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News Bulletin

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

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Tag Sale on the Green Sunday

The Colchester Business Association's 26th Annual Tag Sale on the Green this Sunday, June 10, will offer plenty of fun this year in addition to the chance to find a treasure.

Thousands of people flock to the tag sale each to enjoy food, live music and entertainment, purchase collectible toys, antiques, books, plants, clothing, jewelry, plants and much more. Bring the children to experience the fun and participate in activities such as craft making and face painting.

The tag sale will be held at the Colchester Town Green from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. A rain date has been scheduled for June 24.

Parking is available at the William J. Johnston Middle School where a free shuttle bus will transport attendees to the green every 15 minutes.

Live entertainment is scheduled all day long. Among the activities scheduled, Colchester Jazzercise, a local dance fitness company, will demonstrate part of a typical class at 9 a.m. The performance will include sections led by all five instructors, a collection of students, and a wide variety of current music.

The program blends aerobics, dance, yoga, Pilates and kickboxing movements into fun dance routines set to exciting, current music. There are nearly 100 students and five instructors that take classes in Colchester and East Hampton. Classes are designed to be safe, effective and suitable for all ages at all paces.

"Come see for yourself the workout regimen that you will love," said Grace Couture, owner and instructor of Colchester Jazzercise. "After the performance you'll also get a chance to meet our instructors and find out how we can partner with you in your quest for optimum health."

Tracy's Tunes Beginning Orchestra will perform for 30 minutes beginning at 12:35 p.m. Listen as eight people—ages 10 through adult—join their skills to create a wide variety of orchestral music.

Tracy Johnson created the group to encourage children and adults to develop their musical skills and to eventually go on to play in larger orchestras. She is the owner of Tracy's Tunes located at 111 Lebanon Avenue in Colchester. She organizes the orchestra and leads the rehearsals.

Tracy's Tunes Beginning Orchestra will play for a full 30 minutes at the tag sale, beginning at 12:35 p.m.

For those who would like a cool drink, Alex's Lemonade Stand will be available. Proceeds benefit pediatric cancer research.

Alex's Lemonade Stand will be located at the Realty Executives Town and Country booth from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The booth will be taking donations for lemonade and Alex's Lemonade Stand wrist bracelets.

For those interested in martial arts, Connecticut Chung Do Kwan will have 40 students demonstrating at the tag sale. Students from age 3 to 60 will demonstrate all levels of this Korean Martial Art. The performance includes traditional move-

ments, board breaking and even cement breaking.

"This is an inspirational display of people of all ages," said Grand Master David Turgeon. "You will see children as young as four breaking wood boards and performing in front of a large crowd. It really demonstrates the art and sport of Taekwondo."

David Turgeon has practiced Taekwondo for 32 years. Connecticut Chung Do Kwan is located at 392 South Main Street in Colchester and has over 130 students. There is a second location in Tolland that has over 90 students.

Taekwondo is an Olympic Sport. It is also a Korean style of Martial Arts. There are nine original instructors and schools (called Kwans) of Taekwondo; Chung Do Kwan is one of the nine schools.

"We teach the art of Taekwondo that builds focus, self confidence, and character so that when students accomplish goals in class they can take those skills and apply them in their daily lives." Grand Master Turgeon. "And we also teach the sport side, the competition portion. These demonstrations are really interesting to see."

This is the 15th year the Connecticut Chung Do Kwan has demonstrated at the CBA's Annual Tag Sale on the Green. Each year this demonstration draws a large crowd of interested spectators and student families. This is one of the many performances that will take place at the tag sale.

There will also be demonstrations by the

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Wildcats Wrestling Team, a performance by the Colchester Civic Orchestra and a program by Pastor Charlie Brown with the Abundant Life of the Assemblies of God.

Those attending the festival on the green are also invited to help combat impaired vision for people all over the world. Skyview Realty will collect donations for Campaign SightFirst II in an effort to help prevent and treat blindness.

"Come to our booth at the tag sale and donate as little or as much as you feel you are able to. No amount is too small!" said Jack Faski, Skyview Realty broker. "This program has helped to treat millions of people. It will help millions more, with your help."

All donation checks should be made out to LCIF Campaign SightFirst II. Campaign SightFirst was created by the Lions Club International Foundation and is a global campaign that has helped to treat more than 100 million people around the world with impaired vision. Skyview Realty has recently begun collecting donations and has already collected hundreds of dollars. For more information on

Skyview Realty or Campaign SightFirst II, call 866-537-9210 ext 80 or visit www.skyview-realty.com.

Colchester Republicans have also announced plans to conduct a GOP presidential candidate straw poll at their booth, where they will sell hotdogs and drinks.

"We are inviting people to stop by, get something to eat, and vote for their favorite candidate in the 2008 Republican presidential contest" said Diana Giles, chairman of the town committee.

Gary Harris, vice-chair, added that the poll results, while unscientific, will be released to the newspapers the following week.

This year's tag sale coordination committee is chaired by Jack Faski of Skyview Realty and Ginger Pensa of Prudential CT Realty, helped by CBA members. Faski urged everyone to come down to the green and check out the sale and events. "This year is going to have more entertainment and more tag sale items than ever," he said. "We know you're going to have a great time."

Local Section of Airline Trail Temporarily Closed in East Hampton

The state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has temporarily closed a section of the Airline Trail in East Hampton on weekdays in order to repair damage caused by erosion.

The section extends from the Smith Street access point to the Rapallo Viaduct located in the Flat Brook Valley.

This section will be closed Monday through Friday from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. so workers can repair damage caused by erosion, said DEP. This section of the trail will be open weekends and outside of the listed repair hours on weekdays.

The DEP expects the repairs to be complete by June 16. The repairs will involve work to remove deteriorated concrete along the Rapallo Viaduct and patching holes along the walls of that structure.

Tom Morrissey, DEP Bureau Chief of Outdoor Recreation said, "The Airline Trail is a beautiful and popular hiking destination for many people. It is our goal to maintain the trail

so that it is safe for families to enjoy. Erosion along the Rapallo Viaduct poses a danger to hikers, and the DEP will work to make emergency repairs as quickly as possible."

The Airline Trail stretches for more than 50 miles from Connecticut to the Massachusetts border. The trail is divided into a south section, which runs from East Hampton to Willimantic, and a northern section where the trail is continued from Willimantic to Thompson and connects to the Massachusetts Southern New England Trunk Line Trail. While on the trail, activities can include hiking, horseback riding, biking and bird watching.

The Airline Trail also provides scenic views of the Goodwin State Forest and Conservation Center, Beaver Brook State Park, the Hampton reservoir, the Salmon River State Forest and Grayville Falls Park.

For more information on the Airline Trail, visit the DEP website at <http://www.ct.gov/dep/> or call Supervising Engineer, Eric Ott at (860) 344-2513.

Hebron Lions Town Picnic & Fireworks June 30

The Hebron Lions will host the 2007 Hebron Lions Town Picnic & Fireworks on Saturday, June 30 (with a rain date of Sunday, July 1). The gates will open at 4 p.m. with the fireworks starting at 9:30 p.m.

