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It's time once again for the annual Hebron Harvest Fair. Back for its 37th year, the fair features something for everyone. Pictured here are some of the sights of last year's festival. Photos courtesy hebronharvestfair.org

Hebron Harvest Fair Coming Next Weekend

by Sarah McCoy

At the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds, things are currently pretty quiet. But a week from now will bring a very different story, as thousands take in the sights, sounds (and foods) associated with the Hebron Harvest Fair.

The four-day event that put Hebron on the map is back for its 37th year, and will run from Thursday, Sept. 6, through Sunday, Sept. 9.

There will be several additions to the fair this year, and the most significant change this year may be the carnival. Florida-based Reithoffer Shows, the largest traveling midway in the world, will be the ride provider. The company will run a large-scale roller coaster at this year's Hebron Harvest Fair, which fair organizers say is a first for the state.

The Lions hope to bounce back after last year's difficulties with the carnival rides. In 2006, Amusements of America provided the rides for the Hebron Harvest Fair but were only able to open a dozen of their 35 rides due to inspection problems.

The Hebron Lions have also added another, family-friendly entertainment venue. This year there will be a third stage

at the festival, featuring such acts as Bella the Clown, magician Michael Michaels and Latin band Fiesta Del Norte.

On Saturday morning, Sept. 8, members of seven local fire departments, including the Hebron Volunteer Fire Department, will compete in the first Fire Department Muster. The two-hour show will pit firefighter versus firefighter as they strive to successfully execute various skills.

The headlining music acts of the fair will perform Sunday, Sept. 9. Country artist Steve Azar will perform at 1 p.m., followed by Heartland at 3 p.m. Heartland's single "I Loved Her First," reached Number One on the Billboard country music charts late last year.

Returning to the fair is the demolition derby. There will be a traditional demolition derby on Thursday night, Sept. 6, followed by a Figure 8 competition Friday, Sept. 7. This year the Hebron Lions will have its own car in the derby, driven by John "Crash" Smith.

For the Hebron Lions, the preparation for this year's fair has been different than in previous years. In the winter of 2005

four teenagers vandalized the fairgrounds, causing over \$1 million in damages. Now, two and a half years later, there are finally no more traces of that evening.

"For the most part, we have overcome it," Grounds Chairman Bob Schadtler said. "Except we now have a substantial mortgage we didn't anticipate."

Instead of rebuilding and renovating, like in 2005 and 2006, the Club focused on maintenance this year.

"Seeding, trenching, working on the parking lot," former Lions Club President and Publicity Chairman Rich Griswold said. "This year was all about taking care of the things we didn't have time for in the last two years."

Finally the group feels caught up. This year's Hebron Harvest Fair admission is \$9 on Thursday and Friday, and \$10 on Saturday and Sunday. Children 12 and under are free.

The fair will be open Thursday from 4-10 p.m., Friday noon-11 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Parking is \$5 per car.

Colchester School Board Keeps Indoor Track

by Jim Salemi

About 60 residents came out to the Board of Education meeting Monday, Aug. 27, and strongly urged the board to keep indoor track at Bacon Academy High School in its budget.

Their request was granted.

Last week, the Board of Finance ordered the school board to cut \$80,710 from its proposed 2007-08 budget. So the board met Monday to consider cuts. Among them was the indoor track program at Bacon, which, if eliminated, would have resulted in a \$10,000 savings.

But, after some creative budgeting, the school board voted 6-1, with Betsy Ciccone opposed, to cut the amount earmarked for a guidance counselor to fund indoor track.

Ciccone said she thought the move was "not responsible."

"The administration should go in (to the budget) and look for" the \$80,000, she said. Ciccone said the "pay to participate" item, which would require a co-pay from students to participate in all sports and other activities, should be eliminated from the cut list instead of restoring the indoor track.

Ciccone has been a vocal opponent of the co-pay policy since it was instilled for sports teams in the district two years ago.

"Pay to participate makes things unequal. Some can pay, some can't," she said.

The mandated school budget cuts came as the town gets ready for its fourth referendum on a 2007-08 spending plan. Three previous attempts to pass a budget have failed, and the fourth referendum is slated for Tuesday, Sept. 25, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m., at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave.

Before the referendum, a public hearing on the budget will be held Thursday, Sept. 6, at 7 p.m. at Town Hall, and a town meeting to send the budget to referendum is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 17, at 7 p.m., also at the town hall.

