



US. POSTAGE
PAID
GLASTONBURY CITIZEN, INC.
PRESORTED STANDARD

POSTAL CUSTOMER
LOCAL

RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

Volume 33, Number 3

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

April 4, 2008



William Plausse, left, and Johnny Glembe, both fourth-grade students at Andover Elementary School, peer into a fish tank holding liquids of varying densities during Monday night's Science Fair sponsored by the Andover PTA.

Andover Elementary Holds Annual Science Fair

by Sarah McCoy

Over 60 participants packed the Andover Elementary School library and stage Monday night, with a collection of science projects ranging from dog treats to the solar system, for the 11th annual Science Fair, sponsored by the Andover PTA.

Each year the Science Fair provides students in grades K-6 opportunities to ponder, explore and present on any facet of science. There are no prizes, and most students receive no credit for participating. But they take part in the fair anyway, for the simple love of science.

"They do it because they're interested in a topic and they want to share it with everybody," Science Fair coordinator Marie Smith said. Smith got involved in the science fair when her son Adam was in kindergarten. He's now a freshman at RHAM High School in Hebron, but she continues to volunteer at the fair.

It was the first year at the fair, but not the last, for Casey Bednarz and McKenzie Maneggia, both fourth-grade students at Andover Elementary. The two friends researched various green energy sources online and with books from the library. From solar power to hybrid vehicles, the

girls discovered ways to power the earth that don't rely on oil or electricity. For their project, Casey and McKenzie demonstrated how two potatoes could transmit a current to power a clock. Their potato clock has been in operation for two weeks and is still ticking.

Ben Smith, a fourth-grade student, has participated in the Science Fair "ever since [he] can remember." This year he learned to measure the output that various lights produce. Using a digital light meter Ben discovered that not all lights are created equally and different strengths are used depending on the light's purpose.

Not all projects were done individually; Melissa Schardt's first grade class spent the winter observing bird feeders to determine which birds visited the Andover Elementary schoolyard.

Using pictographs and bar graphs the class displayed the various types of birds they saw and how many times. Some birds, like the gold finch were frequent visitors, while others, like the red-winged black-bird and mourning dove, were spotted just once.

Student Kevin Schilling had a project

that offered proof that soda isn't good for you. He took chicken bones and soaked them for a month in separate containers of water, soda and turpentine. One might have expected the turpentine to do the most damage, but it was the soda that discolored the bones and created a syrupy mess.

Kevin wasn't the only one who was surprised by his results. For her project, Zoe Lachut, a first-grade student, had six different Tupperware containers she had cracked open so that dogs could smell the various contents, including oranges, turkey and dog treats.

Zoe expected the dogs to prefer the smell of treats to anything else. However, when she put three dogs to the test, they all preferred the smell of turkey over everything else.

Ultimately, the projects on display Monday night were as varied as the students who created them. Pride poured from the mouths of students as they described to their friends and parents what they did and what they found.

The extra time and work they put into the project was all worth it because, as Zoe said, "It's a lot of fun."

Hebron Selectmen Recommend \$32.82 Million Budget

by Sarah McCoy

At the end of the Board of Selectmen's meeting last Thursday, March 28, board chair Dave Schoolcraft looked to his left and said to the Board of Finance members that were present, "Now it's your problem."

That problem, as Schoolcraft sees it, is the Hebron budget for the upcoming 2008-09 fiscal year.

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) last week recommended a budget of \$32.82 million, which represents an increase in spending of 5.7 percent over the current year. The vote to recommend this budget passed by a count of 3-1, with Jeff Watt the lone dissenter. Gayle Mulligan was absent from the meeting.

"It's not as low as I'd like but it never is," Schoolcraft said of the \$32.82 million budget.

The budget total is down by \$335,059 from Town Manager Jared Clark's initial request of \$33.15 million, which would have been a 6.78 percent increase over the current budget. Of this, \$119,633 came from a reduction in the RHAM Board of Education budget, a figure neither the BOS nor the Board of Finance (BOF) have any say in.

The proposed budget includes an \$11.5 million Hebron Board of Education budget for the 2008-09 year. The school board's proposed spending plan is a 4.54 percent increase from its current budget, and a slight decrease from the 4.96 percent increase the BOE approved in February. The change is due to a lower than projected cost for employee health benefits.

Prior to voting on the budget, the selectmen deliberated and reduced several line items to bring the increase down to 5.7 percent. Their first move was to reduce the Debt Services line item by \$30,000. Initially Clark had estimated that the town would need \$200,000 to pay off the first year of interest on the town-wide park project. Thanks to a shaky national economy, the town's borrowing expenses are now projected to decrease to \$170,000.

Later on in their discussions the BOS voted to decrease the Debt Services account by an additional \$50,000. When the town purchased the most recent modular classrooms for Hebron Elementary School, it borrowed just under \$500,000 from the town's undesignated fund balance, with the understanding that the debt would be repaid within five years. Clark had proposed repaying the town \$100,000 this upcoming year, with the BOS slashing this number in half. This leaves the town roughly \$150,000 left to repay by the end of 2011.

Even with these reductions the Debt Services account is still projected to increase by \$162,000, largely due to the park project.

Other reductions included \$26,200 from the

Open Space Land Acquisition fund and \$16,000 from the Capital Improvements Program (CIP). Earlier this month selectman and CIP chair Mark Stuart stood before the BOS pleading for the Hebron to increase their contribution to this account in order to keep up with the needs of the town. Last Thursday he was forced to do just the opposite, in an attempt to control spending. "These are the tough choices we are forced to make," Stuart said.

The reduction to CIP will mean that the town will delay the purchase of the new federally-mandated street signs and a Geographic Information System.

The remaining reductions, totaling \$46,377, all came from the town government budget. Eighteen thousand dollars was cut due to an expected reduction to the increase of employee health benefits. The BOS also recommended reducing the budget by \$15,000 for the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) consultant the Hebron Volunteer Fire Department had requested. Each town is assigned an ISO mark based on a town's ability to respond to a crisis. This number is then used to calculate insurance premiums for business and homeowners.

Based on the improvements the town has made within the fire department, Clark had recommended the hiring of an outside consultant to work towards changing Hebron's ISO ranking. This item was cut from the budget as members of the BOS felt that there were things that the town could do in-house before hiring a consultant.

The BOS spent considerable time deliberating on a proposed \$10,000 increase to the town operations budget that would provide Clark some flexibility to retain town employees who might seek employment elsewhere for more money. Clark reported that in the last year alone the town lost four employees for salary reasons. "The money is there to address problems of inequity," he explained.

Stuart agreed with Clark, saying that once the town "brings all positions in line, this line item will go away."

Schoolcraft supported the idea of allowing for flexibility, but he was not sold on the need for \$15,000 to do so. In the end, the increase remained as part of the recommended budget.

The budget now heads to the BOF. The finance board will meet Thursday, April 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room at Douglas Library, 22 Main St., where they hope to recommend a budget before the public hearing on April 15. The town will vote on the 2008-09 budget on May 6 during a townwide budget referendum.



