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News Bulletin

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Volume 37, Number 21

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

August 31, 2012



Jacey Chorlton and her horse, Leonardo, pop over a fence at the 2012 Connecticut Hunter & Jumper Association Medal Finals last weekend. The pair competed in a jumping round, then a flat class and moved on to a final jumping course, after which the judges awarded them third place.

Colchester Equestrian Places Third in State

by Katelyn Kelleher

Nerves didn't faze a young equestrian who placed third of 77 Junior Medal riders in the 2012 Connecticut Hunter & Jumper Association Medal Finals last weekend.

After successful performances at Connecticut horse shows this year, Colchester resident Jacey Chorlton, 15, qualified to compete in the CHJA Medal Finals Junior Medal division, for riders less than age 18, held Friday, Aug. 17, to Sunday, Aug. 19, at the Fairfield County Hunt Club in Westport.

Chorlton and her horse, Leonardo, a 12-year-old, 16-hand Holsteiner gelding she has been leasing since January, known as "Leo" around the barn, had to accumulate 12 points in the junior medal division at rated horse shows this year to qualify for the medal finals.

She explained there were three rounds to the Junior Medal class at the medal finals and faced 76 other riders jumping a course of 10 three-foot fences during the first. The round is scored out of 100 and the top 10 advanced to a flat class.

"I received an 83 which was the highest score of the first round," Chorlton said.

In a flat class, all competitors are in the ring at the same time. The judges call out specific gaits for the horses and riders to demonstrate, evaluating the riders' execution of each gait and transition in each direction, possibly asking for riders to halt, hand gallop, which is a controlled lengthening of the stride, or a counter-canter,

in which the horse canters in the ring with its outside leg leading rather than its inside, a move that demonstrates balance and response to the rider's aids. Coming out of the flat class, Chorlton and Leonardo sat in fourth place.

"After the flat class the judges decided to test the top six over jumps. The test was a short course with only four jumps," she said, adding her performance in the final course bumped her up for a third-place finish overall.

As evidenced by their podium finish, Chorlton and Leonardo are not new to competition, despite only being a team since January. Chorlton has 10 years of experience in the sport and rides out of Windcrest Farm in Hebron with trainers Martha and Armand Chenelle.

The 12 points riders must earn to be eligible for the medal finals are based on place finishes at horse shows leading up to the finals. Chorlton explained a first-place finish is 10 points, second is six, third is four, fourth is two, fifth is one and sixth is half a point.

"I did three shows before I qualified and then I did other shows for more practice," she said. She usually competes at her home farm, Windcrest, Folly Farm in Simsbury or The Pines Farm in Glastonbury.

To prepare for the medal finals, Chorlton and Leonardo also went to the Vermont Summer Festival, a large, week-long horse show near Manchester, Vt. "It's a pretty big show with a

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Hebron Fair Returns Next Week

by Geeta Schrayter

On Monday, the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds on Route 85 seemed like a ghost town. The vendor booths were empty. The buildings used to house the animals were silent. The wind could be heard rustling through the trees, and the only people to be found were an occasional volunteer or landscaper.

But all that will soon change.

As the calendar flips to September, the vacant grounds will transform and fill with animals, vendors, an array of food, a carnival and a plethora of entertainment as the Hebron Harvest Fair makes its return. The 42nd annual fair – which is expected to draw 110,000-115,000 people – will run from Thursday, Sept. 6, through Sunday, Sept. 9.

Fair Superintendent John Johnson Jr. explained most of the preparations had been completed – "right now it's more about beautification," he said – and all that remained was to wait for everyone to set up beginning next Monday night, and the arrival of the carnival from Reithoffer Shows on Wednesday.

And with that carnival comes the Dutch Wheel, the largest Ferris wheel on the East Coast. Johnson is also hoping for The Stinger – which, as he calls it, is "The Freakout on steroids."

The Freakout is essentially a giant pendulum that swings riders back and forth through the air. The difference between it and The Stinger is the latter will swing riders 360 degrees as opposed to about 180. Johnson said he was told the surprise ride would "probably" be there, but he won't know for sure until the carnival arrives.

New this year will be the World Championship Blacksmiths Horseshoeing Contest on Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the Family Edutainment area.

