them on reporting concerns to the police.

The Operation Henderson campaign will see community policing teams and partners travel on key public transport routes to help safeguard young people.

A networking session will also be held with sports and activity providers to ensure they are aware of the risks of child exploitation.

Online safety information for parents is being shared throughout the week to encourage open communication at home about digital resilience and online harm.

The statutory partners said: “Our aim is to put an end to child exploitation in all its forms and we have been working together for many years to make Essex an even safer place to grow up.”

SIXTH FORMER FIRST AT SCHOOL TO BE OFFERED COURSE SPOT

Student wins a place at Harvard University



■ Praise - Chase High School



■ History maker - Jemimah Omombo has been accepted on to a course at Harvard

A STUDENT in Westcliff has made history after becoming the first from her sixth form to be accepted on to a course at Harvard University.

Jemimah Omombo, a Year 13 student at Chase High School Sixth Form, was invited to take part in the Harvard Undergraduate Ventures-TECH Summer Program.

The student, who has ambitions to launch her own business to help students maximise their own academic potential, completed an application form and went through an interview process, sharing her business aspirations with the American university.

The talented student was offered a \$2,000 scholarship to attend the prestigious course. However, she had to raise an additional £2,000 herself, securing investment from educational sponsors and through a Go Fund Me page.

Each year, only about 200 students are accepted on to the summer course.

Jemimah said: “One thing I

like about Chase is that they make education easy – my future business aims to do the same.

“I want to start a business that helps students to maximise their academic potential, whether that’s by achieving a Grade 4 or a Grade 9. I’m a big believer in commoditising high-quality education as it isn’t something all students get access to across the country.”

Jemimah believes her experience at Harvard will provide invaluable insights into the start-up world, aiding her future business endeavours.

The course will immerse Jemimah in the world of leading start-ups, offering mentorship from world-renowned CEOs, investors and Harvard faculty.

Emma Mulford, assistant headteacher at Chase High School, expressed her pride in Jemimah’s achievement.

She said: “We couldn’t be prouder of Jemimah and all she’s achieved. Her determination and hard work have truly paid off, and being the first student from our sixth form to be accepted onto a Harvard course is an incredible milestone.”

Range of events planned for ‘summer of culture’

A “SUMMER of culture” is set to take place in Essex.

Visitors and residents can look forward to a variety of cultural and artistic activities across the county, all backed by the council’s Arts and Cultural Fund.

Events will include dance performances, theatre plays, artist storytelling walks and music festivals.

Storyteller James Lawrence, who recently walked 250 miles around Essex, collecting stories and sharing them online, will guide the storytelling walks.

Some of the highlights from the planned activities include a community theatre performance by Wise Ram Theatre focusing on the impact of climate change in Tendring and the Flex Youth and Community Group’s “The African Dance and Song Project” in Basildon, aimed at engaging marginalised youth.

Mark Durham, councillor responsible for arts, heritage, and culture, said: “By partnering with Essex arts and cultural organisations, we’re able to showcase some amazing activities this summer so that as many residents as possible can enjoy activities across the county.

“We have a range of performances that are sure to delight people of all ages. There really is something for everyone in this year’s summer of culture.”

Launched in 2021, the Arts and Cultural Fund has supported over 80 countywide events, collaborated with more than 15,000 schoolchildren, and entertained over 500,000 people.

WEATHER

TODAY	TOMORROW	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 Sunny and a gentle breeze 16-27C	 Light rain and a fresh breeze 13-25C	 15-26C	 15-29C	 16-28C

TIDES

HARWICH: Today: 12.17pm 3.9m. Tomorrow: 12.38am 4m, 1.06pm 3.9m.
SOUTHEND: Today: 12.32am 5.7m, 1.09pm 5.5m. Tomorrow: 1.25am 5.9m, 1.59pm 5.6m.
SUNRISE/SET
TODAY: 9:19pm
TOMORROW: 4:41am, 9:19m