This year's event will continue to feature food vendors on site (expanded selection this year!), Inflatable Attractions (also expanded this year to cover kids of all ages, including teens), hayrides, a Cow Chip Raffle sponsored by the RHAM Sports Boosters, live music from The Blast, games run by the RHAM Leos Club and more.

Families are encouraged to bring blankets, chairs and even their picnic baskets for this all evening event. A new pricing structure will be introduced this year as well. The price will be \$10 per vehicle, but each vehicle will receive \$5 worth of tickets to spend with food vendors

and other attractions on site.

Following the success of the VIP Priority Exit Parking area last year, the Lions are expanding this VIP Parking Lot in 2007. The \$25 parking pass allows entrance into the VIP Priority Exit parking area which has its own private exit onto Route 85. The pass also comes with \$5 worth of tickets to use with the vendors and attractions on site.

Last year those who parked in the VIP area were the first ones off the grounds, bypassing the main parking lot traffic. There is only a limited number of passes available, so they may sell out quickly. You can purchase the tickets online.

For all the latest information about the event, including VIP Priority Exit Parking Passes, and learning on how to become a sponsor of the event, visit www.HebronHarvestFair.org.

Pops Concerts to be Held at RHAM Saturday

The RHAM Music Department will present its final concerts of the year—two different 'Pops' concerts—this Saturday, June 9.

The first concert will begin at 2 p.m. and will feature the Jazz Band Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble. The second concert will begin at 7 p.m. and feature the Chamber Signers, Encore, Chorus and numerous soloists.

Along with the concerts, the public is invited to view works of art, jewelry, glass, wood and metal, as well as engineering projects and a Culinary Arts display.

The concerts will be held in the high school auditorium, with artwork displayed in the hall cases, Atrium and the Art Gallery.

The exhibition of artwork will be open for viewing prior to, during and after the concert. Examples of student work in Art foundations I & II, Drawing I, Advanced Drawing, Painting and Advanced Painting, 3-D Design and Advanced 3-D Design, as well as the work of RHAM art students who have won awards at both state and national levels will be on view. Tables outside the Art Gallery will display student work in both metal and woods classes.

Technology displays and the Culinary Art displays will be located outside the office area in the Atrium.

The instrumental Pops Concert will include music from the "Selections from The Wizard of Oz," "Pirates of the Caribbean-Dead Man's Chest" and "The King." A different type of number is "Frank Ticheli's Blue Shades," played by the Wind ensemble, a combination of Stravinsky and Gershwin. Jazz Band rounds out the program with several selections.

The vocal Pops Concert also includes some all-time favorites "and All That Jazz," "My Boyfriend's Back" and "Yesterday" sung by Encore and Chamber Singers. The concert will close with Chorus joined by the other ensembles in a medley of songs from the hit musical "Grease."

Throughout the concert over a dozen talented singers will be featured soloists performing a variety of current hit songs.

The public is invited to attend this final event of the year. Admission is \$2 for adults, free for children and senior citizens.

Community Health Fair This Saturday in East Hampton

The public is encouraged to attend a community Health Fair on Saturday, June 9 from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Community Center on Maple Street in East Hampton.

This year the East Hampton Village Lions are sponsoring the service in conjunction with East Hampton Chiropractic, operated by Dr. Patrick Connelly. They group will provide a variety of free and reduced cost health services.

For a reduced rate of \$35 (normally over \$100) the Middlesex Hospital Lab will provide diabetes, kidney and liver function, anemia, and cholesterol screenings, including a complete blood count. Interested individuals are asked to fast after midnight for accurate results. The lab is also offering men the P.S.A. (prostate) test for \$30, normally a \$100 charge.

In the women's health arena, representatives will register women for free mammogram

screenings. These mammogram screenings will take place on June 12 and 19 at the East Hampton Senior Center.

The East Hampton Lions will provide free eye screenings. A technician from the Lions Low Vision Center will be available to dispense their low vision services and tools (such as magnifying glasses and other large print items) to assist the sight impaired in their daily living. The public may obtain information on Connecticut Radio Information Services as well.

Dr. Connelly will be available to provide information on chiropractic care and treatment for people of all ages.

The public is invited to attend this event. Individuals will be seen on a walk-in basis; no prior appointment is necessary. For more information please call Mary at 267-9166 or Dr. Patrick Connelly at 267-6688.

Marlborough Needs Anthrax 'Victims' This Saturday

by Sarah McCoy

Marlborough will undergo an anthrax attack this Saturday.

Fortunately, the attack is only simulated and local emergency personnel are well-prepared, except for one thing. They need "victims."

The town's first Point of Dispensing (or P.O.D.) drill is designed to simulate an anthrax attack and test the town's readiness in the case of a real biological or chemical attack.

The Marlborough volunteer ambulance and fire department, in conjunction with the Chatham Health District, have been planning this drill for the past two years. They have recruited and trained over 100 volunteers to participate.

Now all that's needed are victims.

The town is asking anyone who can help this Saturday as a volunteer victim to show up, ideally, at the Marlborough Commuter Lot at exit 12 off of Route 2 or at St. John Fisher Church at either 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. Shuttles will be provided to practice transporting "victims" to the Marlborough Elementary School for care.

If neither of the two locations is convenient, volunteer victims can drive directly to the elementary school between 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Once at the school, victims will be asked for their medical history and allergies to best assess which of the prophylactic doses are needed. During the drill victims can either make-up their information or take the form with them to protect their privacy.

"In the case of a real emergency there will be 2,000 heads of household that need to be processed for inoculations," EMS Captain Mark Merritt noted. "The more volunteers we have on Saturday the better prepared for a real emergency."

The entire process, including transportation, is expected to last only one hour. At 11:30 a.m. the town will provide lunch for participants.

The Point of Dispensing Drill is a requirement of Homeland Security. In the case of a real emergency the town will partner with four surrounding towns to provide care at one single location, which will be Portland High School. A large-scale drill involving all five towns is being planned for October.

"Hopefully this is a drill that we never use," Merritt said. "But, without drills to prepare us for the unthinkable, where will we all be when the unthinkable becomes reality?"

Taylor'd Touch is Back in a New Location in Marlborough

by Sarah McCoy

They're back.

After a two-year hiatus Mark and Beverly Taylor have reopened Taylor'd Touch, their popular fine gifts shop.

The shop is in a new location with a focus on a variety and a constantly changing selection.

In 1984 the Marlborough couple opened The Taylor'd Touch in what was, at the time, the town's only strip mall, The Marlborough Green. Soon after, the Taylors relocated to The Marlborough Tavern Green, the town's newest commercial area at the time. Then, in the mid-1990s, the Taylor'd Touch moved to North Main Street in its own building near the exit 12 ramp for route 2.

They remained at that location until February of 2005 when the Taylors decided to close their doors. "We were looking to do other things," Mark explained. "We traveled. We helped our sons build a house. We helped a friend move. And then winter came and it got quiet. We knew it was time to go back to work."

The Taylors missed the retail world. "We love the buying, the selling, and meeting customers," said Mark. "It really doesn't feel like work to us."

Last December the Taylor's began to poke around and check out possible locations for a new Taylor'd Touch. That's when they came across the freestanding building in the back of The Marlborough Tavern Green (previously occupied by Wild Birds Unlimited) By March the Taylors had signed a lease. They spent the next two months prepping it for the opening.

