

RIVEREAST

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Full-day kindergarten is coming to Andover Elementary School. The town's Board of Education voted this week to make the move, which takes effect in fall 2009.

Full-Day Kindergarten Coming to Andover

by Sarah McCoy

The Andover Board of Education voted Wednesday to initiate a full-day kindergarten program at the town's elementary school, starting next fall.

The unanimous decision followed a presentation from Superintendent Andy Maneggia, who explained that the new initiative wouldn't result in an increase to the board's budget.

"In terms of curriculum and social skills the research shows that full-day kindergarten is better all around," Maneggia said. "It's the way the state is moving and this, I feel, is the perfect time for Andover."

Currently Andover Elementary School has three teachers for each of grades 1-6, with approximately 45 students in each grade. However, this year's second grade class is unusually small with only 35 students. Additionally, a departure is anticipated at the end of the year by one of the school's current crop of third-grade teachers. What Maneggia is proposing is to take that teacher's position from third grade and move it to kindergarten for the 2009-10 school year.

And as this year's second-grade class moves forward, the number of teaching positions per grade would be adjusted. For the 2010-11 school year, fourth grade would change to only two teachers, in 2011-12 fifth grade would feature two teachers, and in 2012-13, sixth grade would see the reduction in teachers. Maneggia said at that point, which would be the 2013-14 fiscal year, the district would have to reassess the grade level enrollments to reevaluate staffing needs.

There are presently 44 kindergarten stu-

dents split between three half-day sessions (or 1.5 positions). According to Maneggia's projections, this number is expected to go down to approximately 36-38 students next year. That could mean kindergarten could have either two or three full-day classrooms depending on the final enrollment numbers.

"The worst-case scenario is that we have to add a .5 teaching position, which still saves us money," Maneggia explained.

The savings comes from a reduction to the district's transportation line item. By eliminating mid-day runs for kindergarten, the town would save \$33,000 a year, enough to cover the possible staffing increase and furnishing an additional classroom.

"The opportunity is right," Maneggia said Wednesday. "If we reduce our budget by one teaching position, do you think we'd ever be able to add that position back? If you don't do it now the plan goes back on the shelf for a long time."

Before they approved the initiative, school board members questioned Maneggia as to the specifics of the program. Board member Wendy Baver asked how recess and lunch would work, considering kindergarten students don't presently have these. Maneggia responded by saying it was something the administration would work on, but the issue hasn't yet been broached. He added that he would expect kindergarten students to join the older students, but noted that no plans have been discussed.

Board member Scott Sauyet questioned the initial feedback Maneggia has received about full-day kindergarten. "I know when

my kids were in kindergarten I might not have been that excited about sending them away for the entire day," he said. With a half-day program, "they were able to ease into the transition" of going to school.

Maneggia said that staff members are on board with the full-day concept, and initial feedback from parents has been positive.

Both current kindergarten teachers were on hand Wednesday night, in support of full-day classes. "I've supported this in Columbia as a parent and, as a teacher, I think it's totally necessary," Jenny Marshall said. "To cover what we cover isn't impossible. We're doing it now, but it's difficult and the kids are rushed."

There were no parents in the audience to comment on the proposal.

Maneggia added that there could be an added benefit of encouraging families looking for a full-day program to stay in town as opposed to finding an alternative environment. "We have some families who do not send their kids here because of the lack of a full-day program," he said. "If we can get them in and they can see what we're all about, maybe we'll see a reduction in the number of magnet school placements that the board has to pay for."

School board member Danny Holtzclaw added that some parents might be able to use the extra hours their child is in school to pick up a part-time job to alleviate the economic burdens placed on families nowadays.

The full-day kindergarten initiative will be included in Maneggia's 2009-10 budget presentation, to be held at the Jan. 21 Board of Education meeting.

Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

There was some pretty big news in the world of television this week. And it's not news I'm that thrilled with either. NBC announced they're holding onto Jay Leno in a most unexpected way.

Now, let me give you some background here: a few years ago, NBC worked out a deal with both Leno and Conan O'Brien in which Conan would inherit *The Tonight Show* in 2009. (Since then, it's been announced that Jimmy Fallon would take over Conan's slot.) And Jay would....well, no one really knew what Jay would do. Unlike, say, Johnny Carson, Leno didn't really want to go (and there's a little debate over how much Johnny really wanted to leave, too). Whereas Carson had *The Tonight Show* for 30 years, Leno had had the show for about 12 when the announcement was first made in 2004 that he would step down. And all indications were he still loved doing it. But NBC was desperate to hang on to the younger-skewing Conan, whose contract was due to expire. So they worked out a deal, and, for a while anyway, Conan was happy, NBC was happy, and Leno if not exactly happy, he at least had a lot of money.