It was a frantic scene on Finley Hill Road Sunday, as emergency crews from both Marlborough and Glastonbury responded to an overturned bucket loader.

Overtaken Bucket Loader in Marlborough Sends Man to Hospital

by Kristina Histen

A Colchester man was taken to Hartford Hospital by Life Star Sunday afternoon after being pinned underneath a bucket loader for almost an hour.

Joseph Perusse, 47, of 571 Westchester Rd., was traveling southbound on Finley Hill Road in Marlborough around 2 p.m. on Sunday when he lost control of the bucket loader he was operating, according to separate statements by the State Police and Mark Merritt of the Marlborough Volunteer Fire Department.

The vehicle then struck a guardrail and rolled down an embankment into the side of a hill, landing on its roof and pinning Perusse underneath it, State Police said. Diesel fuel was "dumping" on Perusse, Merritt said, and also pouring all over the inside of the cab of the bucket loader.

Robert Crawford, a resident on Finley Hill Road, was first on the scene; the accident occurred right across the street from his house. Crawford said he heard something "sounded funny" and saw the swerving of the tractor, so he immediately had his wife call 911 while he ran out to the street.

"They say when you're in an accident it's like you're in slow motion," Crawford said, "but when you're watching one, it is too like slow motion."

He called to Perusse from the embankment to ask if he was ok, and he responded with screaming. Perusse's wife was following the tractor in a car, and Crawford had her call 911 too. He ran over from the embankment through the back and into the pricker bushes while Perusse continued to yell, "get me out!" Crawford and his wife ripped the glass off the door to get to him, but his arm was pinned under the tractor, Crawford said. Perusse was "awake and pretty coherent," Crawford said, but

he had a huge gash on his forehead after being hit by a battery.

Crawford moved the battery and covered Perusse's face with a hat to avoid dirt in the wound and fuel in his eyes, he said. Crawford then grabbed the cap of the fuel and let it run down his own arm so wouldn't hit Perusse in the head, he said.

When emergency personnel arrived, Crawford quickly explained the situation and moved out of the way to let them handle it. However, he stayed at the scene of the accident the whole time. At one point, Perusse yelled that his legs were burning because he was upside down and oil from the tank was dripping on them, Crawford said. Crawford's wife grabbed a fire extinguisher and they covered his legs with a trauma blanket, he said.

Merritt said that, because of the fuel spillage, there was a chance the entire tractor could have blown up.

It took the members of the Marlborough and Glastonbury volunteer fire departments about 54 minutes to extricate Perusse from the vehicle, Merritt and State Police said. Perusse was then flown to Hartford Hospital by Life Star for treatment of what appeared to be non-life threatening injuries, State Police said.

Even though there were not a lot of injuries, it is required to call Life Star after a long extrication, Merritt said. The right precautions need to be made to take the pressure off, he said, because "it is crazy on the body."

The case is still under investigation, State Police said.

Perusse was treated and released Sunday night from the hospital, Crawford said. He said Perusse suffered from a few burns and had a lot of stitches in his gash. Crawford said Perusse and his wife visited him on Monday.



First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield and Rick Puglielli ceremonially opened ProMold Plastics' new Portland facility last week. The business had previously been located in Cromwell.

Plastics Business Moves Into Portland

by Michael McCoy

ProMold Plastics began its Portland operation last Monday (March 31), just a week after shutting down operations at its old headquarters in Cromwell.

ProMold began in Rocky Hill, eventually moved to Cromwell. Over the past four or five years, the business has been "bursting at the seams," according to director of operations Bill Bulman. Company president Rick Puglielli — whose father Riccardo launched the business in 1967 — said expansion of the business' Cromwell location would have meant doing away with parking spaces, which the company could not afford to lose.

So, in March 2007, ProMold bought the building at 91 Main St. in Portland, which had most recently been home to Waverly Printing, a company that went out of business in 2004. Puglielli said that the 43,500-square foot building, which is situated on five acres of land, is more than twice the size of their Cromwell facility.

Bulman said the new building is within four miles of the old one, which prevented any employees from being displaced. He said Portland "has been more than cooperative and supportive in the move," and also thanked the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, the Connecticut Works Department of Labor and Connecticut Light and Power for their help in the move.

After purchasing the Main Street property last spring, ProMold spent six months planning a renovation of the building's interior, followed six months of actual renovation work. Between purchasing the property, performing improvements and purchasing new machinery, ProMold said it spent \$3 million on the move.

The company began moving to the new location last month, on March 24. After having the weekend off, operations were up and running this past Monday morning. "Every single

employee participated," Bulman said. "We kept everyone employed that week."

Bulman said company employees had put so much work into preparing for the move, that the move itself was "almost anticlimactic."

"We've got good employees," Bulman said, adding that everybody there works together. "If you're a lone ranger, you can't come here. ... There's nobody who's more important than anyone else."

During a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week, First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield declared, "This building is the hallmark and the entrance to our town. It's in good hands with the Puglielli family."

The ceremony was followed by a brief presentation and tour of the facility.

ProMold manufactures injected molds and molded components, which are sold to other manufacturers, 80 percent of which make medical supplies. The employees, who work in three shifts, use 20 molding machines.

During the facility tour, Bransfield said, "This is a very fine addition to the town, to say the least."

Economic Development Commission chairman Fred Knauss said "These guys come with a great reputation," adding that ProMold was a finalist for UConn's Family Business of the Year Award last fall. The award was split into three categories: small, medium, and large. With 68 employees, ProMold was just barely pushed into the large category. (Bulman said he expected the company to grow to 100 employees over the next two years.) ProMold was also recognized last year as one of the top 25 processors internationally by Modern Plastics Magazine.

Knauss said ProMold has "committed to the state and now to Portland." He praised Puglielli for not moving operations south to cut costs like other industry has.

"We're not going anywhere," Puglielli said.

State Aid Will Help Two Portland Projects

by Michael McCoy

Portland was given some good news last Friday, March 28, when the state bond commission approved money for two different town projects.

The town will receive \$326,170 in Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) money to construct a new road. First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield said this was something the town has been trying to do ever since Portland Downtown/Quarries Revitalization Project Report was completed by landscaping and architectural firm Carol R. Johnson Associates in 2001.

Bransfield said the report provided a sort of master plan for connecting Main Street to the quarry and riverfront property areas. The advents of the Brownstone Festival, the Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park and the Brownstone Quorum's effort to turn the riverfront property into a park have all contributed to the renaissance of that section of town.

Portland initially had trouble securing Urban Act money for a while, but about five years ago State Representative Jim O'Rourke helped to bring Portland into the fold of towns eligible for STEAP funds. Two years ago, Portland received money to revitalize some of its Main Street sidewalks. The project is still in the design phase, and Bransfield said an "ambitious" estimate is that construction will begin a year from now.

The town applied for this latest round of STEAP funds in February. The money, which was part of \$20 million handed out to towns across the state, will be used to construct a 700 foot road connecting Middlesex Avenue to Brownstone Avenue, providing a more direct route to the riverfront area. The funds will also provide for a parking area adjacent to this new road; the parking area will be 180 feet by 120 feet, and will accommodate 64 parking spaces.