Last week, in addition to ordering the school board's cut, the Board of Finance also cut \$292,247 from the Board of Selectmen's budget.

At Monday's school board meeting, past and current Bacon Academy students, parents and other interested residents testified almost solely to the merits and benefits of indoor track, and they urged the board to keep the indoor track program.

"Most people in indoor track participate to get in shape for other sports," said Andrew Hollingsworth, a former Bacon student. "You take indoor track away, you take away from other teams. It costs about \$10,000 to fund. Spread among everyone in town, you're only talking a few dollars."

Following the lengthy public comment session, Board of Education Chairman William Hettrick was apologetic as he explained why the board was about to vote on the cuts.

"It's absolutely heartbreaking for us to do this. In the entire 14 years I've been on the board, we've added sports because of enrollment," he said, and added, "The town is taking the biggest hit. Seventy percent of the budget is the Board of Education's and 30 percent is the town. The town side is taking the biggest hit because no one—the Board of Finance, the Board of Selectmen—no one wants to cut kid's programs."

During the board's discussion of the cut list, board member Andrew George floated the idea of cutting the funding for a counselor by the \$10,116 required to finance indoor track. George asked Jeffry Mathieu, principal of Bacon Academy, if the proposal was "doable."

Mathieu said it was. He said the \$59,789 earmarked for the salary of a new guidance counselor is for the high-end of the pay scale. That amount, less the \$10,116, could fund an entry level or a semi-retired counselor, he said.

Also included in Monday's round of cuts were a crossing guard for the elementary school, math curriculum materials for the elementary school and "smartboards" at the middle school. They also agreed to keep the pay-to-participate program, which the board has said would result in a savings of \$15,000.



Hebron's original 1937 Ford Sanford fire truck sits in front of Company No. 1 on Main Street in this 1938 photograph.

Fire Truck Restoration Efforts Continue

Members of the Antique Fire Truck Restoration Fundraising Committee will have a booth at Hebron Harvest Fair Thursday, Sept. 6, through Friday, Sept. 9, as it continues to collect money for the restoration of the town's first fire truck, a 1937 Ford Sanford.

"There has been strong interest in this project, especially as we get closer to our town's 300th anniversary of incorporation next year," said Chairman Harvey Desruijsseaux. "The fair gives us an opportunity to talk to people about Hebron's very first fire truck, and our goal of having the restoration completed in time for the 2008 Memorial Day parade. We are grateful to the Hebron Lions for their support."

Once restored, the truck will be on display at Company No. 1 on Main Street and will also be available for special events in other communities.

In addition to answering questions and passing out informational literature, committee members also plan to sell T-shirts featuring a replica of the fire truck. The shirts will cost \$10. Individuals can also make tax-deductible donations.

Raffle tickets for five items will also be available at the group's booth. Grand Prize is a cruise for two, in a balcony cabin, to an Eastern Caribbean location of the winner's choosing. All taxes and fees are included, except airfare. The value of the cruise is \$2,800, and was donated in part by Nancy Palinski and Hebron Travel.

Second prize is a 42" Panasonic high definition plasma television, valued at \$1,599, donated by David and Susan Morrison. Third prize is a luxury Vermont Castings outdoor grill, valued at \$949, and fourth prize is a luxury built in Vermont Castings grill, valued at \$699. Both grills were donated by Fireside Supply of Hebron. The fifth prize is a \$200 gift certificate to Ted's IGA, donated by Dave and Todge Armata and the Armata family.

After the fair, raffle tickets will be sold by volunteers in a number of locations. To purchase raffle tickets, call Desruijsseaux at 643-9679.

Raffle tickets sell for \$10 each, and 3,000 have been printed. The drawing will be held at Company No. 1 on Feb. 13, 2008, at 7 p.m. Winners need not be present at the drawing.

Haddam Neck Fair Coming This Weekend

The Haddam Neck Fair turns 96 this year, and it's still going strong.

The fair will run from Friday, Aug. 31, at 4 p.m., at 26 Quarry Hill Rd., and continue throughout Labor Day weekend, on Saturday, Sept. 1, Sunday, Sept. 2, and Monday, Sept. 3.

On Friday, Aug. 31, exhibits can be entered from 5:30-8:30 p.m. There will be karaoke on the bandstand, rides on the midway and a 4x4 Street Stock Truck Pull will begin at 6 p.m.

