

RIVEREAST News Bulletin

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The home found at 150 East St., commonly known as the Peters House, is at the center of a debate in Hebron. The town acquired it in 2004, and residents and town officials cannot agree on whether to keep the home and restore it, or to sell it off.

Debate Continues Over Historical Hebron House

by Sarah McCoy

The grant that was supposed to bring answers has two sides disagreeing, again.

Last November the Hebron Historic Properties Commission (HHPC) urged the town to apply for, and match funding, for a Connecticut Trust Historic Preservation Grant to further study the house at 150 East St., commonly known as the Peters' House. By a vote of 3-2 the Board of Selectmen agreed to the grant that would attempt to date the home and trace the previous ownership.

Hebron acquired the parcel when it purchased the Lombardi property in 2004. That land is earmarked for a multi-field sports facility but the house has remained vacant for the last two years. It was last used as a residential home.

Since then the property has gone largely untouched, but certainly not undiscussed.

Town officials believe there is just not enough funding available to restore the house and, therefore, have ideas to sell it. Conversely, there are a group of residents who desperately want to see the town maintain ownership and use the building for a museum, offices, storage, or a number of other options.

"It is a viable piece of Hebron's history and it should remain as such," Hebron Historical Society Vice President Donna McCalla said. McCalla is the leader of a

coalition of residents who have banded together to find a solution for the house under town ownership.

The two studies funded by the Connecticut Trust Historic Preservation Grant were supposed to reveal some of the mysteries surrounding the property.

One of the two studies has been completed. John Obed Curtis, an expert in the field of historical architecture, did a field study of the Peters' House and determined that the main portion of the building was constructed in, or about, 1795. In his report, Curtis writes that, "The house at 150 East Street is too recent to have been constructed by or for Reverend Samuel Peters."

Peters was a man of considerable presence in Hebron's history. He was a wealthy Anglican minister who was eventually run out of town because of his Tory sentiments.

However, further down in his report, Curtis says that the ell of the building shows signs of being constructed in, "the third quarter of the 18th century." This means that the original structure, which represents a portion of what is currently standing, could have been present when Peters lived on the property.

For McCalla this was the news she wanted desperately to hear. "I am quite excited," she said. "It has always been thought

that the ell was the oldest part of the building and this confirms it, in my eyes."

While it isn't the place that the Reverend, himself, lived, McCalla was nevertheless overjoyed. Because of the ell's small size, Curtis called it a likely dwelling for a farmer, artisan, or commoner thus not ruling out the chance that it was once the home to Caesar Peters and his wife, Lewis.

In 1774 Caesar and Lewis were captured and were almost sold as slaves but residents of Hebron bound together to free their fellow residents under the guise that Caesar was wanted on trial in town and, therefore, couldn't leave.

McCalla also said that she is waiting until the second part of the study is done to discuss what plans the coalition may have for the house.

Hebron town officials don't see Curtis' report in the same light that McCalla does. "To call it the Samuel Peters' House is incorrect," Town Manager Jared Clark said early this week. "And, it certainly has not changed the amount of money this town does not have to spend."

Speaking on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, Chairman Karen Strid said the study does little to change the property, in her eyes. "The board wanted to know for

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a fact if this was Reverend Peters' House," she explained, "But our intent always remained the same, unless someone could come up with the money, the town is in no position to keep the Peters' House."

To support her feelings, Strid pointed at the same document that McCalla used to prove her point: Curtis' assessment of the property.

In it Curtis says, "Headquarters for the local historical society is not a viable option."

He cites the rehabilitation costs and the fact that, in his mind, "the world is already too full of historic house museums and many are in financial trouble," as reasons for his claim.

Curtis also discourages the town from looking into converting the house to office buildings. "The improvements needed to make the building compliant with Americans with Disability Act guidelines would take away much of the historic value," he said. "The nicest thing would be to find a wealthy buyer interested in

restoring the property."