"This money will provide access for Portland residents to the beauty of the town's riverside property," O'Rourke said.

The project will also require \$50,000 in town money that Bransfield has included in the proposed 2008-09 budget. This would pay \$25,000 to town engineer Jacobson Engineering of Colchester in design costs, and would also in-

clude in-kind services from the town's public works department.

Bransfield said she was "very grateful to the state of Connecticut and the governor," and she also praised the town's planning department, as well as the Economic Development Commission and its consultants.

The state bond commission also approved \$1.3 million for improvements to the intersection of Route 66, Middle Haddam Road and Payne Boulevard. The project will be 100 percent funded and executed by the state Department of Transportation (DOT).

This intersection is located near the Winchester Café. Currently Middle Haddam Road forms a somewhat sharp "V" with Route 66. The project will aim to form a traditional cross intersection with the three roads. The state will also improve the quality of Middle Haddam Road and Payne Boulevard an install a turning lane onto the latter from Route 66.

"This will be a more orderly fashion for traffic," Bransfield said. She also noted that the traffic entering and exiting Middle Haddam road has resulted in a number of accidents.

The state also plans to install a full traffic light at the intersection, which now only has a blinking caution light.

Bransfield said the town has been pushing for this project for the past several years, working closely with DOT project manger Tim Gaffey.

Bransfield again thanked O'Rourke for efforts in seeing that this project goes forward, and praised the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce for its help.

Bransfield said she expects this project to have positive effects on the business community. For instance, developer Wayne Rand is in the beginning stages of constructing buildings that will be used for small retail at the corner of Payne Boulevard and Route 66. However, he temporarily halted construction until this project is finished.

Bransfield said the project will begin in July, with work ending in early fall. She asked for residents' patience in coping with the interruptions that go along with a project of this sort.

RHAM School Board Recommends \$23.55 Million Budget

by Sarah McCoy

The RHAM Board of Education Monday recommended a \$23.55 million budget for the upcoming 2008-09 fiscal year.

This represents a 4.66 percent increase in spending, over the current year's budget. Of this proposed percentage increase, .88 percent will go towards repaying the bond for the school renovation project.

"I am very happy with" the budget, Superintendent of Schools Robert Siminski said. "We were able to provide continuation of programs while addressing the additional enrollment and debt services. I believe we have been reasonable with our request to taxpayers."

There was also consensus among school board members on the quality of the budget. "It is a product of the staff being careful about their requests and the board being careful in their examination," RHAM Board of Education (BOE) Chair Sue Griffiths said.

The district is projecting an increase of 109 students this fall, with the majority of the increase coming at the high school level. This includes an additional 22 students with special education needs. The RHAM middle and high schools serve students in Andover, Hebron and Marlborough.

Initially, Siminski requested a budget increase of 5.99 percent. That number was later adjusted to 4.99 percent after a savings was realized in health insurance premiums for employees and a reduction in the number of gallons of oil the district expects to purchase.

At Monday's meeting the BOE was able to further reduce the budget by \$69,259, as a result of further health insurance savings. Addi-

tionally, \$2,000 was cut from the postage line item and \$2,900 from the request for additional athletic coaches.

This year the high school began sending progress notices and report cards electronically as a cost-savings endeavor. This coming year the school district hopes to expand that initiative to the middle school, providing a further savings.

The reduction to the athletics account, Griffiths said, will most likely mean the district will not be able to hire all the assistant coaches requested. In Siminski's initial budget request he had asked for assistant coaches to seven of the school's teams saying, "We're seeing more and more kids wanting to play sports, which is great. However, it gets to the point where 70 students and only three coaches isn't safe or productive."

The reduction of \$2,900 will translate into two fewer assistant coaches that requested.

On Monday the BOE also discussed a \$14,000 offer from Hebron Town Manager Jared Clark. Clark proposed that Hebron would pay \$14,000 for the use of RHAM's information technology services staff for two days a month. The board has yet to make a decision on the matter.

The next step in the budget process will be a public hearing, scheduled for Monday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the RHAM High School auditorium, 85 Wall St., Hebron. The BOE will meet immediately after the public hearing and again the following Monday, April 14, to put forth its final recommendation, which will go before the voters in the three RHAM towns on May 6.

Marlborough Resident Named Diving Coach of the Year

by Chris Seymour

Marlborough resident Shelley Farrar, a diving coach at Glastonbury High School (GHS), takes great pride in the accomplishments of the school's boys swimming and diving team this season.

The team had a "fabulous, fabulous year," she said. The team went 14-1 and netted a CCC North title. Also, four of her athletes qualified for States.

Farrar had a pretty good season, too. She was honored last week as the 2008 Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) Diving Coach of the Year.

"I was very surprised; it's a great honor," Farrar said. "I'm surprised. Teams like Greenwich and Fairfield Prep seem to get much more publicity ... so it's quite an honor to be nominated and awarded the coach of the year."

GHS boys swimming and diving Head Coach Suzie Hoyt nominated Farrar for the award. Farrar, who recently completed her 12th year as an assistant coach at the school, received the honor during the All State Banquet at the Aqua Turf in Southington last Tuesday, March 25.

"I consider myself blessed to have Shelley as my assistant," Hoyt said. "She has all those qualities that make up a great coach - and I firmly believe that she is one of the best in Connecticut."

"Her divers all love her and she gets results," Hoyt continued. "Oftentimes, the success of a coach isn't measured just by the final results of the athletes, but how they feel about themselves and their team, and whether or not they have a love of the sport. Shelley is very successful. This award is long overdue!"

During her tenure at GHS, Farrar has coached athletes to some notable finishes. This year was especially gratifying.

"Every year, I bring at least one kid to states, which is nice," she said. "This year, I brought four, which is a great accomplishment."

Farrar's first year at Glastonbury was "very memorable" because she had a senior diver who came in fourth at the State Open. Another big accomplishment for the coach was when student Ben Otto, who graduated in 2006, earned first place at the LLs for 2005-06 with a score of 387.55.

Farrar was a volunteer diving coach at Manchester High School (MHS) before she came to Glastonbury over a decade ago. Originally from Manchester, she was a diver for the MHS team. After graduating in 1986, she became a diver on the University of Delaware team.

"I had some records [in high school and college] for a little while, but I think they're all



Shelley Farrar

broken at this point," she said. During high school, she finished sixth at the State Open one year.

Farrar's philosophy as a coach includes making sure her athletes just have fun.

"A lot of it is just trying to have fun," she said. The athletes "seem to work better if you make it enjoyable. I do have high expectations, and they know that, but you also want it to be fun."

"They're still young ... but they still need a little bit of fun," she continued. "You also want to be available to them."

Farrar said going through high school is a pressure-filled time, so "you want to make sure you're available to them for anything - not just diving but for life in general. I think if you're open in that way and make it an enjoyable experience, they trust you a little bit more; they're willing to do what you ask and it seems to work better."

Hoyt said her assistant's philosophy is paying dividends.

"She is patient and understanding and sets her bar high," Hoyt said. "The kids want to please her and will work very hard to give her results."