New windows were installed to give the building an open and bright appeal. New doors and a new roof were added in addition to taking down several interior walls. Initially, the building that the Taylors now occupy was a bank. That lasted only one year before the building fell dormant for almost 20 years, until Wild Birds opened.

To get ready to open, Mark and Bev spent hours redoing both the interior and exterior. On May 11 their hard work paid off as they celebrated the reopening of The Taylor'd Touch.

The new Taylor'd Touch reflects some of the original shop's themes, as well as some fresh new ideas. There is still a section of collectibles. The store carries Precious Memories and M.J. Hummell figurines in addition to holiday sets. There is a whole wall given to greeting cards, a favorite for customers.

But, there are also plenty of new things. In the center of the store sits a collection of handbags and jewelry. In the back is a baby section and in the front are displays for Crabtree and Evelyn and Lady Primrose beauty supplies.

When asked for the store's specialty, Beverly drew a blank. "Our motto is, 'Always Something New, Always Something Different,'" she said. "We try to have something for everyone."

To keep up with the changing options, The Taylor'd Touch carries a limited number quantity of their items. "For the most part, what you see is what we have," Beverly explained. But, every trip to The Taylor'd Touch will yield a new set of merchandise to peruse.

With the balance of new and familiar items



Beverly and Mark Taylor recently re-opened The Taylor'd Touch in the center of town. After a two-year hiatus the Marlborough couple has returned to the retail market, offering collectibles, beauty products, greeting cards and gifts for everyone.

in the store, it is no surprise that the Taylors have seen a mix of new and familiar faces come into the shop. "We had customers stopping by even during construction just to see what was happening," Mark reported. "We are continuing to reconnect with past customers and meeting new ones."

The Taylor'd Touch is located at 3-5 East Hampton Rd. in the center of Marlborough. They are open Tuesday-Friday from 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday noon-5 p.m. The shop can be reached at 295-9377, the same number that The Taylor'd Touch used to use years ago.

East Hampton Republicans Issue Philosophical 'Platform'

As it gears up for this year's municipal elections, the East Hampton Republican Town Committee has nailed together a platform it says "describes conservative, Republican principles" and their "manner of addressing municipal issues."

While described as a "platform," the document might better be described as a listing of broader Republican philosophies. Its creators admit it tends to deal in generalizations and does not address "the many very specific and unique problems facing the town."

Instead, says the committee, it offers broad guidance, "a document that elected officials and commission-members can refer to when contemplating business before their group."

According to Republican Town Committee Chairman Melissa Engel, the platform opens with "fiscal guidance reflecting a rightful concern for unnecessary government expansion and taxation."

"A government that taxes to meet every mediocre or even brilliant idea is interfering with personal freedom," remarked Engel. "We may have a modest personal income, but we value our property and our freedom. Truly representative government has the responsibility of preserving both."

The platform is broken into a number of categories, each termed "the pathway for a brighter future."

Under "Financial" it notes: "We believe that every dollar spent by government is a dollar earned by you. Our elected officials must always ask: Are your dollars being wisely spent? Can we afford it? Is it better for the town to leave those dollars in your pocket?"

Under "Education": "We believe that we must provide the necessary services to develop the minds and inspire the dreams of our students. Providing the intellectual stimulation needed for all to acquire marketable abilities leads to personal success, strengthens our economy and society as a whole. Because education comprises the greatest part of our town budget we must strive for a carefully planned and managed education delivery system, as well as aggressively seek economies and efficiencies."

"Character of the Town": "We believe in

retaining the rural character of the East Hampton while addressing inevitable growth. We support all reasonable efforts to maintain the enduring state of our natural features. We encourage social prosperity by taking responsibility for self, neighbor and community and we patronize churches and organizations where people connect with like-minded purpose to serve one's self and others."

Under "Long-range Planning": "We believe the Town Council should get out of micro-management habits and focus on a long-term vision by maintaining a twenty-year plan to anticipate unavoidable expenses and project improvements to town growth and management. With such plans in place residents and town management can anticipate expenses and devote time to seek funding alternatives or other solutions (including a revision of proposed action). Appointments to boards, agencies and commissions must be made to further the best interest of the community without regard to partisan favoritism, and these groups must be allowed the latitude to do their job."

Under "Growth": "Smart growth has come to mean different things to different people. We believe growing smartly acknowledges a market-based approach to growth and tempering vision with reality. Meeting the demands of the community we live in, and raising the bar of quality, will in turn create vibrant neighborhoods and a quality of life we are all looking for while preserving East Hampton's character."

In summary, the platform notes, "We believe we can provide the way to a brighter future through intelligent planning, accountability, open discussion, full disclosure, and working together for the benefit of our entire community."

The platform was accepted by the Republican group at its regular April meeting.

Residents with comments or desiring to run for office on this platform can contact Melissa Engel at 567-9738.



Nancy Porter accepts an award from USPS District Manager Ed Phelan, Jr. (left) and Hebron Postmaster Douglas Bardot, who was saved from choking by Porter's alert action.

Colchester Resident Honored for Lifesaving Action

The Connecticut District of the U.S. Postal Service recently honored Colchester resident Nancy Porter for her role in saving the life of her boss at the Hebron Post Office.

Porter, who works as a clerk, was recognized at the agency's semi-annual Heroes and Hard Workers Banquet, which was held at the Hawthorne Inn in Berlin.

She was nominated for the honor by her Postmaster, Douglas Bardot, who was saved thanks to Porter's quick actions.

Hearing choking from another room in the Post Office, Porter investigated, found Bardot choking and quickly performed the Heimlich Maneuver to clear food from his windpipe.

Bardot had been confined to a wheelchair due to a recent foot injury and was unable to either dislodge the food or call for assistance.

Porter was selected by a special review committee which recommended her as one of ten honorees.

Porter joked that she felt sorry for her new Postmaster, who had recently been appointed and who came to work every day despite his foot injury. "I figured he was a person who'd been through enough lately," she said to a room full of laughter.

Porter has been with the Postal Service for 24 years. She lives in town with her husband, Jim. They have two children and a grandson.

Police Believe Drowning in East Hampton Was Accidental

by Michael McCoy

East Hampton police say they believe the drowning of a Manchester man in Lake Pocotopaug last Sunday night was accidental—the tragic result of some boaters “just messing around.”

The body of Brett Donovan, 29, of 118 McKee St., Manchester was pulled from the lake Monday morning about nine and a half hours after police received a 911 call from boaters.

According to Sgt. Michael Green, Donovan, his half-brother Robert Ruddy, and two friends set out on a paddle boat from the dock adjacent to Angelico's Lakehouse sometime Sunday evening.

The four made their way around the eastern perimeter of Lake Pocotopaug, before ending up a couple hundred yards off of the big island in the center of the lake sometime after 10 p.m. Green said their location was more or less at the geographic center of the lake.

According to his companions, Donovan spontaneously yelled, “I'm goin' in!” before jumping into the lake.

“I think he was just messing around,” said Green.

Donovan began calling for help shortly afterwards, but those on the boat could not see him in the dark.