But then there began speculation about Leno moving to another network after his gig on *The Tonight Show* ended. There were serious rumors that he might head to ABC and take over the 11:30 p.m. slot there (moving *Jimmy Kimmel Live* back to 12:30 a.m. and displacing *Nightline* altogether). Meanwhile, *The Tonight Show*, under Leno, was still doing well in the ratings, still topping *The Late Show with David Letterman* every night. People in the industry started to question the wisdom of *The Tonight Show* move (it didn't help matters that the *Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson* – which in most places airs directly after Letterman; just not, oddly, in Connecticut – had caught up with Conan in the ratings). NBC's ratings also continued to fall into the toilet. Simply put, if Leno were to hop to another network, it would not have been a shining moment for the Peacock Network.

So, NBC managed to retain Leno, and at the same time still let Conan go to *The Tonight Show*. NBC Tuesday announced they were giving Leno a new, five-nights-a-week talk show, airing.....weeknights at 10 p.m.

This is a big deal. A five-nights-a-week network talk show has never been done in prime time before. This is basically NBC throwing in the towel, at least on the 10 p.m. hour. Now they'll only really have to focus on 8-10 p.m. Monday-Friday (as they schedule repeats on Saturday nights, save for *Saturday Night Live*)

and, when it's not football season, 7-11 p.m. on Sunday. You have to wonder what's going to happen to some of their shows. The highly-rated *Law & Order: SVU* still airs at 10 p.m., as does the still-decently-rated original *Law & Order*. (*ER* airs at 10 too, but this is its final season.) If they return next season, it'll have to be at an earlier time. So what gets the axe? *Knight Rider*? *Chuck*? Maybe even *Heroes*? I'd prefer it if NBC actually decides to cut back on some of its reality shows, like *Deal or No Deal* and *The Biggest Loser*, but I'm not holding my breath. Also, if Leno's new show does well, do ABC and CBS follow suit? After all, a talk show is significantly cheaper to produce than a scripted, original drama.

Leno's apparently going to take all his *Tonight Show* trademarks – like “Headlines,” “Jay-walking,” etc. – with him to the 10 p.m. show. So basically, it'll be *The Tonight Show*, just at 10 p.m. And Conan, who was poised to be the star of NBC Late Night, now finds himself in the odd position of hosting *The Tonight Show* but still playing second-fiddle to Leno. Also, you have to wonder what this means for Jimmy Fallon and his new show. After two hours of late-night talk, who's going to stick around for a third? And you know this means those tiny little ratings for Last Call with Carson Daly will get even.....tinier.

As pretty much a lifelong student of television and its history, I found Tuesday's news fascinating. And I don't like it either. Like I said, this is basically NBC throwing out an hour of prime time every single night, and that's really kind of a shame, especially when you consider the jewels NBC has aired at 10 p.m. over the years, like the aforementioned *Law & Order*, *ER*, *Hill Street Blues* and others. There'll be less original, scripted programming on the network now (again, I wouldn't place any bets that NBC will cut back on its reality programming), and as a fan of scripted TV, this disappoints me a little. It's the network cutting costs, and the viewer that suffers in the end.

Well, I suppose if you're a *Tonight Show with Jay Leno* fan, you're not suffering. But I'm not a fan; he seems like a nice guy, but his humor just seems to aim a little too much at the lowest common denominator. I prefer Letterman, but I actually like Conan better than both of them, so I was really kinda looking forward to the fall of '09. Now, a little less so.

* * *

Last week I wrote about the soft spot I have in my heart for Christmas music. And this week, allow me to touch on the same topic again. For many of the great songs out there, there are great stories behind them, and that's true for a lot of the Christmas classics you hear on the radio.

One of my favorite Christmas tunes, for example, is “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas,” and that didn't start life as a Christmas song at all, but rather was just one of many numbers from the 1944 movie musical *Meet Me in St. Louis*. In the movie, Judy Garland's character sings it to her little sister, played by a 7-year-old Margaret O'Brien. The two are facing the prospect of the family moving away from their beloved home.

It's meant to be a sad song, sung by one depressed sister to another, and neither one of them wants to leave. The original lyrics to the song, in fact, contain super-depressing lines like “Have yourself a merry little Christmas/It may be your last/Next year we may all be living in the past” and “Faithful friends who were dear to us/Will be near to us no more.”