"They will actually be doing live horseshoeing on Sunday," said Johnson.

There's also a new landscaping competition, which Johnson explained got started a little late, but added, "the hope is that it will take off next year." In the competition, participants are assigned an area around the grounds where they can landscape and win cash prizes.

"I think there are maybe three to four entries right now," Johnson said. "Hopefully next year there'll be a lot more." Those interested can still register on the fair website.

A returning favorite this year is the canine aquatics competition Dock Dogs. In the popular contest, dogs compete in a number of events, including Big Air, where the dogs are judged

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The Hebron Lions Fairgrounds are barren at present, but all that will change when the annual Hebron Harvest Fair arrives Sept. 6-9, bringing plenty of fun for the entire family with a variety of entertainment, exhibitions, a carnival and food.



At the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds there's not a doughnut to be found. But when the Hebron Harvest Fair takes place Sept. 6-9 those doughnuts, along with plenty of other food from almost 50 different vendors, will be available to hungry fairgoers.

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on how far they can jump from the end of a dock into a pool, and Speed Retrieve, a timed event where the dogs have to swim to the far end of the pool and retrieve a suspended toy. Pre-registration can be found on the website dockdogs.com until Sept. 2.

A stage show from Texas known as Vocal Trash will also return to the fair. The act, according to its website, vocaltrash.net, fuses "world-class singing, industrial-style drumming, award-winning break-dancing and comedy antics into a unique and uplifting experience."

Johnson described Vocal Trash as "a high-energy show that's fun to get involved in and watch." The show will take the main stage at the fairgrounds on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

But on Sunday, the main stage is reserved for the show's headline music act this year: country music star Jerrod Niemann, who's known for the hit songs "Lover, Lover" and "What Do You Want."

"That's going to be a great show," Johnson said.

Motor sports are always a draw at the fair, and this year brings nine different events, including the demolition derby on Thursday and Figure 8 racing on Friday. On Saturday, the New York Tractor Pullers Association will perform two- and four-wheel-drive truck pulls.

"That's a brand new event for us," stated Johnson. "These are the same people that come in Sunday and do the big super and modified tractor [pulls]."

If country music, trucks and tractors don't pique one's interest, there's bound to be something at the Hebron Harvest Fair that does. There's the talent show, for example, or all the different animals, various demonstrations or the juried artisan and fine craft show. This show features around 50 exhibitors from New En-

gland, New York and New Jersey and their handmade products including pottery, clothes, jewelry, soaps, photography, home goods and locally-made specialty foods.

Speaking of food, close to 50 different food vendors will also be on sight, ready to satiate even the pickiest of fairgoers.

Johnson said "a lot of people love McHenry's hot dogs and of course, you have your sausage grinders, fried dough," cotton candy, baked potatoes, barbecue and more.

For Johnson, the arrival of the fair is the culmination of about a year's worth of work. He explained preparations for each year's fair essentially begin the previous August, before the prior year's fair has even occurred.

"It's amazing how fast everything just comes together," he said. "We always say this is a train that you can't stop. We couldn't stop the fair right now if we tried."

Profits from the fair are distributed by the Hebron Lions Club to various non-profit organizations, and Johnson added that was one of the things that made all the work worthwhile.

"That's what makes all the stress worthwhile – to be able to give out that \$100,000 plus each year," he said, along with the kids at the fair and "all their smiling faces."

The Hebron Harvest Fair runs Thursday, Sept. 6, from 4 p.m.-10 p.m.; Friday, Sept. 7, from noon-11 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 8, from 9 a.m.-11 p.m.; and Sunday, Sept. 9, from 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

General admission tickets are \$12 (admission is free for seniors from noon-4 p.m. on Friday). "Mega Passes" can also be purchased in advance for \$27 from Ted's IGA, any Walgreens store or the fair website. These include general admission and rides for the day. For more information, visit hebronharvestfair.org.



From left, Colchester resident Jacey Chorlton receives her award for placing third in the CHJA Medal Finals Junior Medal class with her horse, Leonardo, trainer Martha Chenelle, mother Keli Savage and father Charlie Chorlton.

Equestrian cont. from Front Page

lot of people so it gives us a lot of practice for what the finals will be like," she said, adding it is her favorite horse show of the year.