“[Ruddy] dove in to rescue him, but it was pitch black out there,” said Green. Weather conditions, including dense fog, further hampered Rudy's efforts to locate his brother.

According to Green, after a couple minutes of searching, Ruddy realized he could no longer hear Donovan, and assumed that he had gone under. It was then, at 10:55 pm, that the boaters placed the 911 call to police.

In addition to East Hampton Police, responders included the East Hampton, Middletown, and Portland Fire Departments.

The police report said, “Extensive efforts to locate the man immediately following the initial call were fruitless. The search for the man continued until about 2 a.m. The search was scaled back at that time due to darkness and weather conditions.”

The search resumed the next morning. At 8:30 a.m., Officers David Godwin and David Galm of the Middletown Police Dive Team found Donovan submerged in about 7 feet of water, not far from where the initial emergency call was made.

Green pointed out that despite the fatality,

“Lake Pocotopaug is not a really deep lake for the most part.”

So far, the police are attributing Donovan's death to a whimsical evening gone awry, and no foul play is suspected.

“They'd been drinking,” reported Green. “The degree of the amount of alcohol that was involved, we don't know yet and won't until we have the toxicology reports.”

East Hampton police are continuing their investigation. They said they are looking into the amount of alcohol in question, as well as the party's departure time.

“We're just investigating to make sure everything looks the way it seems to now,” said Green. Officer Jason Wishart is leading that effort.

A parallel investigation is being conducted by the state Department of Environmental Protection which looks into state boating accidents.

Brett M. “Ruddy” Donovan was born Jan. 24, 1978, in Hartford, son of Robert F. Ruddy, Jr. of Bristol and the late Jacquelyn Donovan; he was raised in East Hartford and had lived in Manchester for the past two years.

Brett graduated from East Hartford High School, and recently graduated from Local 676 Apprentice School in Rocky Hill. He was a union sprinkler fitter. He was an avid sportsman and loved the Boston Red Sox and the Chicago Bears, and enjoyed fishing, according to the obituary placed by his family.

Besides his father, he is survived by two brothers, Robert F. Ruddy, III of East Hartford, Scott L. Ruddy of Lebanon; two sisters, Chantelle N. Donovan of Vernon and Kimberly G. DeRoehn and her husband David of Lebanon; his longtime girlfriend, Nicole M. Fagan of Manchester; two nephews, Robert F. Ruddy, IV, Christopher E. DeRoehn; and his niece, Carlee G. DeRoehn; and several aunts, uncles, cousins and longtime friends. Besides his mother, he was predeceased by a brother Christopher J. Ruddy.

A Mass of Christian Burial was scheduled for today (Friday, June 8) at 10 a.m. in St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury (please meet directly at church). Burial will follow in Hillside Cemetery, East Hartford. Calling hours were Thursday evening at the Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury.

Memorial donations may be made to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, 282 Washington St., Hartford, CT 06102.



Rotary Scholarship winners (l-r): Tucker Ives, Danielle Holmes, Scott Carlson, Caitlin Leary, Juliane Kimball and Courtney Smith. Winners missing from the picture are Brittany Plummer and Kelsey Taylor who were participating in the State Track Meet in Manchester at the time of the ceremony.

Rotary Club Awards Annual Student Scholarships

The East Hampton Rotary Club recently presented \$1000 scholarships to seven graduating seniors—plus the Eaton Smith Award totaling \$4000 to be paid over four years.

Nearly 30 candidates were personally interviewed by Rotarians with scholarship records, a required essay, extracurricular activities, the interview and need, all factors in the selection. East Hampton Rotary will spend \$11,000 on the program this year since three of the previous \$4,000 scholarship winners are still in college.

The eight 2007 recipients, honored recently by Rotary at Angelico's Lake House Restaurant, are:

Danielle Holmes (East Hampton High School): Danielle's scholarship application stressed her love of music and how it has been a part of her life since she was very young. During high school she played trumpet in the band, sang in the Bella Voce Choir and was been the drum major for the last two years.

She is a member of the National Honor Society, Interact and the Student Council, has been active in school and has volunteered at Middlesex Hospital for community service. Her musical interests have expanded to include piano lessons and work after school to pay for them.

Danielle looks forward studying communications and TV Broadcasting at Marist College. She is the daughter of David and Patricia Holmes of East Hampton.

Juliane Kimball (East Hampton High School): Juliane, who was awarded the Phil Cone Community Service Scholarship, will study to be a physician assistant at Springfield College.

She works as a volunteer at St. Francis Hospital and has had leadership roles in the Interact Club, and the National Honor Society. She was voted the most improved basketball player in her sophomore year and has participated in several other sports. She has also taken training to be an EMT. Juliane is the daughter of Mark and Timothea Kimball of East Hampton.

Kelsey Taylor (East Hampton High School): During her high school years Kelsey has participated in indoor, outdoor and cross country track and excelled to become captain of all three. She has also been recognized with membership in the National Honor Society, with the Baush and Lomb Science Award, the Society of Women Engineers Certificate of Merit and with the Harvard Book Prize.

Kelsey has been very active in community service through the Interact Club, and has worked at the National Sports Festival for the Disabled, volunteered at Mystic Aquarium, in a soup kitchen and as a leader at the Hugh O'Brien Youth Conference. She plans to major in biochemistry at Connecticut College, with the expectation of going into pharmaceutical or medical research.

Kelsey is the daughter of Kipp and Eileen Taylor of East Hampton.

Tucker Ives (RHAM High School): A member of the National Honor Society, Tucker has worked on behalf of Darfur. He has worked with Team Connecticut Baseball as an instructor and assistance coach and competed in the AAU National Championship. He played the pitcher, catcher and first baseman positions on a team that took 6th place nationally. At RHAM he has been team manager for both the junior varsity and varsity teams. He has also worked as baseball umpire in youth league games.

Tucker has been president of the Video Pro-

duction Club and received the Outstanding Member Award in 2005. His work earned him the Best News Story Award at the Manchester Community College Film Festival in 2005 and in 2006 and there have been other recognitions for his work. He will attend Ithaca College in their communication curriculum..

The son of Jeffery and Linda Ives of Marlborough, Tucker was awarded the Eaton Smith Scholarship.

Brittany Plummer (East Hampton High School): Brittany has participated in Student Council, this year as president. She has also been a varsity runner in both indoor and outdoor track for four years and was a member of the Ski Club. She has been a community service worker as part of her participation in the work of St. Patrick's Church here in East Hampton.

With a record of four years on the honor roll and recognition for her work in the visual arts Brittany will attend the University of New Hampshire where she will study biology or animal sciences with a minor in visual arts. The daughter of Gregory and Ruth Plummer of East Hampton, she was awarded the Guildersleeve Scholarship for 2007.

Scott Carlson (East Hampton High School): Scott's high school years includes participation in Interact, the Bellringer Newspaper and a long list of volunteer activities about school. He holds the #3 position in his class.

Academic recognitions include selection as National Merit Foundation Commended Scholar, recipient of the Society of Women Engineers Certificate of Merit and third place or better in the annual American Math Competition. Love for music also drew him into the High School Marching and Jazz Bands and he was co-founder of a group called S.S. Quantum Banana.