In addition to receiving her Diving Coach of the Year award, Farrar turned 40 in March, "so it's been a big month for me," she laughed.

Farrar lives with her husband Dave and three children, son Colin, 10; daughter Malia, 8; and daughter Sydney, who will celebrate her sixth birthday this month.

PZC Closes Belltown Place Hearing in East Hampton

by Michael McCoy

After five more hours of testimony and remarks, the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) closed its public hearing concerning Belltown Place Wednesday night.

Belltown Place is "a townhouse community" proposed along South Main Street by Pelletier Developers of Glastonbury. The plan includes 127 units to be built on the 24.4-acre parcel. Thirty percent of these units will qualify as Housing Opportunity Development (HOD), which means they will only be available to families that make less than 80 percent of the town's median income, which is \$64,000. Pelletier attorney Mark Branse has said that of those, half would be available to those who make no more than 60 percent of the median income, which is \$48,000.

For such HOD housing, the developer shaves 30 percent off of the fair market price in return for being allowed to build more units per square foot.

Pelletier Developers and company had previously been through two Inland Wetland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency (IWWA) and one PZC session of hearings. The most recent one was the close of the IWWA hearing, which came a week ago.

The PZC hearing actually consisted of three applications. First, Pelletier wishes to change the HOD zoning regulations, a proposal which, among other things, would increase the maximum number of units per acre in HODs from five to six. Second, they must ask that the zoning of their property be changed from R-2/R-4 to HOD. Finally, the site plan in general must be approved by the PZC.

One hundred people attended Wednesday's meeting, a number similar to last month's PZC meeting. Attendance waned, though, as the night wore on.

At Wednesday's meeting, Chris Till of Precision Engineering estimated Belltown Place would go through 24,000 gallons of water a day and said of the developer, "He has a financial interest in making sure there's adequate water."

However, Chatham Health District director Thad King later said that Spice Hill, another development in town, uses about 53,000 gallons of water a day, providing for 280 people. He said Belltown Place would service 464 people, leading him to believe they would go through much more water than Spice Hill in a given day, and certainly more than the magic number of 50,000 gallons that would force

Pelletier to apply for a diversion permit. This would in turn mandate a number of further tests and studies on the part of the developer.

"I do believe there is a requirement for a diversion permit; it's pretty clear," Kigf said, adding, "We don't know whether there's a sustainable water supply for them."

During the public comment section of the meeting, State Representative Gail Hamm said, "As both a representative and resident of East Hampton, I'm a little concerned that we're dealing with a developer who wants you to fly blind. ... We don't know if they have sufficient water for this project, and we're not going to know anytime soon."

Keith Ainsworth, an attorney with a New Haven firm, spoke on behalf of the South Main Street Environmental Trust. This group is composed of about 25 people who live near the proposed development.

"You have the authority and the reasons to deny the applications before you," Ainsworth told the PZC. He charged that the applicant wants "to change the law to allow them to do something that harms the environment." The whole proposed development, he said, "shatters the expectations of the neighbors." He added, "It tries to stretch your regulations into something you never planned for and it hurts the neighborhood and the community character."

Resident Anthony Shelto later echoed these sentiments, asserting, "It's our right and our privilege to determine the character of our town."

Resident Jim Berg said, "Personally, I think the East Hampton HOD regulation is a good one," and added that if Pelletier had so much interest in changing it, they could have attended hearings when the PZC was forming the regulation, as many other developers did.

Resident Steve Jeffries remarked that the applicant has consistently positioned this plan as a "gift" to the town, and said, "The gift they are proposing to give us is a developer's version of the Trojan Horse."

PZC chairman Mark Philhower closed the hearing at midnight, and said he didn't anticipate the commission would reach a decision concerning the matter at their May meeting. However, Building Official Jim Carey later said the commission would need to act at their June meeting. The IWWA must rule on the matter by May 30.

Colchester Police News

3/25-Harold Panciera, 40, of 88 Chestnut St., Norwich, was charged with first-degree criminal trespass, State Police said.

3/25-Tomas Zukowski, 23, of 14 Cadwell St., New Britain, was charged with DWI, State Police said.

3/26-Jeremy Coulombe, 21, of 520 Parum Rd., turned himself in to state police on the charge of threatening, State Police said.

3/26-Michael Lea, 20, of 44 Balaban Rd., was charged with disorderly conduct and possession of dangerous weapon, State Police said.

3/27-Kimberly Callahan, 41, of 76 Essex St., Manchester, was charged with third-degree forgery and sixth-degree larceny, State Police

said.

3/27-Peter E. Olson Jr., 54, of 15 Prospect Hill Dr., East Windsor, turned himself in to state police on two charges of second-degree failure to appear, State Police said.

3/29-Christopher Slivinski, 45, of 11 Tavern Ln., was charged with inferring with emergency calls and disorderly conduct, State Police said.

3/29-William Zask, 18, of 95 Grave Ave., Bristol, was charged with breach of peace and reckless driving, State Police said.

3/31-Jennifer Lam, 47, of 279 Elm St. Apt. A4, Windsor Locks, was charged with DUI, failure to drive in proper lane and speeding, State Police said.

East Hampton Police News

3/17 — Susan M. Kessler, 33, of 32 Quiet Woods, was issued a ticket for operating a vehicle while on a cell phone, East Hampton Police report.

3/18 — Keith Rader, 183 Birch Rd., was issued a ticket for having a nuisance dog, police report.

3/19 — David K. Dodes, 70, of 85 Middle Rd., Hamden, was arrested for operating without insurance, misuse of plates, operating an unregistered vehicle and parking in a handicapped space, police say.

3/19 — Melissa Rose, 21, of 68 Childs Rd., was arrested for operating an unregistered motor vehicle and operating without insurance, police say.

3/20 — George A. Ellis Jr., 54, of 44 Depot Hill Rd., was arrested for following too closely with intent to harass, police say.

3/21 — Robert D. Chasse, 51, of 18 Old Young St., was arrested for operating an unregistered motor vehicle and operating without insurance, police say.

3/23 — Christopher J. Loveland, 19, of 78 Spellman Point Rd., was issued a ticket for failure to obey a control signal, police say.

3/23 — Jason Hines, 21, of 38 South Main St., was issued a ticket for failure to display registration plate and operating a motorcycle without endorsement, police report

3/23 — Amanda L. Case, 28, of 449 Rt. 148, Killingworth, was arrested for operating under suspension and failure to obey a traffic signal, police say.

3/25 — Michael Rundo, 18, of 157 Colchester Ave., was arrested pursuant to a warrant on charges of criminal impersonation, third-degree forgery, third-degree identity theft, third-degree larceny and second-degree conspiracy to commit burglary, police report.

3/25 — Ricky M. Sirois, 31, of 90 Middletown Ave., was arrested for speeding, misuse of plates, no insurance, operating an unregistered motor vehicle and operating a vehicle without a license, police say.

3/25 — Crystal Garofalo, 22, of 16 Edgerton St., was issued a ticket for failure to obey a stop sign, police say.

3/26 — Bonnie J. Rau, 31 of 25 Midwood Farm Rd., was issued a ticket for operating a motor vehicle while using a cell phone, police say.