Judy Garland balked at singing the song as it was originally written. Yes, the girls were meant to be depressed, but not *that* depressed. As Judy told the song's writer, “If I sing that to sweet little Margaret O'Brien, they'll think I'm a monster!” The writer, Hugh Martin, eventually gave in, and came up with a less-downbeat version to perform, with now-familiar lines such as “Have yourself a merry little Christmas/Let your heart be light/Next year all our troubles will be out of sight.”

But Martin didn't wring all the sadness out of the piece. At the end of the song, Judy sings, “Someday soon, we all will be together/If the fates allow/Until then, we'll have to muddle through somehow.”

In my opinion, it's these closing lines of the song that help to make it so great. Overall, the song's message is an uplifting one, but it ends on this somber, bittersweet note, one that works well with the way a lot of people feel this time of year. And it helps that Judy Garland sings it so powerfully. Martin himself has described the “muddle through” sentiment as “just so kind of...down-to-earth.”

But anyone who listens to radio at Christmastime knows that this version of the song, while it does get occasional airplay, is not the most popular variation of “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.” In 1957, Frank Sinatra was recording a Christmas album, and asked Martin if he could rewrite the “muddle through” line. The name of his album was *A Jolly Christmas*, and, as Martin told *Entertainment Weekly*, Sinatra said, “Do you think you could jolly it up for me?”

So, he did. The “muddle through” line was replaced with “Hang a shining star upon the highest bough.” Martin also tweaked the song a little in other ways, replacing words like “next year” with “from now on,” which gave the

words more of a timeless happiness kind of feel.

The Sinatra version is what became the Christmas standard, and it's been recorded by scores of artists over the years, including The Carpenters, who I wrote about last week. And while I'll gladly listen to either version, I simply prefer the Judy Garland one. Like I said, she had such a powerful voice, and was able to at once convey the encouragement of the song as well as its somberness. In many ways, it's the perfect Christmas song. It blends happiness and sadness together in a concoction that is ultimately inspiring, with the promise that “next year, all our troubles will be miles away.” And really, who doesn't like that promise?

* * *

A mailing came to the office this week from AAA, announcing the latest gas prices in the area. I get one about once a month. The mailing compares the average price of gas in Connecticut and surrounding states to what the price was a month ago. For a long time, as gas prices climbed and climbed, it was a pretty depressing read. But, while I and everyone else have noticed gas prices continuing to fall, seeing the numbers in this week's mailing still brought a smile to my face.

As of Dec. 9, the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in Connecticut is \$1.88, according to AAA. That's down from \$2.36 a gallon just a month ago. And this is the *average* price, so it factors in all those Gold Coast towns. (I was in that area of the state over the weekend, and saw that gas there is still around \$1.99 a gallon.) What people around here are paying is likely even less than \$1.88. On Wednesday, for example, I passed a Mobil station in Manchester that was \$1.69 a gallon.

The AAA news release notes that this is the fifth straight month gas prices have declined, both in Connecticut and across the nation as well. Gas peaked at \$4.39 a gallon on July 9, the release says. It's simply breathtaking to realize that gas now is less than half – significantly less than half, in fact, what it was just five months ago.

As I said last month, the lower cost of gas is sort of a silver lining to this whole economic collapse. And it's tough to be too overjoyed about the spiraling-downward cost of gas when you see reports of the spiraling-upward unemployment rate, hundreds and hundreds of layoffs and bailout after bailout after bailout. But still, \$1.69 a gallon gas is something to smile about.

* * *

See you next week.

Published Comments Lead to Heated Discussion in East Hampton

by Michael McCoy

The Town Council almost made it through an entire meeting this week without any major arguments among council members.

Almost. After a liaison report concerning the Facilities Implementation Task Force, council member John Tuttle brought up an article from last week's *Rivereast* concerning the expenditure of \$45,000 to move ahead with Phase II of a major facilities project, a step that councilmen Sue Weintraub and Scott Minnick have voiced strong opposition to. In the story, Weintraub was quoted as saying, "The only paralysis seems to be the leadership."

At Tuesday's meeting, Tuttle asked Weintraub what "leadership" she was referring to. Weintraub said it was the Facilities Implementation Task Force, and restated what she has said multiple times before: "I feel that we need to have that comprehensive plan in place."

Remarking further on the "paralysis" comment, Tuttle charged, "It was ignorant I thought, as well as being offensive," and added, "You clearly don't support anything on facilities at this point."

Tuttle said "you need difference of opinion" when discussing issues, but this was something different. "We're not talking the school should use red bricks versus white bricks," Tuttle said, and called Weintraub's dissent "a tremendous distraction to the task force."

Tuttle even made a motion at Tuesday's meeting to remove Weintraub from the task force, a motion that council member Tom Cordeiro seconded.