Scott plans to attend Olin College of Engineering, in Needham, MA, a new institution founded by the Olin Foundation. The son of Shelly and Richard Lamontagne and Tom Carlson, all of East Hampton, he was awarded the Rittman Scholarship.

Caitlin Leary (RHAM High School): Caitlin Leary was awarded the LaBella Scholarship. An honor student with a long list of extracurricular activities, she has focused on developing her skills as a dancer. While her principal training has been in ballet and modern dance, she can cover the range from tap to ballroom to show dancing and hopes to perform with a name dance troupe after her schooling at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

Caitin is the daughter of Robert and Deborah Leary of Marlborough.

Courtney Smith (RHAM High School): With a finish in the top 10% of her class and after four years of Junior Varsity and Varsity Soccer, Courtney has been designated a Student Athlete by her school. She is a member of the National Honor Society, was Secretary of the Class of 2007, and was active in the Ski Club and the Symphonic Band.

Courtney's college goal is to study International Affairs and in preparation she has been very active in the Model United Nations and has been a member of the Cultural Awareness Club. Along with a long list of community service projects, she has coached 5th and 6th graders in soccer and listed as her most rewarding activity tutoring a 2nd grader in reading.

The daughter of Keith and Susan Smith of Marlborough, she will attend American University.

Finance Board Cuts Nearly \$600,000 from Budget

by Jim Salemi

The finance board Wednesday voted to cut nearly \$600,000 from the proposed combined-school-and-town budgets, bringing the request to a quarter-mill increase for the next fiscal year.

The first budget proposal was defeated by a two-to-one margin, which some board members took as a mandate by voters to make drastic reductions to the \$47.9 million figure.

The next referendum will be Tuesday, June 19. Voting will be at the town hall from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

A town meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13, where the finance board will present the revised recommended budget and receive public input.

The revised budget represents a mill rate of 23.48 mills, or .47 mills over the current mill rate, adjusted for revaluation. The cuts, amounting to \$590,218 combined with adjustments to the income side of the budget, brought the bottom line down \$1.3 million—to a \$46.6 million total request.

Before settling on a dollar amount to cut, the finance board asked the boards of education and selectmen for lists of graduated cuts to their budgets in quarter-mill increments. The board also asked for input on the impact of the cuts.

“We didn’t want to go much further than the second level of cuts. That would mean cutting jobs. We wanted to avoid going that far,” said Board of Finance Chairman Bruce Hayn.

Residents on hand for the meeting asked the finance board not to do anything “drastic,” such as cut the budget to the point of a zero-mill increase of taxation.

“[A reduction to zero] would devastate the schools...It’s irresponsible to go to zero right away. I think a zero-increase would fail. Please keep the schools in mind. I don’t think the problem is spending. I think the problem is taxation,” commented resident Monica Swyden-Bolles.

Testimony from education officials as well as town officials tended to agree with Bolles’s comments.

“I requested additional cuts from department heads, which doesn’t include [layoffs],” said First Selectman Stan Soby. He said department heads came up with an additional \$127,836 in cuts.

“Any additional cuts would mean eliminat-

ing personnel. Some services may not be fulfilled,” he said.

Soby said the Planning office was willing to forgo a clerk position, as permits for new construction have slowed.

Part of the money saved from filling that position will go towards an additional police officer. The finance board earmarked funds representing a half-year’s salary for an additional police officer, and expects to fully fund and hire an additional officer by January, to replace one who took a job in Norwich.

School officials said any additional cuts could affect the district’s accreditation if too many programs and positions are not filled, such as an additional guidance counselor at the school.

While the finance board voted to cut the budget to the second tier of cuts, not all items on the respective lists were affected. Some items were left alone, as the finance board also agreed to increase the guesstimated \$900,000 amount of state assistance by \$500,000.

Unfortunately, that remains a guess. By last Wednesday evening’s meeting, the state legislature, had still not approved an education aid package for towns.

“As a board, we decided to wait for the [ECS, or Education Cost Sharing] numbers,” said board member Ron Goldstein. “We think we made the right decision but the legislature didn’t finish on time. We’re now out of time and we have to have a budget in place by July 1st. Please understand our dilemma—we just don’t know,” he said.

The governor’s proposal calls for an aid package of \$1.7 million, Goldstein said, “But there are other proposals on the table.” He said the lowest figure for aid to Colchester has been consistently at \$1.4 million, so the income figure was adjusted to reflect that.

Hayn, responding to a newspaper report that the town has \$10 million in surplus funds, said the actual figure currently stands at \$4.2 million, which is just over 9% of the current year budget balance. That figure, he said, was admittedly a little high, but because it’s higher than the norm, the town enjoys a AAA bond rating, compared to the majority of towns which typically have ratings of A and AA.



Mike Lu (right), owner of The Oriental Wok, a new Chinese restaurant at Andover Plaza, with relative and employee Cindy Lin.

Chinese Restaurant Opens at Andover Plaza

Andover residents need not go out-of-town for Chinese food any longer.

The Oriental Wok recently opened its doors in the Andover Plaza on Route 6 and the response has been gratifying says owner Mike Lu.

Lu has owned and operated another restaurant in Glastonbury for 13 years. He had his family live in Hebron.

He said he is grateful to residents for supporting his new Andover restaurant.

“I’d like to thank the townspeople for their nice support. I truly appreciate it,” he said. Lu also thanked the town land use department for their work during his approval process.

To show his gratitude, Mike said he will take 10% off any order for the next two weeks, if this article is mentioned.

As for the food at the Oriental Wok, Mike said he uses only 100% vegetable oil that contains no fat or cholesterol, nor does he use MSG. No peanut oil is used in anything he cooks either, so those with peanut allergies can rest easy. All the usual Chinese fare is offered.

The entire space that houses the new restaurant has been completely gutted and refurbished, with new electricity and plumbing installed to handle the power demands of a commercial kitchen, and all new equipment in the kitchen.

Restaurant hours are 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 11 a.m.- 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and noon to 9 p.m. on Sundays.

Mike lives in Hebron and is married with children.

Board of Ed Amends Drug & Alcohol Policy

by Michael McCoy

The Portland Board of Education has agreed to expand the school system’s drug and alcohol policy to exclude violators from school clubs and certain activities.

Previously, the policy applied only to athletes. Student athletes caught with alcohol off school grounds were thrown off their team. Now the same penalties will apply to members of student clubs and organizations.

The policy only addresses off-campus violations. Alcohol/drug violations that take place on campus subject the student to harsher penalties, including suspension from school.

The language change to the Portland Middle and High School Handbooks results from an incident that occurred on Jan. 5 when Officer James Capello discovered a group of teenagers parked behind Zion Lutheran Church. They had in their possession a 30-pack of Miller Lite and other alcohol.

Two of the minors took the blame. One of them, a Portland high school basketball player, was subsequently suspended from the sport for the rest of the year in accordance with school policy.

That penalty drew some criticism, most notably from Michael Foley, uncle of the suspended student, who said he felt the policy unfairly singled out athletics over other extracurricular activities.

He also said he felt more flexibility was preferable to the current policy. “One strike and you’re out isn’t fair to anyone,” he remarked.