What Curtis does recommend is a strict set of guidelines so when the town does sell the property, its historic value can be preserved.

He also recommends the town apply for 150 East St. to be included on the National Registry of Historic Places, something that HHPC Chairman Deena Watson is currently pursuing.

Currently the second stage of the property assessment is underway. Bruce Clouette, a noted Connecticut historian, is researching the title history of the property with hopes of glean- ing additional information about the parcel.

The Board of Selectmen will revisit the Pe- ters' House and look to take proactive steps in their treatment of the home. Agendas for their May meetings were not available at press time.

Curtis' complete report can be found at the Town Clerk's office in the Town Office Building.

East Hampton Town Council Backs Budget

by Michael McCoy

Contrasting starkly with the tone of last year's divisive budget season, the East Hampton Town Council and Board of Finance (BOF) have formed a united front, showing unanimous support for this year's proposal.

On Wednesday, April 11, the Board of Finance unanimously adopted a 2007-08 bud- get of \$35,154,502, a 5.22% increase over the current year's. The BOF's proposal re- duced Town Manager Alan Bergren's bud- get by about \$789,000, \$300,000 of which was deleted from the Board of Education budget.

One notable inclusion was a \$73,000 GVW Mason dump truck that could not find its way into the last budget. Other capital improvement that the proposal allows for is \$59,000 for the retiling of the middle school, due to asbestos issues, as well as a new \$50,000 air conditioning unit for the public library/community center.

BOF cuts included \$100,000 meant to beef up school security, as well as one of two proposed new police officers, saving the town \$45,885. The BOF also chose to trans- form a suggested part-time Economic De- velopment Coordinator into a contracted-by- need slot, shaving off \$30,000. The finance board also deflated the Town Council's legal fees line item by \$26,000, leaving them \$104,000.

During last year's debacle, the Town Council moved funds around after receiv- ing the BOF proposal, always leaving the bottom line the same. After four rounds of volleying the budget, the public finally voted 'yes' in September.

The Town Council sat down again on Tuesday, as they were presented with the newly endorsed BOF budget. Without so much as a single alteration, they passed it unanimously. (Melissa Engel was not present, but voiced her support of the docu- ment in a letter that was read into the record.)

Councilman Scott Minnick said later, "[This budget] needs to pass," reluctantly noting, "The only alternative is to take more money away." Minnick then optimistically

added, "I hope everyone votes 'yes.' I know I am."

Bill Devine, also a member of the coun- cil, said, "Ninety-five percent of the budget is mandated by the state." Conveying that those serving on municipal boards are bound by contracts and other restrictions when com- ing up with a budget, he said, "We have very little to work with."

Devine lauded the BOF for their work, de- claring, "I think they did an excellent job ... they all worked for the good of the town." In noting the BOF's efficiency, he said, "There was nothing we could cut, because they did so good."

As far as predictions for the town referen- dum go, Devine only offered, "I can't read the minds of the people. I'm not going to pretend to."

Another council member, Kyle Dostaler, gave a couple reasons for his support of the proposed budget. Noting the town's growth, he voiced optimism over the inclusion of a new police officer. He also seemed quite pleased with the BOF's decision to contract out the Economic Development Coordina- tor position. "As a consultant, a person could be used more wisely in helping with things like the redevelopment agency, the streetscapes and the Brownfield's effort."

Dostaler said, "[BOF Chairman] Ted Hintz wants a united effort to get this passed, and I agree with that." Hoping that this will in- spire the public's immediate adoption of the budget, he added, "Part of that will depend on how the Board of Finance communicates to the public about this."

Town Manager Alan Bergren offered his hopeful sentiments as well, saying, "We're hoping for everybody to support this budget."

With the grand list up 3.62% from the pre- vious year, the projected mill rate, should the budget pass, would be 23.3, an increase of only 0.82 mills.

The budget is set to go to a town meeting at the East Hampton High School at 7 p.m. on April 30. Then, also at the high school, the referendum will follow on May 8.