On Saturday, Sept. 1, exhibits can be entered from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Judging of exhibits in most departments takes place Saturday morning at 11 a.m.

This year a beard contest will also be featured. Beards must be at least one inch long and will be judged on length, fullness, neatness as well as sideburns and mustache. The contest will be Saturday, Sept. 1, at 1 p.m. Sign-up is at 12:30 p.m.

Also on Saturday, the Farm and Modified Tractor Pull will begin at 10 a.m., the Dog Agility Competition will be held at 2 p.m. and the Truck Pull will start at 6 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 2, will also bring a slew of activities. On Sunday, Sept. 2, the Horse Show will begin at 8:30 a.m., the Haddam Neck Fair 5K Road Race at 9:30 a.m. and the Horse Pulling Contest starts at noon. Also at noon, entries for the Multiple Birth Contest will be

judged. At 1 p.m., The Moodus Drum and Fife Corps will play.

Sunday will also bring a multiple birth contest. This will be held at noon.

Twins, triplets or quads are welcome, including all ages, and will be judged on youngest set, oldest set, most in a set and best matched outfits. Sign-up is at 11:30 a.m.

Saturday and Sunday also feature live entertainment on the bandstand. On Saturday, Emily Clinton will perform from 2-5 p.m., and Aces & Eights will play from 7-10 p.m. On Sunday live entertainment includes Blues on the Side from 2-5 p.m. and The Dramatix from 7-10 p.m.

On the last day of the fair, Monday, Sept. 3, the ox cart class, the working Cattle Show and the Oxen Pull will be featured, along with the Antique Tractor Pull, at noon. The Kids Pedal Tractor Pull and the Baby Show take place in the afternoon.

On all four days there will be rides, concessions, a petting zoo, racing pigs, food, exhibits and displays.

General admission to the fair is \$7, \$6 for seniors 60 and over, and free for kids 12 and under. Parking is also free. The fairgrounds are located about a mile from the intersection of Haddam Neck Road and Route 151.

For more information, visit haddamneckfair.com or call the 267-5922.



Antique tractors are among the many sights at the 96th annual Haddam Neck Fair, which is coming this weekend. The four-day event also features a baking contest, dog agility competition, a petting zoo, racing pigs and much more.

Colchester Police News

8/23—Raheem Kelly, 25, of 19 Woodland St., was arrested for misuse of plates, failure to carry insurance and speeding, according to police.

8/24—Jhermie Baudner, 21, of 134 Wildwood Rd., was arrested for DUI and failure to drive right, police report.

8/24—Police say they are investigating the theft of a Mercury Black Max 150 horsepower boat motor from property at 32 Halls Hill Rd. The motor was sawed off the back of the boat, according to police.

8/25—Steven R. Langley, 25, of 19 Hammond Ct., Apt. 2, was arrested for third-degree assault and interfering with a 911 call, according to police.

8/26—Police say they are investigating the theft of engine parts and an outboard boat motor from a barn at 687 Old Hartford Rd. Anyone with any information is asked to call Officer Owens at 537-7270.

Marlborough Police News

8/24—Harold Knapp, 51, of Danbury, was arrested for DWI and failure to stay in his lane, according to police.

Hebron Police News

8/26—Justin Allen, 22, of Columbia, was arrested for violation of a restraining order, according to police.

Obituaries

Andover

Peter David Skoog

Peter David Skoog, "Pete," 49, of Bausola Road, Andover, beloved husband of Elinor (O'Neill) Skoog and father of Senior Airman Sara Skoog, USAF, passed away peacefully Thursday, Aug. 23, at home. Born Nov. 12, 1957, in Manchester, he was a son of the late Henry and Muriel (Anderton) Skoog. From when he was a child, Pete enjoyed spending time at Andover Lake, whether fishing or just going for a swim. He graduated from RHAM High School in 1976 and went on to join the Navy in 1980. In 1986, Pete was honorably discharged from the Navy and began his career at Mansfield Training Center. Following that, he was a Residential Instructor and Mentor for Community Residents, Inc. in Middletown.



Some of his other activities included volunteering as President and Lake Security Guard for the Andover Lake Property Owners Assn. Loved by everyone, Pete enjoyed going for a ride on his Harley with a group of friends. He was a friend to everyone and known for always being the life of the party. He will be greatly missed. In addition to his loving wife of 12 years and his daughter, he is survived by a sister, Astrid Belanger of Columbia; a brother, William Skoog of Columbia; and numerous extended family members and friends.