The Portland Board of Education set up a committee in March to revisit the policy, which covers tobacco and drugs, in addition to alcohol. Instead of relaxing the penalties, they ultimately

decided to extend the policy to all school activities and clubs.

Among these are Student Council, Garden Club, Future Business Leaders of America, Drama Club, Pep Band, Jazz Band, school musicals, Marching Band, County Substance Abuse Prevention Club, Art Club, and Ski Club.

As before, the new language addresses only incidents occurring off of school grounds, unconnected with school events. Offenses that occur on school grounds subject the student to potential expulsion for a first-time violation—a policy that has not been questioned during this affair.

Superintendent Sally Doyen praised the Board of Education for seeing the issue through and taking the time to consider all aspects. “I think that the board obviously spent a lot of time on this,” she said. “They didn’t want it to be seen as knee-jerk response to a single student.”

Aside from general fairness, extending the policy to everyone prevents one school activity from taking on undue importance over another. It also serves as a reminder that the students are representing the school in a public forum, noted Doyen.

As for the severity of the policy, Board of Education Chairman Chris Hetrick said, “We are probably tougher than some districts in the area, and a little more lenient than a few.”

After two months of reviewing the committee’s decision, and perfecting language, the Board of Education accepted a new policy, which affects only the Middle and High Schools, at their May 15 meeting.

The handbook item addressing this issue,

listed underneath the heading of “Extra-Curricular Activity Participation” now reads: “Participants are not to use, possess or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages, illegal substances, tobacco products or performance enhancing drugs or possess drug paraphernalia. Those students who violate this policy will be suspended from the team or extra curricular activity for the remainder of the season or duration of the activity. The administration will have the discretion to remove a student for a quarter, semester, or lesser time period for any non-interscholastic sports activity.”

In other words, though the initial first-offense penalty still officially stands, the principals have the authority to amend the punishment if they see fit.

Concerning this particular amendment to the policy, Hetrick noted, “I was not particularly in favor of that, but hey, we’re a board.”

Nevertheless, Hetrick noted the time and care that went into these changes. “We met on this one many times,” he said. “It was an important one for us to get past.”

As for the new discretionary clause, Doyen said, “The board acted very carefully, and accurately I think, knowing that there are differences between a 7th grader and a 12th grader. If we wanted to have a uniform policy in the handbook, we had to recognize that.”

Doyen went on to say “We provide a very strong educational [drug and alcohol] program for students. There was concern by the board that we did not want appear only punitive in our [reaction.]”

The new policy goes into effect on August 30, the first day of classes.

Bob Francis Left His Mark on Marlborough

by Sarah McCoy

Bob Francis, an avid outdoorsman, youth athletic coach, husband, and father passed away on May 27. He was 49 years old.

Known around Marlborough as an all-around good guy who was always willing to lend a hand, Francis leaves behind two sons, a wife, and countless friends. His passing came as a result of complications from an ATV accident in 2004 that left him a quadriplegic.

Born in Albany, NY, Bob Francis enlisted in the Marines upon his high school graduation in 1975. After four years of service he relocated to Lubbock, TX in search of employment. He found that and more.

In 1982 Bob met Lisa Rapino and the two married in 1986. Soon after the couple welcomed their first child, Geno, and Tim three years later.

The Francis family moved to Marlborough in 1992 and Bob immediately became active in the community. "He wanted to give back even though we just got here," Lisa said. "That's just the kind of guy he was."

It started with baseball. With Geno showing interest in Little League, Bob took the reigns of the instructional team. That was the start of what would be 20 years of coaching both his sons.

Always a family man and certainly a sports fan, especially the Yankees, coaching came natural to Bob. Baseball, basketball, football, he did it all and then some.

About seven years ago, as a board member for the Marlborough Youth Athletic League, it was Bob's job to recruit new coaches. He would call all the parents whose children were on the team and ask them to pitch in.

"Bob would get so angry with fathers saying that they couldn't coach because that was their only time to golf," Lisa remembered. "One time he said, 'The next person who picks golfing over their kid is going to hear it.'"

Sure enough the next person on Bob's list declined the coaching invitation and Bob let him have it. To this day that father remains an MYAL baseball coach even though his kids are grown.

"Bob was a coach because that's what his kids needed him to be," said Lisa. "If they needed him to build a bridge, he would have done that too."

No bridge was needed in Marlborough, but fields were. About 10 years ago there was no full-size baseball field in town. As kids moved onto the middle school, their options to play were all outside of Marlborough. It was this dilemma that brought Bob Francis and Dave LeJeune together. The two had sons in the program and were set on finding a solution.

They scouted out the town and determined the West Road park had the most potential for a field. It would work, but then the younger kids would have to be relocated from West to another area in town.

"Bob came up with the idea of using the Moose Lodge field and quickly volunteered to talk to the Moose about the plan," LeJeune said. "When they got the OK, he then spent all his time overhauling the field."

He installed a backstop. He turned the overgrown field into a playable surface. He made the field safe. Then, Bob Francis did it all over again at the West Road field.

At his memorial service last weekend, held on the Moose Lodge Baseball Field, the club renamed the field in remembrance of the man who built it.

Bob Francis was a go-getter in every sense of the word. In 1994 he began his own company, Cordless Data Transfer, and focused on erecting cell phone towers. "He got his start by sending out 100 flyers—that were made in our basement—to huge corporations," Lisa said.

From humble beginnings, CDT soon grew to be a successful company and allowed Bob



Bob Francis and his wife Lisa in happier times. "Bob was a coach because that's what his kids needed him to be," she says. "If they needed him to build a bridge, he would have done that too."

to start his second company, Francis Antenna Structure and Tower, or FAST, in November of 2004.

At the time of his passing Bob was training his eldest on the ins and outs of the business.

Prior to his accident in April of 2004, Bob spent as much time as possible outdoors. He enjoyed camping, hiking, and exploring. He owned 52 acres of land in Ashford. This was the site of the ATV accident and it was where he fell ill for the last time. "It's fitting that his last days were spent there," Lisa said. "That

was his place."

The joy found in nature is one of the many things Bob Francis passed down to his boys. Now grown, Geno and Tim find peace at the cottage in the woods.

In memory of Bob, memorial contributions can be made to the Marlborough Youth Athletic League, P.O. Box 124 Marlborough, CT, 06447. Or, to the RHAM High School Football program, 85 Wall St. Hebron, CT 06248, where Bob coached for the inaugural season in 2003.

East Hampton Police News

5/21 — Todd T. Bower Jr., 18, of 230 Old West High St., East Hampton, was arrested pursuant to a warrant on the following charges: Operating under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, unreasonable speed, assault 2nd degree with a motor vehicle and left lane violation.

5/21 — Clarence Slack Jr., 38, of 28 Tartia Rd., East Hampton, and Karen Fitzsimmons, 55, of 48 Trotters La., Plantsville, were involved in a two-vehicle accident on Middletown Ave., 500 feet east of West High Street. Slack was arrested for operating without insurance, failure to grant the right of way at a private drive.

5/23 — Casey Evans, 19, of 17 Orchard Rd., East Haddam, was arrested pursuant to a warrant on charges of credit card fraud/illegal transfer, conspiracy to commit illegal use of a credit card and conspiracy to commit receipt of money/goods obtained by illegal use of a credit card.