Weintraub's comments were made after the Town Council agreed 5-2 to pay Friar Associates \$45,000 to execute Phase II of a facilities project feasibility study. The project involves

building science labs at the high school, moving the town hall to Center School, and constructing a wing at Memorial School that would address the Center School students. (The project is estimated at \$51 million; the town is considering a potential referendum on it next spring.)

In October, the council created a Facilities Implementation Task Force. Weintraub was initially not a member of the task force, but was later appointed after she asked to be on it.

Minnick and Weintraub have noted several problems they had with the project, including not being given a chance to discuss facility priorities as a town council. However, Town Council chair Melissa Engel has said she asked for all council members to do so, and only Tuttle and Cordeiro did.

Weintraub explained Tuesday night, "I think the leadership has failed on a lot of levels," and again complained that the council "never met to discuss priorities." To this end, she commented, "The fact that we never talked about it publicly concerns me," and continued, "I'm still going to express my concerns when they come up."

Tuttle then reiterated that he was not seeking to stifle differing opinions, but that opposition by someone on the task force to moving forward with the facilities plan was inherently counterproductive to a task force assigned to do just that.

He likened it to someone on the Lake Commission hypothetically believing that Lake Pocotopaug was a "perfect hue of green," and that nothing needed to be done to fix it.

"What benefit does that person serve the community?" he wondered.

Minnick appeared livid at Tuttle's comments

and his motion to remove Weintraub from the task force. "Clearly, booting someone who doesn't agree with your opinion is not democracy!" he said.

Minnick alleged that Tuttle wanted only "positive" comments about the facilities project, and "not necessarily the truth." He added that Weintraub was a "thorn in [Tuttle's] side."

"Don't try to cut off anyone else's voice because they disagree with you!" Minnick said.

Engel said she previously thought there was consensus on the council about the facilities project, "only to pick up the paper two weeks in a row. ... All of a sudden a consensus is not a consensus." (The Nov. 21 issue of the *Rivereast* contained a letter to the editor from Weintraub and Minnick, criticizing the council's handling of the project.)

Responding to allegations that the comments in last week's article were less than truthful, Minnick retorted, "It absolutely was truthful!" and said, "You want to take care of everything at sub-committee meetings instead of at Town Council meetings."

Cordeiro also seemed perturbed by Weintraub's comments, but said, "As much as I love the debate, I can't support the removal of a council member." He later added, "This council cannot legislate meetings, opinions, or comments."

Engel said, "The whole process of a task force is to move a project forward," but instead it was "almost being ridiculed" by Weintraub's comments.

Wednesday, Tuttle called Weintraub's comments a "misinformation campaign," meant to "derail" the project. He continued, "I questioned why on Earth she'd want to participate" in the

task force.

Last Friday, Dec. 5, there was a meeting of the Facilities Implementation Task Force, and Tuttle said Wednesday that Weintraub was "charming" at that meeting. However, he said, he was disappointed when he read Weintraub's comments in the *Rivereast* later that day.

"If it's not the time [to move ahead with the facilities project] what can you contribute?" he said.

Weintraub, who maintained her composure and said surprisingly little during the heated discussion Tuesday, explained to her fellow council members at Tuesday's meeting that she aimed to "do what's best for the town. That's why I asked to be on [the task force.]"

At that, Tuttle said, "Alright, I withdraw my motion."

When asked after the meeting what prompted him to make his motion to begin with, Tuttle responded, "I feel like Sue got the message; I felt my mission was accomplished." He said he took her remarks that night about doing what's best for the town and trying to help at face value.

"My point was made," he added Wednesday.

During a public comment portion at the end of Tuesday's meeting, Patience Anderson, who sought office with the Chatham Party in 2007, addressed the council, in what sounded like a desperate plea. "Be gentle with each other, for God's sakes." She then said of the meeting, "This is really uncomfortable. I'm sure it's uncomfortable for you."

The next Facilities Implementation task Force meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 8, at 8 a.m. at Town Hall, 20 East High St.

Portland Getting Closer to Boat Launch

by Michael McCoy

Portland is inching closer to making the long-awaited dream of a boat launch a reality.

Late last month, First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield received a conceptual design sketch, though she does not expect a final site plan for quite a while. The site is located along Brownstone Avenue, near the quarries, on the southernmost part of the town's riverfront property.

A fine-tuning of the sketch, along with a cost-benefit analysis, is the last chapter for Fuss & O'Neill, a civil engineering firm with offices in New England, New York, and South Carolina. "We are on our final phase of our contract with them," commented Bransfield.