He was predeceased by a brother, Charles. Friends called Monday, Aug. 27, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Road, Colchester, before processing to the Church of the Holy Family, 185 Church St. (Rte. 85), Hebron, where the funeral liturgy was celebrated by Fr. Michael Smith. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), 910 17th St. NW, Ste. 800, Washington, DC 20006.

Colchester

Francis Strekel

Francis L. Strekel, 91, husband of the late Rita Wiczorek Strekel of Colchester passed away on Friday, Aug. 24, at his residence. Born on March 25, 1916 in Simpson, PA, he was the son of the late Lawrence and Agnes Rogelj Strekel. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and the Korean Conflict, and served in the Connecticut Air National Guard for 31 years before retiring. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, was a member of member of the Adler-Boluck V.F.W. Post # 6990 and the Donald A. Bigelow American Legion Post #54 and member of St. Andrew Church. Francis was very active and self reliant until the end.

He is survived by two sons, Lawrence Strekel of Old Lyme and Giles Strekel of East Windsor; two grandsons, Matt and Alex; several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by all his brothers and sisters. Funeral Mass of Christian Burial was held Tuesday, Aug. 28, at St. Andrew Catholic Church on Norwich Ave., Colchester. Entombment followed with full military honors at St. Mary's Cemetery in East Hartford. Memorial donations may be made to St. Andrew Church in his memory.

Colchester

Norman Shepherd Tasker

Norman Shepherd Tasker, 82, of Old Hebron Road, Colchester, entered into his eternal rest Thursday, Aug. 23. Born in Hartford on May 2, 1925, the son of Ada (Harris) and Bernard Walter Tasker, he attended West Hartford schools and was graduated from William H. Hall High School and attended Northeastern University in Springfield, MA. In 1942 he entered the employment of the Connecticut State Police Dept. at Troop K in Colchester as a radio dispatcher and in 1943 joined the U.S. Naval Reserves, serving his country in the South Pacific until his Honorable Discharge in January 1946. He served in four major military engagements: Palau Islands, Philippine Islands, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. Returning to the Connecticut State Police, he entered their Training Academy and in 1952 graduated at the top of his class. In June of that year, he married Mary Elizabeth Webster, of Colchester, at the old St. Andrew Church.

Over the course of his State Police career, he was promoted up through all the existing ranks within the Department at the time, progressing from Radio Dispatcher to Deputy Commissioner with the rank of Lt. Colonel. In this capacity he also held the title of Deputy State Fire Marshall, and was on the Governor's Committee for determining fire-fighting standards and education requirements for fire-fighters. When the sport of boxing was re-introduced into the state, he was appointed Chairman of the State Boxing Commission by Gov. Thomas Meskill. Continuing his education, he attended and was graduated from Harvard Associates of Police Science, studying forensic science and homicide investigations. He also attended NESPAC College in Rhode Island.

Lt. Col. Tasker had been a member of the committee for parole evaluations, techniques and rehabilitation; a member of the National Crime Information Center; the advisory policy board for the northeast region; a member of the New England and Connecticut Chiefs of Police; a life member of the National Sheriff's Assn.; the International Narcotics Enforcement Assn.; a life member of the National Rifle Assn.; a member of the Officers' Club of Connecticut; a member of the Connecticut State Police Academy Alumni Assn. and the Connecticut State Employees Assn. He also served on numerous police employment and promotional boards for local and state police Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, and Maryland. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Award by the Connecticut State Police for disarming a felon.

In 1975, after serving 33 years with the department, he retired and later went into the employment of Northeast Utilities in Berlin as Director of Systems Security. In this capacity he made recommendations and put into effect security studies for the protection of personnel and facilities and developed policy and procedures for hydro electric, fossil and nuclear stations in Connecticut and Massachusetts. While at NU, he chaired several national committees including the Security and Safeguard Committee of the Atomic Industrial Forum of Washington, DC and the Security Committee for Edison Electric Institute of New York. He was president of the Connecticut Chapter of American Society for Industrial Security, vice-chairman of Region Nuclear Security Assn. and a member of NUMARC Security Group.