3/27 — Andreas Rivers, 42, of 50 Old West High St., was arrested for disorderly conduct and violation of a protective order, police report.

3/27 — Roman D. Sekeluk, 43, of 968 Middletown Rd., Colchester, was arrested for failure to drive right and operating under the influence of alcohol, police say.

3/28 — Anthony J. Sherman, 18, of 1 North Maple St., was arrested pursuant to a warrant on charges of sixth-degree larceny, second-degree burglary and conspiracy to commit burglary, police report.

3/30 — Srinivas Govindu, 36, of 10 Eastham Bridge, was arrested for third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, police say.

Marlborough Police News

3/30-Deborah Cowles, 53, of 24 Redbud Ln., Glastonbury, was charged with DWI, possession of controlled substances and possession of drug paraphernalia, State Police said.

Colchester Residents Protest Latest Business Park Application

by Kristina Histen

At the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) public hearing on Wednesday night every chair in the audience was taken. Residents from neighborhoods surrounding Chestnut Hill Road and Parum Road filled the usual empty seats to protest the most recent Business Park application.

This is the third time the application has been submitted, Town Planner Adam Turner said, and it has been updated to meet the concerns raised by the Commission and community members. The most current application is to still change zoning from general commercial and suburban residential to Business Park for properties located throughout Chestnut Hill Road and Parum Road. However, it is different from previously submitted applications because it includes an addition of four new parcels that would allow access for a section of Chestnut Hill Road that had been an issue in the past.

Turner gave a brief presentation stating the importance of rezoning for Colchester. There has been no significant new commercial development for the past few years, he said, and resi-

dential remains consistent. The Business Park would be in proximity to transportation with focal points near Route 2 and Route 11, it would be close to water and sewer and the consolidated areas would meet community needs.

Turner also addressed the environmental impact, a main issue in previous discussions, and how it would be handled. For example, 75-foot buffers would be used to reduce impervious areas to decrease the amount of storm water run-off.

When the time came for the public to speak in favor of the application, no one spoke up, but when it came time for the opposition to speak, several hands were raised.

Tom Robbins, of 24 White Oak Dr., was the first to speak, resubmitting letters that dated back to August 2005. He strongly objected to the Business Park, reiterating his environmental concerns based on reports done by the Eastern Connecticut Environmental Review Team (ERT) in 2005 and the State Office of Policy and Management (OPM) that recommended no change to the area, and if at all possible to pre-

serve it. Based on these findings, the Colchester Conservation Commission stated definitively that "this area is not appropriate for high intensity development such as envisioned by the Business Park," he said.

He was also concerned about the town attempting to rezone land for commercial use that it does not own, in some cases over the objections of the landowners, the potential impact of noise and light pollution, the potential for increased crime and the potential effect on the property values. He suggested that if the commission decided to go forward, they should omit the 60 acres next to his neighborhood, and if not that, then have at least a 300-foot buffer zone. Other neighbors felt that if it got down to a buffer zone, it should be a minimum of 600 feet.

Resident Jeff Blumberger shared the same concerns as Robbins, but brought up that turning residential areas into commercial is "taking away from why people bought those houses in the first place, in order to build a community." He submitted a petition of 15 signatures,

but noted that a previous petition with 33 signatures was already on file. He also questioned what would happen if only one parcel of the Business Park was bought and built on, and the concern that the rest of the land would remain partially vacant.

"There are all these great ideas at first, but it can't be followed through," Blumberger said. "How can we move forward if we don't have a completed plan?"

Many of the residents said they moved to Colchester for the rural country area, the charm of the dark and to own open space for the potential option of adding onto their properties.

"I know there are emotional appeals because we are all homeowners," Thomas Clark of 122 Chestnut Hill Rd. said, "but statistically speaking, this is not the right time. It just seems impractical."

PZC Vice Chairman Joseph Mathieu made the motion to close the public hearing. The PZC will discuss the application at its next meeting, Wednesday, April 16, at 7 p.m., at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave.

Holocaust Survivor in Colchester Tells Her Story

by Kristina Histen

A local resident that survived concentration camps during World War II spoke about the unthinkable at the Colchester Federated Church Tuesday night.

There was hardly a dry eye in the crowd as they listened intently to 82-year-old Henny Simon share her first hand-experiences of the Holocaust.

Fifty-five years ago, Simon was liberated from the Nazis. In an effort to forget, she didn't speak about the horrific events that took place during the Holocaust for 40 years.

"It is not easy to speak about my life during the Holocaust but it is so very important because there are again Holocaust deniers who say it never happened," Simon said. "I can assure you, it did happen. I am an eyewitness because I am a survivor of the Holocaust."

Since 1986, she has spoken over 100 times to various places around the region, admitting that some memories she still can't bring up.

Henny Rosenbaum was born a Jew in 1925 in Hanover, Germany, a time when it was a free country and the Jews were equal citizens. In 1933, when she was just seven and a half years old, Hitler came to a power. At that age, of course, she did not understand politics, but began to notice other people treating her differently and calling her names like "dirty Jew." She handled it simply by avoiding these bullies, and continued on with her normal life. In the early years of Nazism, she could still go ice-skating, roller-skating or even the movies every once in awhile.

But by 1935, Jews were not allowed in public life anymore and those with respectable professions were being fired. Jews were forced to wear the Jewish star sewn to their outerwear. Around 1939 Jews were only allowed to shop between the hours of 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Henny's father was arrested in 1938, and in 1940, he could be released from jail if he had a visa for immediate emigration. With the help of the Jewish Emigration Service, he was able to receive one for Shanghai, China, and only had a few days to leave. Henny and her mother received their passports for China on Dec. 4, 1941. They had already been forced out of their home. They were excited and "full of hope" to be able to leave Germany on Dec. 15 to join her father in China, but on Dec. 8 they had to return their passports. She learned later that it was because on Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor was attacked and World War II was about to begin.

On Dec. 12, 1941, a 16-year-old Henny and 1,000 other Jews were herded into a gym and forced onto a small, sealed train. After three days and nights, they arrived to an unknown destination. Those that could not walk loaded onto a bus and were never heard from again. After about an hour walk, they ended up in the

Ghetto of Riga in Latvia, a compound surrounded by barbed wire fences. They were beaten and only given three days' worth of food that was supposed to last the whole week. Many prisoners died of starvation and disease.

At the ghetto they did such things like cleaning out empty houses, shovel snow from the train tracks or wash laundry. It would have been bearable, Henny said, if it was "not so bitter cold," as they did not have the appropriate clothing. She developed second-degree frostbite in her big toe, causing constant pain. She was unable to work and couldn't even wear a shoe. She and her mother looked "like shadows," taking turns to console each other, saying that "it couldn't get any worse, it had to get better."

In the fall of 1943, the Riga Ghetto was disbanded and the prisoners were sent to various concentration camps. Henny and her mother ended up in Arbeitslager Stradsdenhof, a work camp in the outskirts of Riga. Some of the Nazi soldiers felt sorry for the prisoners, and would put food in their laundry. Every morning they had a roll call and a head count, and afterwards food was distributed. One time, her mother was pushed and fell, breaking her thigh. The camp doctor, also a prisoner, recommended that she go to the main concentration camp, Kaiserwald, which had a hospital. After debating, Henny and her mother thought it was best she go. It was the last time she ever saw her "poor mother again."