According to Bransfield, the state holds a contract with Fuss & O'Neill for boating projects. Bransfield said Portland was able to piggyback on this contract, and sign their own with the firm, saving the town time and money on things such as the preparation of bidding documents. Christopher Cullen serves as project manager for the Portland endeavor.

The boat launch project dates back to the late 1990s, when Ed Kalinowski was First Selectman. Originally, a spot near Airline Avenue was explored, but it was deemed that the location would be too costly. (Part of this was due to a 3,500-foot access road that would have needed to be built.)

Bransfield took office in November 2003, and got the project rolling again shortly thereafter. The new site was located near the Wangunk Meadows. However, in December 2005, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) expressed concern over an endangered puritan tiger beetle located in that vicinity, specific on Gildersleeve Island. (Other than along the river, the only home for the beetle is in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay area.)

In March 2007, the DEP denied the site.

The following month, State Senator Eileen Daily, Middlesex Chamber of Commerce President Larry McHugh, DEP Commissioner Gina McCarthy, and Bransfield visited the new site along Brownstone Avenue. The DEP approved it that August.

"It's really a lovely spot," Bransfield said. However, after the beetle debacle, she was reluctant, to say the least, about putting more town money into more exploratory efforts. (Research on the Wangunk site came cost the town just over \$20,000.) In May of this year, the town received a \$100,000 grant from the State Boat-

ing Fund for a preliminary design and feasibility analysis.

So far, the town has spent \$68,000 of that \$100,000 grant. Bransfield said she hoped the other \$32,000 would be put toward the final site plan, which, she said, would likely be performed by another firm. Ultimately, Bransfield said, she hoped the state would pay for the final plans, as well as whatever the construction of the launch itself winds up being.

"We'll know more once we get the final concept," Bransfield said, explaining that once the state knows how much the launch will cost, it will decide its involvement.

Bransfield said a boat launch is worth all this effort. "It's that the people in Portland live in a community where we have the most riverfront property on the Connecticut River," she said. (A brief glance at a map will show that that honor appears to go to either Portland or its neighbor to the north, Glastonbury.)

Bransfield has said that, when she was first running for First Selectman in 2003, a boat launch "was one of the frequent requests that I heard" from residents.

"It's something the town has expressed interest in for many years," Bransfield reiterated this week, calling the boat launch a link between Main Street and the river. She also noted that both the brownstone and the boating industries were integral to Portland's infancy. "We were established here on the river," she said.

Mike Payton, of the DEP Boating Division, denied commenting on the likelihood of the state continuing with the project, but said Fuss & O'Neill's preliminary designs have so far been "satisfactory."

"I don't have an opinion on it," Payton said. "I do things for the betterment of the State of Connecticut."

Payton said the state has worked with towns before to help with boat launches. He reported the most notable example was one built on the East River in Guilford, which was built with federal funds.

Currently, Fuss & O'Neill is in the process of finalizing the preliminary design formulating a feasibility analysis for the final project. Bransfield predicted this would come in early to mid-January. Bransfield then plans to hold an informational session for residents in February or March, most likely at the public library.



A fire broke out at a Marlborough residence Monday, destroying the property. The home's owner, George Gianopoulos, is now staying with friends after flames ripped through his home. Builder officials condemned the property earlier this week.

Fire Destroys Lake Ridge Home in Marlborough

by Sarah McCoy

A waterfront property has been condemned after a late night fire earlier this week sent flames shooting into the air.

Just before 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, a call came into the Marlborough Volunteer Fire Department reporting a fire at 35 Lake Ridge Rd. The blaze was so strong and so involved that it was a resident across the lake who noticed something was wrong and alerted the fire department.

Fire crews from Marlborough, East Hampton, Colchester and Glastonbury worked until just after 1 a.m. Tuesday to stop the damage. Because there were no hydrants for miles, crews pulled water from the lake to battle the flames. But it wasn't the water situation that made firefighters' jobs difficult – it was the cold.

"It's was difficult to get the water but it's something we trained for," Fire Marshal Joe Asklar said. "But, when it's 10-15 degrees out, the water ices over, the nozzles freeze, and it makes fighting the fire very difficult for crews."

Also working against firefighters was the state of the dwelling upon their arrival. The back of the house, which is owned by George Gianopoulos, was fully involved when fire crews arrived on scene.

Asklar reported that the fire broke out in the lower half of the home, possibly the basement, however, an exact cause has not yet been determined. Foul play is not suspected.

No one was home at the time of the fire. Gianopoulos, who lived in the house alone, is now staying with friends, Asklar said.

Fire in Camper at Hebron Lions Fairgrounds

by Sarah McCoy

Volunteer firefighters rushed to the Hebron Fairgrounds on Route 85 Saturday, Dec. 6, to extinguish a fire that had broken out in a camper.