Parishioners Working to Restore Steeple

by Sarah McCoy

Since 1842 the steeple atop the Marlborough Congregational Church has remained at the top of the town. Current parishioners are now see- ing to it that it stays that way.

The steeple is falling into disrepair after 165 years of sun, snow, and a couple of hurricanes. Determined to preserve the historic monument, the Congregational Church is beginning the res- toration process.

Repairing the steeple has been on the church's to-do list for quite some time. It wasn't until painters noticed rotting wood two years that the project moved up on the list. The church sees the steeple as invaluable to the congrega- tion and to the town as a whole.

"In order for a town to get its charter, in co- lonial days, it needed to first secure a pastor and a church," said Robert Faulkner, pastor of the Marlborough Congregational Church.

As the first church in town, the Marlborough Congregational Church served as both a reli- gious and political hub. It was used for every- thing from worship to legal proceedings. In 1993 the building was recognized for its his- torical importance as it was placed on the Na- tional Register of Historic Places. A rock out- side the church building today commemorates when the church's (and town's) existence be- gan.

When the town began construction on the church in the early 1840s, plans called for the same steeple that remains today. Its purpose has two parts.

Practically speaking, as the highest point in town, the steeple was used to ring the commu- nity. But the steeple also has a symbolic mean- ing.

"Churches, especially in New England, were designed to look like an arc upside-down," Faulkner explained. "They were the place where God's people came together. And, if you visu- alize the church turned over, the steeple be- comes a symbol for the rudder which, on a boat, steers the ship."

Up until about 10 years ago, students com- pleting their confirmation class were treated to a tour of the steeple. Eagerly, the teenagers would climb the staircase and peer into the bot- tom of the church bell at the base of the steeple.

Despite the absence of this tour, the young churchgoers still clamor for the opportunity to ring the bell. A request Faulkner is pleased to grant.

That bell, which measures about 10 feet in diameter, is one reason why there has been such an urgency placed on restoring the steeple. "Can you imagine that bell falling?" Faulkner said.

Faulkner quickly asserted that the bell is in no danger of falling now but he doesn't want to see the church wait until it is a safety concern.

The church's original bell was installed when the church was first built, in 1842. But a crack in the metal forced the church to replace it in 1889. Except when a hurricane knocked the



Marlborough Congregational Church parishioners are working to restore the historic church steeple.

entire steeple off the church in 1938, the bell and the steeple have remained in place ever since.

The Marlborough Congregational Church's real estate committee is currently handling the necessary steps to begin the restoration. They are in the process of applying for a grant from the CT Commission of Culture and Design that would offset the costs associated with the re- pair.

There are both aesthetic and structural re- pairs that need to be done to the steeple but, at this time, there is no estimate on the cost.

"The price isn't only for materials and la- bor," Faulkner explained. "But the insurance premium for workers up so high in the air."

For now the church will continue to put away a little bit from every fundraiser they complete to fund the repair. As the church proceeds with their fundraising, they hope to put a timetable on the project.

The next church fundraiser will be a Goods and Service Auction to be held on June 2 at the Marlborough Congregational Church. The Auc- tion will begin with a preview at 6 p.m. with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the steeple restoration.

The church is currently looking for architects who might be willing to help with the restora- tion. Faulkner asks those interested to contact him at the church office at 295-9050.

Town Election Coming Up in Andover

by Jim Salemi

Current First Selectman Robert Burbank, endorsed by both parties, will run unopposed in the town's general municipal election on Monday, May 7. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Andover is one of a handful of towns that holds its municipal elections in May rather than November. The majority of towns moved their elections to November to coincide with national and state elections.

Four candidates are running for two avail- able seats on the Board of Selectmen. Republi- can incumbent Jay Linddy and Republican chal- lenger David Holder Ziff will challenge Demo- cratic incumbent Susan England and Demo- cratic challenger Elaine Buchardt.