5/24 — Alphonse F. Richards, 47, of 104 Lake Vista Dr., East Hampton, and Linda M. Stanford, 42, of 21 Carriage Dr., East Hampton, were involved in a two-vehicle accident on Skinner Street, one-tenth of a mile north of Middletown Avenue. Richards was arrested for operating without insurance and given a writ-

ten warning for following too closely.

5/26 — Rosette A. Sankner, 56, of 20 Crest Dr., Cromwell, was arrested pursuant to a warrant for larceny 1st degree.

5/27 — Glen A. Northrop Jr., 19, of 118 Main St., East Hampton, was arrested for operating an unregistered motor vehicle, operating without insurance and failure to wear a seat belt.

5/27 — A 16-year-old female juvenile was referred to Youth in Crisis.

5/27 — Anthony R. Moon, 20, of 4 Laurel Glen Dr., East Hampton, was involved in a one-vehicle accident on North Maple Street, one-tenth of a mile north of Sherry Drive. Moon was issued a ticket for traveling too fast.

5/28 — A 16-year-old male juvenile was arrested for disorderly conduct and assault 3rd degree.

5/29 — Tammy Balch, 31, of 24 Flanders Rd., East Hampton, was arrested for disorderly conduct and assault 3rd degree.

5/31 — Ryan J. Lanzi, 18, of 30 West High St., East Hampton, was issued a ticket for possession of liquor by a minor and permitting minors to possess liquor at his dwelling.

5/31 — Norbert J. Heil III, 18, of 196 Wopowog Rd., East Hampton, was issued a ticket for possession of alcohol by a minor.

Obituaries

East Hampton

Carol A. Carey

Carol A. (Gorman) (Souppa) Carey, 64, of East Hampton, beloved wife of James Carey, died Friday, June 1, at Hartford Hospital after a brief illness. Born Oct. 13, 1942 in Jersey City, NJ the daughter of the late Patrick H. and Charlotte (Erhart) Curtis she had lived in East Hampton for more than 42 years.

Carol had recently retired from the town of East Hampton where she had served as the Finance Director.

Besides her husband Jim, she is survived by her two sons and their wives Patrick and Jennifer Gorman of Middletown, and Raymond and Lynn Gorman of Ft. Lauderdale, FL.; two sisters, June Politowski and Margaret Mallon both of New Jersey; two grandsons, Patrick and Daniel and a granddaughter, Quinn. Carol also leaves a very dear friend, Gladys Yeager.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, June 6 in the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton with the Rev. Thomas Anderson, Pastor of Haddam Neck Covenant Church officiating. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family. Calling hours were at the Spencer Funeral Home on Tuesday evening.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Carol's memory to Hartford Hospital Critical Care Unit, 85 Seymour St., Hartford, CT 06102.

East Hampton

Michael P. Halle

Michael Paul Halle, 33, of Smith Street, East Hampton, beloved husband of Tammy (Hathaway) Halle, died Thursday, May 31, at Middlesex Hospital.

He was born in Hartford, beloved son of Michael Edward and Donna Lee (Miller) Halle of St. Augustine, FL. He grew up in Moodus and was a graduate of Nathan Hale-Ray High School, Class of 1992. He was currently employed with American LaFrance Freightliner of Hartford. Michael was an active member of S.A.L. Post 156 in Moodus.

Besides his wife and parents, he is survived by a brother, Edward Joseph Halle of St. Augustine, FL; paternal grandmother, Madeleine R. Halle; maternal grandmother, Beatrice Yvonne Miller; best friend, Thomas J. Walsh; several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and true dear friends; and his beloved pets, Chomper and Frankie.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at the Deep River Congregational Church, 1 Church St., Deep River. Calling hours were Monday evening at the Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown.

Hebron

Ellen I. Lasky

Ellen Irene (Bednar) Lasky, 83, of Hebron, formerly of East Hartford, passed away on Thursday, May 31, peacefully surrounded by her loving family.

She was born in 1924 in Colchester to the late Michael and Suzanne (Guyara) Bednar and raised on the family farm in Hebron. She attended Windham High School and plans to become a teacher were put off to work at Pratt & Whitney during World War II. She met her husband of 40 years, the late Edward Lasky, and started a family. She focused on raising her children but worked part time at various positions. She lived in East Hartford for 47 years and attended Faith Lutheran Church. She enjoyed gardening, traveling and polka music. She will always be remembered for her sweet personality and genuine desire to help others.

Mrs. Lasky leaves behind her children, Ronald Lasky, of Hartford, and his former wife, Marijane Mitchell, of Salem, Joyce Heriot and her husband Arthur of Amston, and James Lasky of Amston. She also leaves her three grandchildren; Brian, Jane and Maura Lasky of Salem and sisters, Carol Jarzabek, Bette Maszta and Marian Patnaude of Middletown. Ellen was predeceased by a brother, Charles Bednar and her sisters, Anna Masselli and Mildred Kowalski.

Calling hours were Sunday evening, June 3 at the Callahan, Newkirk & Whitney Funeral Home, 318 Burnside Ave., East Hartford. Funeral Service was held Monday, June 4 at the Faith Lutheran Church, 1120 Silver La., East Hartford. Burial was Tuesday, June 5. at St. Mary's Cemetery, 600 Jefferson Ave., New London, CT.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in her memory to the Faith Lutheran Church, 1120 Silver Lane, East Hartford, CT 06108.

Portland

Thomas Markoski

Thomas Markoski, 72, of Portland, died Tuesday, May 29, at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford. He was born in West Hartford, the son of the late Joseph and Genevieve (Siecinski) Markoski.

He was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School, Class of 1953. Prior to his retirement, Tom was employed with Town and Country Auto Group.

He is survived by his brother, George Markoski and his wife Bianca of Middletown; nephews, Timothy Markoski of Houston, TX, Greg Markoski of Summerfield, NC, Bob Markoski of Middletown, and Gary Markoski of Cromwell; niece, Darlene Prevatte of Middletown; grand-nephews, Christopher and John Markoski, and Billy Prevatte; and grandnieces, Samantha, Amanda, and Nicole Prevatte.

Funeral services were held Saturday from the Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown followed by a Funeral Liturgy in St. Francis Church, Elm St., Middletown. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery. Calling hours were Friday, June 1 at the Biega Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK

Colchester

Pamela T. Milton

Pamela Tracey Milton, 43, of Windham Avenue, Colchester, passed away Sunday, June 3, at home surrounded by her loving family after a courageous battle with ovarian cancer.

Born October 30, 1963 in Middletown, she was a daughter of Carl Milton of Gold Canyon, AZ and the late Ruth (Smoke) Milton.

Pam was a 1981 graduate of Bacon Academy in Colchester, where she excelled in both sports and industrial arts; two passions that would stay with her throughout her life.

She would become an extremely talented carpenter and home builder in Colchester along with her longtime partner and companion, Edward Williams.

Pam was active playing women's softball in Colchester. Pam and Ed had an avid love of cats. She took in countless stray cats and she was known to volunteer at the Kitty Harbor Shelter in Voluntown.