During her time at Stradsdenhof, Henny witnessed hundreds of deaths, most done execution-style. One time, she recalled, everyone over the age of 30 was sent to the other side of the yard. Many children begged not to be separated from their mother or father. Henny overheard one Nazi soldier say, "Go, go ahead but you will be sorry." The whole group was executed, and those hiding were searched by bloodhounds and shot on the spot.

Henny said "it was the first time I did not feel guilty for having let my mother go to the main camp after she had broken her thigh, because she could not have escaped this fatal edict." Henny admitted that she too would have stayed by her mother's side, and would not have been here today to tell the story.

By August 1944, the Russian front was very close. One morning the prisoners were commanded to take off their clothes and put them in a neat pile. They were handed blue and gray striped prison garb and their hair was short to the scalp, becoming unrecognizable to each other. By January 1945, the frontline was so close the prisoners could hear the rumbling of cannons.

One morning, Henny remembered, everybody received a whole loaf of bread and was then forced to form a straight line. Surrounded by guards, they had to start walking. Many



Henny Simon holding a copy of the sketch her father painted of the Warburg Synagogue in 1912 that was destroyed Nov. 9, 1938 during Crystal Night. The original painting is in a museum in Warburg, Germany.

thought that the Nazis were now trying to fatten them up to turn their body fat into soap. The soap was called IRF, which translated to R.I.P. (Rest in peace). They were on Death March, walking and walking. During the night they stayed in empty barns they found along the road. Those who could not keep up the pace were shot.

On Jan. 28, 1945 they arrived in Koronowo, Poland, and brought to a large prison. From their cell, they could overlook a hilltop. That evening, rumors went around that the next day the guards would kill them all. However, the next morning the doors flung open and the prisoners shouted, "The Russians are here, the Germans are on the run. We are Free!"

"Jan. 29, 1945 is a day I will never forget as long as I live," Henny said.

In August 1945, after the war, she married Abram Markiewicz, who was a survivor of the concentration camp, Auschwitz. They went back to Hanover with the hope of finding some friends, or maybe even her mother. However, out of their transport of the 1,001 Jews from Hanover, less than 50 had survived. In November 1949, she and Markiewicz emigrated to the United States of America and Simon was reunited with her father. He had come to America in 1948 from Shanghai.

She and Markiewicz moved to Colchester in 1950, where she has been a resident ever since. Their two children are now married and have children of their own. Markiewicz died in 1976, and in 1981 Henny remarried, to Robert Simon. It was his moral support and encouragement, she said, that finally got her talking about her horrifying past. He died in 2001.

It wasn't until May 2002 when Henny was finally able to visit both Riga, Latvia and Hanover, Germany again. While she had been to Hanover before, it was the first time she had been back to Latvia since the war. She brought along her family, where they walked the path of death, visited the house where she and her mother stayed in the Ghetto of Riga and paused to remember the millions of Jews that lost their lives at the memorial of mass graves. "I think this was a partial closure for me," Henny said.

Henny Simon's mission is to remember and to speak the truth of what really happened during the Holocaust. After her talk Tuesday night, everyone was speechless and the mood was glum. As some wiped away tears, others hugged Henny, offering their empathy for the terrifying events that she experienced. This is not the last time she will share her story, and it will continue to be told so the truth won't be forgotten.

Obituaries

East Hampton

Allen Craig Abbott

Allen Craig Abbott passed away on Thursday, March 27, after a valiant battle with cancer. Born in Brooklyn, NY, in 1943 to the late Fouzy and Margaret McConnell Abbott, Allen graduated from Williston Academy and the School of Business at Boston College. It was there he met his best friend and inseparable life partner, Lorrie Zailskas. They married immediately after graduation in 1966 and shortly thereafter, Allen was drafted into the Marines. Allen served his term at the Pendleton Marine base in Oceanside, CA. There, in 1969, he and Lorrie adopted their only child, Kelly Anne.

Later after returning to Connecticut, Allen eventually became CEO of his family's decades-old business, George E. Abbott & Company, Inc., manufacturers' representatives to the Armed Forces. The Abbott Company was responsible for selling and supplying its clients' products to PXs and military exchanges worldwide. In his lifelong career there, Allen traveled the globe and was instrumental in building the Abbott Company's reputation as a top quality firm that, while smaller than most of its competitors, provided its clients with the highly-attentive service typically not available from the industry's behemoths.

Allen was also a past president of the Armed Forces Marketing Council, a Washington, DC-based lobbying organization. In this role, he frequently met with members of Congress and was pivotal in representing his industry's interests to the federal government. He was always viewed as highly ethical and patriotic, which served him well in both his personal and professional life. Allen's main passion outside of his family and career was golf. He was a scratch golfer and 30+ year member of Black Hall Country Club in Old Lyme. After selling the Abbott Company and retiring six years ago, Allen and Lorrie built a second home in a golf resort in Southport, NC, where they could satisfy their mutual love for the game and escape the cold Connecticut winters.

Everyone knew of Allen's love for the NY Giants and his near encyclopedic knowledge of sports statistics. At home, he was rarely without a book in his hands and he was a master on the barbecue, a skill well known to all attending the many memorable gatherings at his Middle Haddam home. We were lucky to have him with us and will miss him dearly.

In addition to Lorrie and Kelly Anne, Allen's survivors include: his granddaughter, Alexa; a nephew, Gregory; and two nieces, Kim and Kerin, the children of his late brother, Gregory. A Funeral Liturgy was to be celebrated Friday, April 4, at 11 a.m., in St. Patrick Church, East Hampton. Burial will be private at the Connecticut State Veteran's Cemetery in Middletown. Friends called at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, Friday morning from 8:30-10:30 a.m. To leave online condolences or for directions, visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Marlborough

James J. Hennessey Jr.

James J. Hennessey Jr., 95, of Crescent Point, Niantic, died Sunday, March 30, following a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease. Jim was the firstborn of Hilda (Doyle) and James J. Hennessey, Sr., formerly of Margarite Road, Middletown. He had five brothers, Richard, Rodney, Raymond, Edward and Paul; and a sister, Hilda, all of whom predeceased him. His wife, Enid (Clement) Hennessey, died in 1999.

He leaves a son, William; and daughter-in-law, Mary; plus grandchildren Kathryn (Stiles), Kevin, James, Maureen, and Quentin Hennessey; and great grandchildren, Jennifer and Keegan Stiles. Immediate family members reside in Connecticut and Florida, with numerous in-laws and nephews/nieces from Maine to California.