Seven candidates are running for four seats on the Board of Finance. Incumbent member Cathy Desrosiers is endorsed by both parties.

Democrats Steven Reade, an incumbent and current chairman, Michelle Davidson, also an incumbent and Joan Foran will challenge re- publicans Linda Fish, incumbent Wallace Barton and Donald Denley.

For the Board of Education race, Republi- can incumbent Jay Linddy and challenger Sharyn Keeney will vie with Democrats Kim- berly Hawes and incumbent Scott David Sauyet, for two seats on that board.

Carol Lee has been endorsed by both major parties for Town Clerk. She is running uncon- tested.

Republicans running for the Board of As- sessment Appeals are challengers Christine Dunnack, Dunnack and Ed Turn and incum- bent Georgette Conrad. The three will challenge Democrat incumbents Lillian Gasper and Julia Haverl for three seats on that board.

Andover Seniors Organize for Cost of Living Relief

by Jim Salemi

Concerned with the cost of living for senior citizens in Connecticut and its consequences on her town, resident Georgette Conrad is appealing to the Board of Selectmen to pass an initiative that would provide seniors on fixed incomes with a break on their local property taxes.

Conrad recently founded a local political action group called Seniors Helping Seniors.

"We're trying to get the town to help with taxes," Conrad said. "We had revaluation recently and some seniors were hit hard. Not all, but some. In order to keep seniors in town, the town needs to provide seniors with a little bit of money. They don't have it, I understand, but if seniors start selling their homes it will bring in children. It will cost the town."

The cost of educating more than one child from a single typical household outweighs the tax dollars the home generates, she said. Conrad said that if seniors who currently own two-, three- and four-bedroom homes sell them, more families will move in, further burdening the town's tax base.

"It's not good for the seniors or the town. The seniors don't want to move from places they lived all their lives, and it will cost the town more in services," she said. "If that happens, we'll need more teachers or have larger class sizes, plus the possibility of future school expansions."

The proposal she submitted to the board is modeled after a program in Orange, where seniors who meet income criteria are exempt for up to \$8,000 in property taxes. Conrad has suggested that seniors in Andover be eligible for tax exemption of gross adjusted incomes of \$45,000 or less. That is more than the state's current "Circuit Breaker" program where incomes of \$35,000 or less are eligible for an exemption. She said the amount of taxes seniors would be exempt under her proposal

would be less than Orange's initiative.

"From what I understand about state statutes, towns are allowed to do this, but the state won't reimburse the towns," she said, which she feels may make the town think twice before forgoing that revenue.

Conrad said an existing program is in place where seniors can defer their taxes until after their estates are settled. Then the money is due to the town, with accumulated interest.

"If they decide to do that, they'd be better off selling," she said.

She also looked at a program in Bolton where seniors are allowed to do volunteer work for the town in exchange for property tax breaks.

Municipal Agent for the Elderly Catherine Palazzi said she has heard increasingly over the past four years or so seniors expressing their concern with keeping up with the cost of living in Connecticut.

"I heard a lot of complaints about the one time tax [to balance a budget shortfall] because they didn't expect it or plan for it, but most of the concern seems to be the general cost of living over taxes specifically," Palazzi said.

Seniors Helping Seniors was formed after Conrad mailed out 155 surveys to senior households and received almost 80 returned surveys, an astounding number of returns for a survey. Conrad said she never expected that kind of return. Nor did she expect the number of seniors who attended meetings of the newly-formed group.

"At our first meeting we had 46 people come out. The last one we had 25 or 26," she said.

Conrad said she hopes to see the initiative adopted for the next fiscal year, which begins Aug. 1 of each year.

"The time frame is tight and there've been some stumbling blocks, but we'll see what [the boards of finance and selectmen] do," she said.

Annual Budget Hearing Set for April 30 in Marlborough

The Marlborough Board of Finance recently finalized next year's budget for presentation to taxpayers on Monday, April 30, at the town's public hearing. Residents will have an opportunity to comment on the proposed budget beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the elementary school cafeteria located on School Drive.