According to fire reports, Hebron Lions Club members were moving the camper across the fairgrounds, so they could stay warm while selling Christmas trees, when the fire broke out. Hebron Fire Marshal Randy Blais said the fire was an engine compartment fire, and was likely started by a cracked fuel line. An investigation on the incident is still ongoing.

Twelve Hebron volunteer firefighters manning two fire apparatus responded to the call, which came in just before 12:30 p.m. Satur-

day. Crews were on scene by 12:35 p.m. and worked quickly to subdue the blaze.

No injuries were reported however the camper was destroyed, Blais reported.

Fire Department officials are still working to find the exact owner of the camper. Six years ago, the Lions Club received the vehicle as a donation and has since never been on the roads. Blais said the fire department is working to determine who has title to the camper.

Blais commended the volunteer firefighters for their prompt response and work in containing the blaze.

Colchester Police News

11/25-Kaitlyn Kevorkian, 21, of 44 Brainard Rd., was charged with third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, State Police said.

11/26-Peter Kevorkian, 23, also of 44 Brainard Rd., was charged with strangulation, third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, State Police said.

12/5- John Henderson, 41, and Sharon Crochiere, 52, both of 6 Annawon St. Springfield, MA, were each charged with sixth-degree larceny, State Police said.

12/5- Rhonda Lami, 36, of 66 Pinebrook Rd., was charged with second degree failure to appear, State Police said.

12/5-A juvenile turned himself into State Police for fourth-degree larceny, State Police said.

12/7-Marion Nastalczyk, 22, of 87 Lebanon Ave., No. 3, was charged with second degree failure to appear, State Police said.

12/7- Leo (Tommy) Rodriguez, 25, of 6 Maplewood Ct., Norwich, turned himself into State Police on a warrant for third-degree assault and breach of peace, State Police said.

Salem Police News

12/3-Rick Rotondi, 20, of 80 Pratt St., Bristol, was charged with third-degree burglary, criminal mischief, third-degree larceny and stealing a firearm, State Police said.

12/4-Nicholas Bauer, 20, of 32 Eli Chapman Rd., Moodus, was charged with two counts of third-degree burglary, two counts of criminal mischief, third-degree larceny, second-degree larceny and stealing a firearm, State Police said.

East Hampton Police News

11/22 — Laurence Kalinowski, 58, of 2 Tiffany Ct., was arrested for unsafe backing and evading responsibility, East Hampton Police said.

11/24 — Kevin B. Hamilton, 48, of 221 West High St., was arrested for illegal burning, police said.

11/26 — Sean H. Martland, 23, of 73 Main St., was arrested for operating under suspension, police said.

11/26 — Bradley Parandes, 40, of 603 Lake Vista Dr., was involved in a one-vehicle accident at the intersection of Lake Vista Drive and

Portland Police News

11/28 — Justin Carl, 23, of 204 Main St., Apt. 1, was charged with misuse of plates, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, operating a motor vehicle without a license and failure to drive in established lane, Portland Police said.

12/1 — Richard Filback, 46, who police said had an unknown address, was charged with third-degree burglary and fifth-degree larceny, police said.

12/4 — Christopher Blauvelt, 23, of 38 South Rd., was charged with third-degree burglary and third-degree larceny, police said.

12/4 — R.J. Roman, 26, of 4 Riverside St., was charged with sixth-degree larceny, police said.

Marlborough Police News

12/5-Patrick Betchel, 28, of 29 Lafayette Rd., was charged with second-degree failure to appear and improper registration, State Police said.

12/5- Thomas McCabe, 50, of 21 Lafayette Rd., was charged with threatening, State Police said.

12/6- Chris Smith, 26, of 210 S. Main St., was charged with third-degree assault and breach of peace, State Police said.

Route 66, police said, adding that Parandes was arrested for evading responsibility.

11/27 — Sheila A. Avery, 34, of 89 Johnson Rd., Columbia, was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol and failure to drive right, police said.

12/1 — Aaron A. Cost, 32, of 135 Falls Rd., Moodus, was arrested pursuant to a warrant on charges of failure to use a seat belt, operating under suspension, improper use of marker plate, operating/towing unregistered motor vehicle, operating without insurance and second-degree failure to appear, police said.

Obituaries

Colchester

Anna Boron Hanauer

Anna Boron Hanauer, 84, wife of the late Henry Charles Hanauer, of Colchester and formerly of Manchester, passed away with dignity on Dec. 5 at the Harrington Court Genesis Care Center. Born in Rockville March 22, 1924, she was a daughter of the late Joseph and Mary (Surdell) Boron.