Leaving Northeast Utilities in 1987, retiring for the second time, he became a self-employed consultant for utilities service in Texas, Florida, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania and while working in Texas was made and Honorary Sheriff in that state. He went into final retirement in 1991, however he did serve as Chairman of the Colchester Police Commission and had also been President of the Jaycees here. He was a life member of the Adler-Boluck VFW Post 6990, a member of the Donald A. Bigelow American Legion Post 54 and the IWO Jima Survivors. He was also life member of The Hundred Club. A daily communicant of St. Andrew's, he was a Trustee and a member of the Finance Committee there. In 1997, he and his wife were commissioned Knight and Lady of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

He was predeceased by his daughter, Kathleen Mary, in 2002 and is survived by his wife, Mary; his brother, Gordon and his wife Ruth, of Palm City, FL; a nephew, Richard Tasker and his wife Sheila of Jacksonville, FL; a niece Elizabeth and her husband Robert Davis of Bethesda, MD; a niece, Carolyn and her husband William Aliski of Dartmouth, MA; a niece, Barbara and her husband Jeffrey Sheley of West Warwick, RI; and a niece, Katherine and her husband Joseph Panzarella of Granby, and their families. Friends called at the Belmont Funeral Home Sunday, Aug. 26. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. Michael Giannitelli at St. Andrew Church, Colchester, Monday, Aug. 27. Interment followed with full Military Honors in the Linwood Cemetery, Colchester. In lieu of floral remembrances, donations may be made in his memory to St. Andrew Church or the CSPAAA Museum Fund, c/o Major Peter Warren, P.O. Box 1010, Southbury, CT 06488.

Colchester

Roy Kimzey

Roy B. Kimzey, 46, of Oakleaf Drive, Colchester, and formerly of Wichita Falls, TX, beloved husband of Patricia Moran-Kimzey, passed away Friday, Aug. 24, at the Marlborough Clinic. Born April 21, 1961 in Wichita Falls, TX, he was a son of Doris (Odom) (Kimzey) Bartosh of Wichita Falls and the late Ronnie Kimzey. Early on, Roy was a welder and steel worker in Texas. He moved to Connecticut in 2000 and most recently was a furnace operator for Ametek in Wallingford. He loved the four seasons of New England and was an avid fisherman. Most importantly, Roy will be remembered for his happy disposition, love of life and devotion to his family, especially his grandchildren.



In addition to his mother and his loving wife of nearly six years, he is survived by two children, Misty Howell and her husband, Tim, and J. Chad Kimzey, all of Wichita Falls; two grandchildren, Mason and Dylan Howell; his brother and sister-in-law, Ronnie and Lesa Kimzey of Wichita Falls; his stepfather, Louis Bartosh of Wichita Falls; his father and mother-in-law, John and Carole Moran, Jr. of Wallingford and their children, John and Lynn Moran, III, Jennifer Moran Jayne and her husband, Doug, Thomas and Kathy Moran and Kathi and Chris Zygmunt, all of Wallingford; his beloved dogs, Molly and Mac; and numerous extended family members and friends.

Friends called Monday at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. Funeral services and burial will be observed in Wichita Falls under the direction of Owens & Brumley Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Windham Community Memorial Hospital, 112 Mansfield Ave., Willimantic, CT 06226.

Portland

Trevor Taylor

Trevor Taylor of Portland, formerly of New Britain, went gently into the good night on Sunday, Aug. 26. He was widowed by his beloved wife Elisa (Donnelly) Taylor of 39 years. Born in Barnsley, Yorkshire, England, he was the son of the late Ernest and Elsie (Dancer) Taylor. Trevor was a New Britain resident most of his life. He was a founding member of the British Overseas American Club and a member of the Latin American Cultural Association. After losing his wife Elisa Taylor to cancer in 1998 Trevor found new love in his wonderful companion from Argentina, Stella Pallini. Trevor enjoyed that last years of his life in the US and traveling to Argentina and England visiting his friends and loved ones.

Surviving are his two sons and a daughter-in-law, Patrick Taylor of Storrs, Trevor J. and Brenda Taylor of Portland, three grandchildren, Dylan, Elisa and Clay Taylor, and a beloved cousin Helen Patricia McCarthy. Two sisters, Susan and Elsie Taylor predeceased him. Calling hours will be held Friday evening from 6-8 p.m. at Erickson-Hansen Funeral Home, 411 So. Main St., New Britain. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Central CT, 205 West Main St., New Britain, CT 06052. Please share a memory of Trevor in the online guest book at www.ericksonhansen.com.