The board is recommending a spending plan of \$20,088,775 – \$983,388 more than this year's budget or an overall 5.15% increase. Driving this is a 1% increase for Marlborough's portion of the RHAM budget, a 3.33% increase for local education, and 5.93% increase in town operations.

If the budget is approved as proposed, taxpayers will see their tax bills increase by 1.94%. The mill rate will increase from the current rate of 24.71 to 25.19.

The budget sent by the Board of Selectmen included Gov. Rell's increased state revenue plan – about an additional \$271,000. Since the state revenue will be not known until after May's annual budget meeting, finance members thought it prudent to delete this amount and keep the town's state revenue at current levels.

This revenue shortage was offset by transferring to the General Fund more than \$265,000 from the Recycling, Town Aid Road, and Sub-Division Improvement revolving accounts.

The finance board will present, discuss and field questions on revenue and expenditures, as well as \$342,084 for capital non-recurring (CNR) expenditures. From this amount, \$154,316 is targeted for road reconstruction.

Some other CNR items are: \$42,200 – town hall building maintenance; \$22,500 – sewer connections for town properties; and \$18,000 – fire gear washer and dryer. Other expenditures would replace the library air conditioner, repair Blish Park playscape, and replace backstop fencing at Park Road ball field.

The \$4,246,082 town operations budget increased 5.93%. It provides for 3.5% wage increase for non-contract employees, facility maintenance for the town garage and West Road firehouse, enhanced training programs for volunteer firefighters, technology upgrades, as well as additional funding for senior center activities.

There are two bond resolutions for approval or disapproval at the annual budget meeting. The first bond would authorize the borrowing of \$233,300 for public works equipment and vehicles consisting of a \$55,000 Skid Steer Loader; \$47,300 to replace a 1997 small dump truck; and \$131,000 replacing a 1990 large dump truck with sander and plow. The body of the 1997 dump truck will be retrofitted for \$10,000 to replace the fire department's 1952 forestry truck. The second bond would authorize the borrowing of \$905,684 for road reconstruction as detailed in the town road plan.

Additional details can be reviewed online at the town's website at www.marlbroughct.net. Immediately following the public hearing, the Board of Finance will finalize the budget amount to bring to the annual budget meeting, which is set for Monday, May 14, at 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Portland Accident Remains a Mystery

by Michael McCoy

A Middletown man remains at Hartford Hospital after a brutal accident on Sunday morning.

According to Portland Police Lieutenant Ron Milardo, Robert McGinn, 49, was traveling east along Route 66 in Portland at around 7:50 a.m. on Sunday. Moments later, just as the road merges down to two lanes, McGinn lost control of his 1999 Toyota Tacoma, veered into the westbound lane, and ran into a utility pole,

Milardo said. The pole snapped, while the vehicle rolled onto its roof.

Milardo reported that McGinn suffered numerous injuries, and was taken by ambulance to Hartford Hospital.

According to Milardo, the catalyst for this accident is still under investigation, "We don't know why he lost control of the vehicle at this point," he said. As of Tuesday, McGinn remained in critical condition, Milardo said.

Portland Selectmen Send Budget to Referendum

by Michael McCoy

During a brief meeting on April 11, virtually free of argument, the Board of Selectmen (BOS) put forth their proposed 2007-08 budget. The vote was 6-1, with John Anderson casting the dissenting vote.

The final figure, which will be sent to a referendum, comes to \$28,381,039, which is \$345,628 lighter than the one presented by First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield and Finance Director Rob Buden in February. This makes the proposal 3.37% higher than the one adopted by the town last year.

Cuts included \$35,000 from a line item for a fire department ladder truck (which leaves \$34,000 remaining for that item,) a \$54,000 police cruiser, as well as \$40,000 from public works. A sidewalk improvement plan, costing \$18,000 was also eliminated. The board also voted to decrease the public library payroll budget by \$15,000, and reduced the Board of Education budget by \$200,000, bringing it to \$17.1 million.