She attended school in Rockville and received training at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, where she worked as a master mechanic. She thoroughly enjoyed her job and excelled at it. She lived with her husband and daughter in Manchester most of her life. After retirement, Anna and Henry moved to Vero Beach, FL. Anna enjoyed gardening, and traveling throughout the world. Most important to her though, was her family of whom she was ever devoted. Anna was a dear friend to many in Connecticut and Florida.

She is survived by her daughter, Christine Hanauer and her companion, Randy Seidman of Scotland; her sister and brother in law, Jean and Everett Beardsley of Mansfield; many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was predeceased by several siblings, Bernice Gross, Stanley Boron, Sophie Kravontka and John Boron.

Before her death, Anna requested that anybody wishing to remember her do so by performing a simple act of kindness or friendship to make the world a better place. Many thanks to those who knew and befriended Anna toward the close of her life and who helped to care for her at Harrington Court and VITAS Hospice.

Funeral services will be private. Donations in her memory may be made to Pet Pals Northeast, PO Box 64, Plainfield, CT 06374.

The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester has been entrusted with arrangements. For online condolences, visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Edith Marion Bedell

Edith Marion Bedell, 90, of Colchester, died peacefully Thursday evening, Dec. 4, at the Middlesex Hospital Hospice with her loving family by her side. Born Oct. 8, 1918 in Wells, ME, she was a daughter of the late Albert and Eva (Littlefield) Steere.

Edith married Clyde Bedell Oct. 23, 1937, in Ogunquit, ME; the couple shared 69 years together before he predeceased her March 16, 2006. She retired many years ago after having worked for over 21 years as the Laundry Manager for Belltown Cleaners. Edith was an avid reader but most importantly, she will be remembered by her family as a devoted and loving wife, mother and grandmother.

Survivors include three children and their spouses, Gloria and husband Gerard Fillion of Killingworth, Joyce Wilson of Colchester, Richard and wife Eleanor Bedell of Colchester; 12 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; numerous extended family and friends.

Memorial calling hours were held for family and friends Monday, Dec. 8, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. Burial private in Linwood Cemetery. Donations in her memory may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 306 Industrial Park Rd., Suite 105, Middletown, CT 06457.

For online condolences, visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Marlborough

Louis Parda

Louis Parda, 91, formerly of New Britain, died Thursday, Dec. 4, in Marlborough. He was born in New Britain and was the son of the late Felix and Rose (Grala) Parda. He attended local schools and was a member of Holy Cross Church. He was formerly employed by Stanley Works Corp.

Louis is survived by two brothers and a sister, Edward Parda and John Parda of New Britain and Claire Kuszek of Florida. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by a brother, Henry Parda and a sister, Lottie Tyler.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Dec. 11, at 11 a.m., at the New Britain Memorial Funeral Home, 444 Farmington Ave., New Britain (Directions: Exit 37 off I-84 take a right at the exit, 1½ miles on your right). Burial will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Relatives and friends paid their respects Thursday morning before the service at the funeral home.

Visit www.mem.com to send an online tribute or condolence message.

Colchester

Rosemary C. Moore

Rosemary C. Moore, 73, of Colchester and formerly of New Rochelle, NY, widow of the late Terrance Moore, passed away Saturday, Dec. 6, at the Wm. W. Backus Hospital in Norwich. Born Sept. 16, 1935, in New Rochelle, she was a daughter of the late Thomas and Mary (O'Brien) Moore.

She graduated from New Rochelle High School with the Class of 1953 and went on to work as a dictaphone operator for the FBI in New York City, Newark, NJ and Atlanta, GA. She and Terrance were married June 17, 1961, at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in New Rochelle. Together, they shared 30 years of marriage before he predeceased her Jan. 5, 1992.

She is survived by her two daughters and sons-in-law, Bridget and Kevin Winakor of Oakdale and Marguerite and Brian Gignac of Bozrah; six grandchildren, Zachary, Brandon, Emily, Rosemary, Terrance and Joseph; two sisters, Winifred Dammeyer of Terryville and Mary Elizabeth Bachmann of Thornwood, NY; and numerous extended family members and friends.

In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by her twin sister, Marguerite M. Schall and two brothers, James R. Moore and Thomas B. Moore, Jr.

The memorial liturgy will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, directly at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester. Committal will follow in the New St. Andrew Cemetery, Colchester. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 106 Franklin Commons, Franklin, CT 06254 or to the American Kidney Fund, 6110 Executive Blvd., Ste. 1010, Rockville, MD 20852-9813.