In addition to her father and her companion, Ed of Colchester, she is survived by her step-mother, Loretta Milton of Gold Canyon, AZ; four siblings, Jane Tatro of Colchester, Mindy Milton of Willimantic, Brenda Ables of Virginia and Craig Milton of Charleston, SC; six nieces and nephews, Rachel and Matthew Tatro, Jared and Chelsea Lassiter, Breanna Gladden and Cassandra Milton; a great nephew, Jacob Tatro; and numerous extended family members and friends.

In addition to her mother, she was predeceased by a sister, Nancy Milton.

In keeping with Pam's wishes, services will be private.

Care of arrangements has been entrusted to the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester.

Colchester

Ruth N. Broder

Ruth N. Broder died after a brief illness on Friday, June 1, in Portland, ME. She was 98. She passed away peacefully surrounded by family. At the age of 92 she had moved from her home town of Colchester, to Yarmouth, ME and then to Falmouth, ME where she resided at Sedgewood Commons.

Ruth Naomi Horowitz was born in 1909, one of ten children of Isaac and Bessie Horowitz. Her father was a merchant who ran the only ice cream parlor in town. She and her twin sister Laura were inseparable allies. With so many siblings and an ice cream parlor in the center of a small Connecticut town, Ruth's life was centered on her family.

Dark-haired and petite, she graduated from the local high school (Bacon Academy) in 1927 and studied art and sculpture at the Pratt Institute in New York and the Hartford Art School. During World War II, she worked at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft in East Hartford, drawing mechanical designs for warplane engines.

Ruth was a talented painter and sculptor. Working in clay she crafted life-like images of family members and friends. Her impressionistic oil paintings captured the New England landscape that she loved.

While Ruth did not marry until she was 36, in a portent of things to come Jacob "Yank" Broder, a friend and classmate, wrote the following in her yearbook in 1926: "To Ruth: Oh how I wish I hadn't met a certain blonde! Someday - who can tell. Maybe it'll be a brunette. Sincerely, Yank." After World War II they married and lived in Colchester.

They raised two sons, Jamie and Jonnie, and were both active members of the community. Ruth was a life member of Hadassah. Ruth was a homemaker. Many of her siblings, nieces and nephews also lived in Colchester. For the cousins who traveled in a pack known as the "Stat Army," the big question of each day was which aunt was making the best dinner. It appears, however, that the aunts actually knew about this. It is rumored that there may have been a conspiracy among the aunts to avoid all of them making dinner. It is said that they would sometimes agree that one would make a favorite of the kids and thereby attract the entire Stat Army for dinner. A true win win situation. Aunt Ruthie's chicken soup and apple pie were always sure winners.

After her husband's sudden death in 1970, she remained in her Fernwood Drive home, where she stayed active with her family and with her gardens. She remained a member of the Ahavath Achim Synagogue on Lebanon Ave. Diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease in the late '90s, she remained at home under the loving care of Elma Reeves until her move in April of 2001 to an assisted living facility in Maine near her son Jamie and daughter-in-law Lee. Her older sister Pauline, now 101, called every week to chat with her "baby sister." Her grandson Yank credits his Grandma Ruthie with his lifelong addiction to cheeseburgers.

She is survived by her sister and brother in law, Pauline, 101, and Alan Lowenthal, of Tuscon, Arizona; her son and daughter in law, Jamie and Lee Broder of Cumberland Foreside, Maine, son and daughter in law Jon Broder and Judy Donner of Chevy Chase, MD; grandson, Jacob "Yank" Broder and granddaughter-in-law Lucy Davenport Broder of Los Angeles, grandson Josh Broder of Portland, Maine, and granddaughters Julia Broder and Noa Broder, both of Chevy Chase, MD.

Arrangements entrusted to Weinstein Mortuary, Hartford. A graveside funeral service was held in Colchester at the Ahavath Achim Cemetery, Colchester on Thursday afternoon, June 7. A period of mourning will be observed at the home of Jamie and Lee Broder in Cumberland Foreside, ME on Saturday evening, June 9 starting at 8 p.m.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Maine Chapter of the Alzheimers Association.

Colchester

Phyllis Schuster

Phyllis (Spalter) Schuster, 87, of Boca Raton, FL, passed away peacefully on Monday, June 4, in Boca Raton. Born Feb. 16, 1920 in Hartford, she was the daughter of the late Samuel and Sarah Apter Spalter.

Phyllis was married to the late Paul "Pinny" Schuster for over 60 years and was always at his side throughout their wonderful marriage together. Phyllis lived most of her life in Colchester and Bloomfield before moving to Boca Raton, and enjoyed her yearly visits to Colchester, which she always called home.

Sisters Ruth Zucker, Sylvia Burack and Marion Barden predeceased her. Her son Richard and daughter-in-law Ellen, son Steven and daughter-in-law Rosalind, and son Mark survive her. She leaves her grandchildren, Gil, Stacy, Damon, Gregg, Adam and Drew Schuster. Also surviving are her precious great grandchildren: Skylar and Benjamin, and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and extended family members.

Phyllis will always be remembered for her loving acts of kindness and friendship within the communities that she lived. Phyllis was a true lady in every respect of the word and will be remembered in that sense by all that really knew her.

Funeral services will be held today (Friday, June 8) at 11 a.m. at Congregation Ahavath Achim Synagogue, 84 Lebanon Ave., Colchester with Rabbi Kenneth Alter officiating. Interment will follow in the Congregation Ahavath Achim Cemetery, Colchester. Shiva will be observed Saturday evening only at 8:30 p.m. at the home of Steven and Rosalind Schuster.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Congregation Ahavath Achim Synagogue, or to a charity of the donor's choice. Weinstein Mortuary of Hartford has charge of arrangements.

Colchester

Anthony Uttaro

Anthony Uttaro, 52, of Chestnut Hill Road, Colchester, beloved husband of Janice, passed away Wednesday, June 6, at the Wm. W. Backus Hospital in Norwich, surrounded by his loving family.

Born March 4, 1955 in Brooklyn, NY, he was the son of Mario and Stella (Radomsky) Uttaro of New Britain.

On Dec. 28, 2000, he wed Janice Rondinone in Glastonbury.

Mr. Uttaro was a PC Circuit Designer at Essential Telecommunications Corp. in Glastonbury for many years.

Anthony had an avid love of music. He was a talented bass guitar player and played with several rock bands over the years. He also loved boating, fishing and held a fond interest in trains. Most importantly, he will be remembered by his family as being devoted and fun loving.

In addition to his parents and his loving wife of six years, he is survived by two daughters, Angela and Alexis Uttaro, both of Colchester; two stepchildren, Kevin and Kelly Carney, both of Colchester; a sister, Santana Barrett of Newington; a special aunt, Vickie Bologna of Newington; and numerous extended family members and friends.

Friends may call today (Friday, June 8) from 5-8 p.m. at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester.

The funeral will assemble 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home before the celebration of a 10:30 a.m. Funeral Liturgy at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Avenue, Colchester with Fr. Michael Giannitelli, officiating. Burial will follow in the New St. Andrew Cemetery. Donations in his memory may be made to Autism Speaks, 2 Park Ave. 11th Fl., New York, NY 10016.