One of the further cuts Anderson hoped to see was \$25,000, which has been allotted to fix the entrance to the library. Anderson recognized the need for improvement, but said, "It looks like hell, but we can wait a year."

Fellow selectman Mark Finkelstein responded by saying, "I'm reluctant to put off the repair to the library entrance anymore," and added, "We need to take care of our infrastructure." In defense of funding for \$25,000 for Parks & Recreation improvements that were mentioned as possibly expendable this year, Finkelstein said, "Parks & Recreation has done so much for so many people."

One notable inclusion is a \$25,000 fire department rescue boat. Finkelstein supported the

boat, saying, "There are more and more boats every single summer, and there are more and more incidents every single summer."

The previous evening, the selectmen voted unanimously to commence an immediate hiring freeze for the town. In effect, every department will, for the time being, need to bring every prospective position that they want filled to the BOS, which would review each request individually.

Bransfield made clear that this did not mean that the BOS would deny every request. In fact, she said, "We may need to fill every one." To this end, Finkelstein said, "I also want to make very clear that I don't want to lay anyone off. However, to make a real impact, we're going to have to look at our expenses."

Though eventually voting in favor of the proposed budget, selectman Scott Adamsons expressed interest in further cuts, aiming to alleviate the tax burden, especially for the elderly. "This past year and a half has been especially tough on those with a fixed income," said Adamsons. "They've paid their dues already." He said he hoped an eventual upswing in the economy could allow the town to tackle more projects in the future.

Should this budget be adopted by the town, the estimated mill rate would be 27.53, down from last year's 38.91; however, the grand list has increased 47%, thanks to revaluation.

The 2007-08 budget will go to a town meeting on May 7 at 7 p.m. in the Brownstone Intermediate School auditorium, followed by the referendum on May 14. Voting will take place from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the public library's Mary Flood Room.

Portland Police News

4/4 – Thomas Close, 46, of 32 Oakum Dock Rd., Cobalt, was charged with operating an unregistered motor vehicle and operating a motor vehicle without insurance.

4/13 – Michael Fraulino, 20, of 140 Rose Hill Rd., Portland, was charged with permitting minors to possess alcoholic beverages.

4/13 – Nicholas Moore, 20, of 457 Glastonbury Tpke., Portland, was charged with possession of alcohol by a minor.

Hebron Police News

4/13—A Massachusetts man with a long history of burglary convictions was arrested last Friday after the owner of a house he broke into on East Street returned home and caught him coming down a back staircase, according to reports.

The accused burglar left the house and drove off in a 1999 black Ford Taurus, though not before the homeowner jotted down his license plate number, police said, adding that they caught up with the man, Gary Argiros, on Route 44 in Bolton.

After the car was spotted and stopped by Trooper David Piela, he ran Argiros's information and it was discovered that the suspect had an extensive arrest record with 18 arrests listed, police said.

Piela arrested Argiros and charged him with third degree burglary, fourth degree larceny, criminal attempt to commit larceny, driving an unregistered car, driving without insurance and theft of license plates, according to reports.

After searching the car, police said they found a television remote control, jewelry and coins.

Argiros was held on a \$150,000 bond and was scheduled to appear in Rockville Superior Court last Monday.

4/16—Police are investigating a reported burglary into Mary and Ali's Restaurant on Route 85. A bag with checks and tax forms was reported stolen, according to police.

Colchester Police News

4/11—David J. Holmgren, 42, of Cos Cob, was arrested for speeding and DWI, according to reports.

4/12—Cindy Snarski, 34, of 18 Meadow Drive, Apt. 1, was arrested for disorderly conduct and threatening following a domestic dispute, police said.

Marlborough Police News

4/13—A youthful offender was arrested for possession of marijuana, marijuana paraphernalia, possession of alcohol by a minor and traveling too fast for conditions, according to police.