Jim, a 40-year employee of Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, was General Foreman in the Test Inspection Department at East Hartford and Middletown. A long-time Marlborough resident, he was active in community affairs involving the Congregational Church, Cub Scout Pack No. 39, Marlborough Grange, and the Democratic Town Committee. He was also a charter member of Moose Chapter 1257. Jim and Enid were particularly fond of their longtime friend and East Hampton neighbor, the late Governor William A. O'Neill, who was a member of the Hi-Y Club they directed. After retirement, Jim and Enid became pioneer residents of Poinciana, FL, summering in Marlborough and throughout New England, and enjoying frequent cruises and world tours. In 2000 he returned permanently to Connecticut.

His family is especially grateful for final care rendered at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital in New London and for friendships made during the past 4-plus years at Crescent Point, Niantic – with particular thanks to the staff and nurses in The Harbor Section. The Fulton-Theroux Funeral Home is handling arrangements which are private. Jim's ashes will be scattered at Cape Arundel, ME, joining those of his late wife. For online tributes, visit www.mem.com.

Portland

Jacquelyn R. Barrett

Jacquelyn R. (Bell-Rau) Barrett, "Jackie," 85, wife of the late Ralph I. Barrett, passed away in her home in Portland on Tuesday, March 25, following a very courageous battle with cancer. Born in Middletown on Aug. 1, 1922, she was the daughter of the late Gertrude (Taylor) Bell and E. Irving Bell II, and lived most of her life in Portland. She attended Portland Public Schools and was a member of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Portland, where she taught Sunday School for several years. She was also very active in community affairs.

Mrs. Barrett was a member of the Portland Players from its inception until its demise, and a more than 60-year member of the O.E.S., Lady Washington Chapter # 45 in Middletown. While a member of the Portland PTO, the Portland Census was taken by that organization for the first time. She was an active member of the Community Chest (United Way) and in 1956 was honored with their Good Citizenship Award, being the first woman to receive that honor.

Mrs. Barrett was employed as school secretary at the Valley View School in Portland for 31 years. She retired in 1987 and did volunteer work at the Portland Public Library, became a Literacy Volunteer Tutor of Middlesex County, a mentor at the Portland Middle School, worked as a volunteer for P.R.I.D.E., made hats for chemotherapy patients and sewed Baptismal and Burial gowns for Haitian babies. She was also a very active member of two Masonic RV camping clubs.

Mrs. Barrett leaves one sister, Elizabeth B. Emmons, of Williamstown, MA and Venice, FL. She is also survived by two sons and their wives, W. James Rau and his wife, Susan, of Wethersfield; Dennis C. Rau and his wife, Elizabeth, of Portland; and her daughter-in-law, Catherine S. Rau of Portland. In addition to her husband, Ralph, she was also predeceased by her first husband, William J. Rau; her son, Christopher I. Rau, and a brother, Dr. Edwin I. Bell III. She also leaves eight grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, many cousins, nieces, nephews and her very close friend and vigilant caregiver, Joseph A. Harrison.

The family wants to thank all of the staff at the Middlesex Hospital Cancer Center, especially her Oncologist, Dr. Michael Farrell, who was in charge of Jackie's care, and special thanks to the Middlesex Hospice Palliative Care nurses and aids who took such great care of Jackie over the past several weeks. Additionally, we'd like to thank Dr. Wazed Mahmud who was always there for Jackie.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main Street, Portland, CT. There are no calling hours. Funeral services were held at Trinity Episcopal Church, 345 Main Street, Portland on Thursday, April 3, with the Rev. Steven Ling officiating. Burial services followed immediately in Trinity Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in Jackie's memory may be sent to Middlesex Hospice Palliative Care, 28 Crescent Street, Middletown, CT 06457, or EMT Fund, Engine Company #2, 594 Main Street, Portland, CT 06480.

Marlborough

Bertha Dooley

Bertha (Bouthiette) Dooley, 83, of Marlborough, widow of the late Albert J. Dooley Jr, died Thursday, March 27, at Manchester Memorial Hospital. Born July 23, 1924 in Biddeford, ME, she had lived in Marlborough for most of her life. She is survived by her three sons, Michael W. Dooley of Manchester, Joseph A. Dooley of Marlborough and Noel R. Dooley of Colchester; three daughters, Sarah Whitmore of Springfield MA, Judy A. Annati of Ellington and Pegg Brouder; 10 grandchildren, Mark, Katie, Ivan, Carson, Robert, Michael, Ricky, Eileen, Tim and Jim; and great-grandchildren Damien, Alexis, Ashton, William, Angelica and Isabella.

A Funeral Liturgy was celebrated Monday, March 31, in St. Patrick Church, East Hampton. Burial followed in the family plot in Marlborough Cemetery. Friends called at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, Monday morning. To leave online condolences or for directions visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

East Hampton

Kristin J. Danaher

Kristin J. (Kowalski) Danaher, 32, of Haddam Neck, beloved wife of Cormick H. Danaher, died unexpectedly Monday, March 31. Born Oct. 22, 1975 in Norwich, she was the daughter of Robert Kowalski and Jean (Maikshilo) Kowalski. She was raised in Colchester where she had lived until five years ago when she and her husband moved to Haddam Neck.

Besides her parents and loving husband she leaves to mourn her passing, her beautiful daughter, Jayden Amelia Danaher, a brother, Jason Kowalski of Gales Ferry, and her husband Cormick's entire family, who loved her and will miss her greatly.

A Funeral Liturgy was celebrated Thursday, April 3, in St. Bridget of Kildare Church in Moodus. Burial will follow in Rock Landing Cemetery in Haddam Neck. Friends called at the Spencer Funeral Home on Wednesday, April 2. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made in her memory to Haddam Neck Volunteer Fire Department, Haddam Neck Rd., Haddam Neck, CT 06424. To leave online condolences or for directions, visit: www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Colchester

Andrew Marocchini Sr.

Andrew Marocchini, Sr., 77, of Colchester and Marlborough, beloved husband of Martha (Whitman) Marocchini, passed away Sunday, March 30, at the Harrington Court GHC Center in Colchester. Mr. Marocchini was a proud Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War and was a well-known plumber in the area for many years.

In addition to his loving wife, he is survived by four grandchildren, Andrew III, Mae, David and Taren; two great grandchildren, Chloe and Tatum; and numerous extended family members and friends. He was predeceased by his son, Andrew, Jr. and seven siblings.

Services and burial will be at the convenience of the family. Care of private arrangements has been entrusted to the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester.

Colchester

Alexander Fekete

Alexander "Ally" "Papa" Fekete of Colchester, husband of 47 years to Carol, died peacefully Monday morning, March 31, with his family by his side. He was born July 11, 1940, in Bridgeport, to the late Louis and Mary (Holecz) Fekete.

In addition to his loving wife, he is survived by four children: Michele Salce and her husband Frank, of Lebanon; Wayne and his wife Cheri, of Cheshire; Mark and his wife Patricia, of North Granby; and Denise Williams and her husband Victor, of Bethel. Additionally, he leaves six grandchildren: Chad Fekete, Reed Salce, Tyler Fekete, Daniel Bell, Jennafer Fekete, and Meghan Fekete. He was predeceased by a grandson, Nicholas Bell. Al was one of eight children and leaves behind three brothers, Robert, James and Thomas, and three sisters, Mary Ann, Kathleen and Elaine. He was predeceased by a brother, Michael.