For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Marlborough

Sherry L. Kingsley

Sherry L. Kingsley, 63, of 8384 State Park Rd, Three Mile Bay, NY, formerly of Marlborough, died Dec. 3 at home, under the care of her family and Hospice of Jefferson County (NY). She was born March 30, 1945, in Buffalo, NY, the daughter of Paul and Doris (Golnick) Arber. She married Charles Bruce Kingsley Dec. 30, 1967, in Buffalo, NY.

Mrs. Kingsley received an associate's degree in dental hygiene at Erie Community Technical College. She worked for Dr. Joseph Prignano Dental Office and resided in Marlborough for 29 years. She was a member of the Lioness club and a Girl Scout leader there. She retired to Three Mile Bay in 2000 where she was an avid gardener and an active board member for the Methodist Little White Church, Point Peninsula, NY.

Surviving besides her husband are a son and daughter-in-law, Hubert and Christina Kingsley of Marlborough; a daughter, Jennifer Kingsley of Woodstock; a brother and his wife, Richard and Darlene Arber of Denver, CO; a sister and her husband, Sally and James Acord of Pendleton, NY; two grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be Saturday, Dec. 13, at 11 a.m. at the Three Mile Bay United Methodist Church, with Rev. Mark Pierce officiating. A luncheon will follow the service at the church. Arrangements are with the Becker-Cleveland Funeral Home, Chaumont, NY.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Little White Church P.O. Box 116, Three Mile Bay, NY 13693 or Hospice of Jefferson County, 425 Washington St, Watertown, NY 13601.

Colchester

M. Randolph Wibberley

M. Randolph Wibberley, 92, of Colchester Commons and formerly of Stonington, beloved husband of Mary (Thayer) Wibberley, passed away Monday, Dec. 8, at the Harrington Court GHC Center in Colchester. Born April 29, 1916, in Kensington, he was a son of the late Malcolm Riddell and Jessie (Sage) Wibberley.

He was a 1940 graduate of Blackburn College in Illinois and went on to earn his Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from UConn. Mr. Wibberley was farm manager for Manatuck Farm in Stonington for 53 years before his retirement. He had been active with the Dairy Cooperatives in both CT and RI, and had served as President of the Local Dairymens' Co-op Association for 12 years as well the president of New London County 4-H for six years during the 1960s. While in Colchester, he also served on the Commission on Aging.

In addition to his loving wife of 67 years, he is survived by four children, Ann and husband David Rhineland of Gloucester, MA, Jared of Norwich, Jeffrey of Lancaster, PA, and Molly and husband Judah Greenzaid of Bethesda, MD; his granddaughter, Sarah Rhineland Castiglioni of Kaua'i, HI; his great granddaughter, Graciella; and numerous extended family members and friends.

He was predeceased by his siblings, Elizabeth Brown, Janette Plassman, Ruth Roper and Maxwell Wibberley.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the New London County 4-H Foundation, P.O. Box 6002, Norwich 06360

For online condolence, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton

Peter J. Connerton Sr.

Peter J. Connerton Sr., 88, of East Haddam and formerly of East Hampton, widower of Eleanor (Shefcyk) Connerton, died Sunday, Dec. 7 at Chestelm Health and Rehabilitation in East Haddam. Born Dec. 24, 1919 in Hartford he was the son of the late Frank and Madeline (Rosasco) Connerton.

Peter had retired from the Honeywell Corporation where he had worked as an engineer. He had served his country during WWII in the Army Air Corp. having flown as a pilot of B29 Bombers in the Pacific Theater. Peter was a member of the East Hampton VFW Post No. 5095 where he had served as Past Commander and a member of the East Hampton American Legion Post N. 64. He was an avid Red Sox fan, and also enjoyed golfing, camping and surf casting.

Peter's family would like to extend their gratitude to the staff and caregivers at Chestelm for the wonderful care and love they gave to Peter during his illness.

He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Peter J. and Donna Connerton Jr. of Southington; two daughters and their husbands, Carole and Charles Johnson of East Hampton and Donna and Robert Howard of Middletown; a daughter-in-law, Emily Connerton of Plainville; eight grandchildren, Melissa and Megan Connerton, Jennifer Rainville, Janice Zoldak, Kristen and Kim Connerton, and Shawn and Ryan Howard, and his beloved great-granddaughter Simone Harrell.

He was predeceased by a son, Robert Connerton, a brother, Charles Connerton and a sister, Rita Towne.

Funeral services will be private at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Treadway Cavanaugh Post No. 64 of the American Legion, War Memorial Fund, 55 Main St., East Hampton, CT 06424, or the Connecticut Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, www.nature.org.

The Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, has care of the arrangements. To leave online condolences, visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.