East Hampton Police News

4/4 — Lyman Desso, 56, of 13 Wildwood Dr., East Hampton, was issued a ticket for failure to drive right.

4/5 — Corinne Ciochini, 19, of 81 Main St., East Hampton, was issued a ticket for failure to have headlights.

4/5 — Paul Angelico, 59, of 13 Sears Pl., East Hampton, was issued a ticket for operating an unregistered motor vehicle.

4/6 — Malvin Ortiz, 41, of 519 East St., New Britain, was arrested for failure to drive right and driving under the influence.

4/6 — A 17-year-old juvenile was issued a ticket for failure to obey a stop sign.

4/7 — Nancy Olson, 36, of 15 Mohawk Trail, East Hampton, was involved in a two-car accident at Commercial Drive and East High Street in East Hampton. Olson was issued a ticket for a right of way violation.

4/9 — Richard Adjei-Sefah, 30, of 40 Olcott St., Manchester, was arrested for speeding.

4/10 — Richard Lafountain, 25, of 8 Haywardville Rd., East Haddam, was arrested for speeding.

4/11 — Bernard C. Jarzabek Jr., 46, of 80 Main St., Portland, was arrested pursuant to a court ordered warrant on charges of operating under the influence of alcohol, failure to drive right and failure to appear 2nd degree.

Obituaries

East Hampton

Ernest A. Duford

Ernest A. Duford, of East Hampton, and formerly of New London, died April 8 in Marlborough. He was born April 29, 1927, in Dover, N.H., the son of the late Charles and Ida (Mailhot) Duford. He married the former Gladys I. Sokolowski on April 10, 1937, in New London; Mrs. Duford died July 27, 1978. He later married the former Margaret Johnson on Feb. 4, 1982; Mrs. Duford died Nov. 19, 1992.

Mr. Duford served in the U.S. Army in 1936. He was awarded the Soldiers Medal for Heroism for saving a boy who fell through ice on Winthrop Cove. He was honorably discharged on Feb. 18, 1939, from Fort H.G. Wright on Fishers Island, N.Y. He worked as an iron worker for the Iron Workers Local Union #15. He retired as apprentice coordinator and was honored with a 60 year service award in December 2006.

He served on the New London Ocean Beach Board, was active with the New London Democrats, and served as 2nd District Chairman. A member of the Young Democrats, he served three years as chairman of Fair Housing Board and was a New London City Councilor from 1970 to 1971. Mr. Duford was a volunteer fireman with F&L Allen Hook and Ladder Co. #1 and was active with Boy Scouts Troop 11 at St. Joseph Church in New London. While living in East Hampton, he was active with the senior center. He was part of the "Generations in Friendship Together," a program of sharing knowledge with local students.

He is survived by four children, Carolyn Muscarella and husband, Charles, of Quaker Hill, Gary E. Duford of Maine, Brian A. Duford and wife, Tricia, of Waterford, Evelyn Schultz and husband, William, of Salem; nine grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and a great-great-grandson. He was predeceased by a brother, Henry Duford. Graveside services were held Saturday in Cedar Grove Cemetery, New London.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the donor's choice of charity. The Impellitteri-Malia Funeral Home, 84 Montauk Ave., New London, is assisting the family.

East Hampton

Blake Austin Moors

Blake Austin Moors, 25, formerly of New Britain and East Hampton, died unexpectedly Sunday, April 15, in Hubert, NC where he had lived since 2005.

Blake was born on Feb. 26, 1982 to Kenneth and Teddy Moors. He graduated from EC Goodwin Technical School in 2000 and attended Tunxis Community College. He was an athlete who played basketball, soccer and baseball and was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox and the Giants. His career was boat building and he was employed at the Hatteras Yacht Company in North Carolina as a supervisor of interior construction, producing multi-million dollar boats for customers worldwide. Blake's life ended suddenly in a good samaritan effort to help someone in harm's way.