Al spent his youth in Fairfield, and lived for 25 years in Huntington before moving to Colchester. One of his great interests was camping, and he and Carol spent 42 years enjoying the pursuit with their children, and then their grandchildren. "Papa" always had a joke and a smile to share and loved to talk with family and friends. In his retirement, he spent as much time as possible with his grandchildren, and was an avid UConn Huskies basketball fan. He also enjoyed his two dogs, Oliver and Abby. The family would like to thank Marlborough Health Care Center and Connecticut VNA Hospice Care for their compassion and care to keep Al comfortable during his final weeks.

Calling hours were Thursday, April 3, at Spear-Miller Funeral Home, 39 South Benson Rd., Fairfield. A graveside funeral service for family-only was to be held today, Friday, April 4, at 11 a.m. at Oak Lawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to The Gray Cancer Center, P.O. Box 5037, Hartford, CT 06102. To offer an online condolence visit www.spearmillierfuneralhome.com.

Marlborough

Andrew Marocchini Sr. & Martha (Whitman) Marocchini

Andrew Marocchini Sr., 77, of Hebron Road, Marlborough, proud Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War and well-known area plumber for many years, passed away peacefully Sunday, March 30. His beloved wife of over 50 years, Martha (Whitman) Marocchini, 76, would rejoin him shortly after when she passed away on Tuesday, April 1, surrounded by her loving family.

They are survived by five grandchildren, Andrew III, Mae, Amy, David and Taren; two great-grandchildren, Chloe and Tatum; and numerous extended family members and friends. They were predeceased by their son, Andrew, Jr.

Graveside Services with full military honors will be observed at noon Saturday, April 12, at Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Cottage Grove Road, Bloomfield.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Harrington Court in Colchester for their genuine care and concern extended during Andy and Martha's convalescence.

Donations in their memory may be made to the Roy B. Pettengill Ambulance Assn., P.O. Box 237, Marlborough, CT 06447. Care of arrangements has been entrusted to the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester.

Salem

George N. Lincoln Sr.

George N. Lincoln Sr., 57, of Way Road in Salem, passed away Sunday, March 30, at Pratt & Whitney in Middletown. He was the beloved husband of Pamela (Davis) Lincoln. He was born in New London on July 15, 1950, to the late Orris O. and Nancy A. (Wallen) Lincoln. He was employed at Pratt & Whitney of Middletown for the last 28 years where he was a machinist. He was also a union member and union steward. He was a motorcycle enthusiast and loved to play darts. He was a true family man, devoted husband, father and grandfather.

Besides his wife of 33 years he is survived by four children, Tracy Bolling of North Carolina, George N. Lincoln Jr. of Essex and Piper J. Lincoln and T.J. Lincoln, both of Salem. He also leaves behind one brother, Sherwood Lincoln and his wife Betty of Old Saybrook, five grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Family and friends may visit Swan Funeral Home, 80 East Main St., Clinton, today, Friday, April 4, from 4-8 p.m. Funeral services will be Saturday, April 5, at 1 p.m. at Swan Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the grandchildren c/o Pam and Piper Lincoln, 151 Way Road, Salem, CT 06420. Visit www.mem.com for an everlasting memorial in George's honor.

More Obituaries on Following Page

East Hampton

Gordon Forde Wylie

Gordon Forde "Willy" Wylie, 92, of East Hampton, beloved husband of Elaine (Fuller) Wylie died Tuesday, April 1, at Middlesex Hospital. Born Feb. 4, 1916, in Gilbertville, MA, he was the son of the late John and Sarah Ann (Forde) Wylie. He was a longtime resident of East Hampton, having moved to East Hampton in 1939.

Willy, as he was affectionately known, had served his country in the Army Air Corp. during World War II. He had been the owner and operator of the Purple Cow Café for many years. He was a lifelong member of the Fowler Dix Park Post 5095 of the VFW in East Hampton. He loved bowling, had played in the Middlesex County Baseball League on the Belltown Bombers and was an avid Red Sox fan.

Besides his loving wife Elaine, Willy is survived by his three daughters and their husbands, Marlene and Billy Grillo of Griswold, Eileen and Paul Oliva of East Hampton, and Diana and Tim Rall of East Hampton; seven grandchildren, Mark Grillo, Ryan Oliva, Sheri Salpietro, Karen Oliva, Keith Rall, Steven Rall, and Michael Rall; five great grandchildren and one more on the way; two very special friends, Roy Hallberg and Gabe Frontel, and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by three brothers and a sister, Walter Wylie, Homer Wylie, Sam Wylie and Florence Nichols.

Funeral services will be held today, Friday, April 4, at 1:30 p.m. in the Spencer Funeral Home with the Rev. Lois Kennedy officiating. Burial with Military Honors will follow in Union Hill Cemetery. Friends are asked to please omit flowers and instead consider a memorial contribution to the VFW Memorial Garden or to the East Hampton Ambulance Assoc. P.O. Box 144, East Hampton, CT 06424. To leave online condolences or for directions visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Andover

Anna Mae Meyer

Anna Mae Meyer, 59, of Andover Lake, passed away Tuesday, April 1. Born April 12, 1948, in Great Barrington, MA, she was a daughter of the late William Henry and Regina Rose (Zilka) Meyer. She leaves her sisters, Cathi and Cynthia Meyer; brother-in-law, Carl Carlman and many



beloved friends as well as her dear cat, Boo-Kitty. Anna had a degree in psychology and had worked for many years in the field of social services. Most recently, she had obtained her realtor's license. She enjoyed her home on Andover Lake, her family and many lifelong friends, all of whom will miss her dearly.

A celebration of her life will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow, Saturday, April 5, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. Friends may gather starting at 1:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to My Sisters' Place, 102 Pliny St., Hartford, 06120.

East Hampton

Mary L. Gordon

Mary L. Gordon (formerly Mary L. Cullen) of Southbury, formerly of East Hampton, passed away in her home on Riverhill Road on Monday, March 31.

Born Oct. 16, 1957, in New Britain, Mary lived most of her life in East Hampton before moving to Southbury in 2005. She graduated from Prince Tech in 1975 and began a career in banking with Liberty Bank in Middletown in 1977. She held many different positions at the bank over her 30-year career but most loved her role as a Timeshare Auditor, which allowed her the opportunity to travel throughout the U.S.

In her spare time, Mary actively raised money for breast cancer research and often counseled breast cancer patients. In 2005 she was the keynote speaker at Middlesex Hospital's annual Cancer Survivor celebration and she inspired all in attendance. Her interests included photography, gardening, travel and NASCAR racing but she most enjoyed time spent with her family.

Mary is survived by her daughters, Jessica and Amy Cullen; her step-children, Jason and Cristin Gordon; her husband, Jason Gordon; her parents, Boris and Carmela Lashenka; her sister, Paulette Reed; her brother, Peter Lashenka and his wife Jean; three nieces and nephews; and three great-nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held with a date and place to be announced. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or to The Connecticut Hospice at 270 Farmington Ave., Suite 229, Farmington, CT. Arrangements by Carpino Funeral Home, Southbury.