Along with his parents, he leaves his grandmother Gloria Moors, of Winn, ME; his brother Jason, his wife Kelly and their children Cady, Garrick and Ashton; his brother Blaine, his wife Amanda their daughter Kira. He was predeceased by his grandmother Leah Perry of Portland, ME. Additionally, he leaves many aunts, uncles and cousins as well as his extended campground family at Markham Meadows where he spent his childhood summers.

A service in his memory will be held Saturday, April 21 at Markham Meadows Campground in East Hampton at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the CT Disabled American Veterans at 25 Cold Spring Road, Suite 315, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

Marlborough

Patrick M. Crean

Patrick M. Patrick M. Crean, 34, of Marlborough, died Friday, April 13, at Hartford Hospital. Born July 7, 1972 in New Britain, he had lived in Marlborough since 1998.

Patrick was a self employed Tire Technician. He was a member of the Iron Workers Union and the Mason's Union. He enjoyed hockey, fishing, music, skating and loved Ireland.

He is survived by his mother, Constance Oughstun and her husband, Dwight of Newington; the love of his life his daughter, Erin M. Crean of West Hartford; his best friend and constant companion, Michele McNaughton of Marlborough; his brother, Paul Crean and his wife, Ginnie of Marlborough; his sister, Linda Morissette of Myrtle Beach, SC; his grandmother, Amelia Brzozowy of Newington; his aunts and uncle, Stephanie and Bob Satin of Lebanon, Carol Brzozowy of Lebanon, Marcella Stanowski of Torrington; his niece, Maggie Crean of Marlborough; his former wife, Merideth Crean of West Hartford; and many cousins and friends. He was predeceased by his father, John J. Crean and his grandfather, Adolph Brzozowy. Patrick had a gentle and loving heart. He loved life, he loved his friends and family and they loved him. He will be deeply missed. The family would like to thank all the doctors and nurses at Hartford Hospital especially Dr. Lisa Rossi for all their care and compassion during Patrick's illness.

Funeral service and burial were private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to an education fund for his daughter, Erin and sent to Webster Bank, 275 Newington Ave., New Britain, CT 06051. Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., handled arrangements.

Portland

Santina Farieri Capello

Santina Farieri Capello, 92, formerly of Silver St., Portland, died Friday, April 13, in the Portland Care and Rehabilitation Center. She was the wife of the late Frank J. Capello, Sr.

Born in Middletown, March 9, 1915, a daughter of the late Joseph and Michelina Luistro Farieri, she was a lifelong Portland resident. She had been employed in the circulation department of the Middletown Press for 13 years until her retirement in 1991. She was a parishioner of the Church of Saint Mary and was a member of the Ladies Guild, and also was active in the Portland Senior Center.

Mrs. Capello is survived by her sons, Frank J. Capello, Jr. and his wife Janet, and Carl P. Capello and his wife Sharon, all of Portland; her grandchildren, Linda Capello, Lauren Capello, Christine Roath, Joseph Capello, and James Capello; her great-grandchildren Katie Pilch, Kaitlin Capello and Julia Capello; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sister Josephine Kogut.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 17, at the Portland Memorial Funeral Home followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in the Church of Saint Mary. Interment followed in St. Mary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that gifts in her memory be sent to the Church of Saint Mary, 51 Freestone Ave., Portland, CT 06480. www.portlandmemorialfh.com

Portland

William W. Clinton

William W. Clinton, 80, of Dairy Farm Rd., Portland, beloved husband of Alma (Patterson) Clinton, passed away on Tuesday, April 17.

Friends may call on Friday, April 20 at Doolittle Funeral Home, 14 Old Church St., Middletown, from 6-8 p.m. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, April 21 at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, 310 Fort Hill Rd., Groton at 11 a.m. and a memorial service will be held on Sunday, April 22 at First United Methodist Church, 24 Old Church St., Middletown at 4 p.m. Messages of condolence may be sent to the family at the website of www.doolittlefuneralservice.com