The majority of the work preparing for competition is done when schooling at home, though. "We do a lot of ground poles, which help with measuring lines and seeing the distances to the fences," Chorlton said. "We also practice a lot without our stirrups to help make our legs stronger."

All that prep made for a very smooth horse show.

"Everything the day of the final wasn't actually very stressful," she said. "My warm-up went really well and I wasn't as nervous as I normally am going into the ring at a final. When I went into the ring I felt very confident."

During the first jumping course, the pair hit a small glitch.

"At one point I heard Leo hit a rail and I didn't think he knocked it down, so I wasn't worried. We went back by the jump on my way to another jump and I realized that the rail had come down," she said, adding usually the judges will take off points for a fallen rail. "The judges must have decided that it wasn't my fault, so I still got an 83, which is a really good score."

Chorlton, who placed second in the CHJA Children's Medal 2'6" division last year, which is for youth riders who haven't qualified for any three-foot fence divisions, wasn't expecting to fare well in the new group this year.

"There were a lot of really good people and horses in my class and this is my first year jumping this high," she said.

Chorlton should have a little more confidence going into next year's CHJA finals knowing she and Leonardo are among the best.

Police Locate Suspect in Portland Gas Station Robbery

by Joshua Anusewicz

Portland Police are working to secure an arrest warrant for a suspect wanted in an armed robbery at a local gas station last week.

According to police, the incident occurred Friday, Aug. 24, at 9:55 a.m., at the Mobil gas station at 1096 Portland-Cobalt Rd., Route 66. Police said officers first responded to a silent alarm; while en route, dispatch then received a 911 call from the Mobil employee that an armed robbery had taken place and the suspect was fleeing westbound on Route 66. Upon arrival, officers were able to obtain a statement from the employee, as well as a description of the suspect – a white male – and his vehicle, a white Chevy Impala – which was broadcast to surrounding police departments.

Portland Police said that within minutes, Glastonbury Police were able to locate the vehicle traveling northbound on Route 17 in South Glastonbury. According to Sgt. Richard McKeon, Glastonbury Police Department's public information officer, Glastonbury officers pursued the suspect down Route 17 and onto Route 2, where he was able to evade them. McKeon said the suspect was

soon spotted by a state Department of Transportation camera on Interstate 84 in Hartford, which was able to pick up a partial view of the license plate.

According to the Portland Police investigation, the surveillance video from the Mobil showed the suspect waited for all other patrons to leave the store, then approached the employee at the counter, brandishing a knife and demanding money. Police said the cashier worked "quickly and calmly" to retrieve the money, then the suspect fled to his parked vehicle and drove away.

Sgt. Scott Cunningham said the suspect made away with roughly \$700.

Using the partial view of the license plate and gathering of fingerprints and fibers at the scene, police were able to identify the suspect and performed a search of the individual's home, which resulted in more evidence related to the crime.

Cunningham said Tuesday Portland Police have been in contact with the suspect and currently have an arrest warrant pending. He said he expects the suspect to be arrested within the next week and a half.

Marlborough Man Sentenced in Bank Fraud

by Katelyn Kelleher

A Marlborough resident was sentenced in New Haven Friday, Aug. 24, to more than four years in prison for his involvement in a multi-million dollar bank fraud scheme.

U.S. District Judge Janet Bond Arterton sentenced Mirza H. Baig, 49, to 51 months of prison, followed by five years of probation, a press release from the U.S. Attorney's office stated.

According to the press release, Baig pled guilty Sept. 8, 2011, to one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud and "admitted that he personally stole approximately \$2 million in cash, which he used for his own personal enrichment," during a fraud scheme against Domestic Bank, of Cranston, R.I., while working for Branford-based New England Cash Dispensing Systems, Inc.

Baig and other NECDS personnel were involved in the scheme, which ran from 2006 until 2010, the U.S. Attorney's office said.

Arterton ordered Baig to pay approximately \$4.8 million in restitution to Domestic Bank – the estimated amount of what the bank lost in the scam – and forfeit two vehicles and interest on his house of up to \$1.2 million.

NECDS, which operates a network of au-

tomated teller machines, entered into an agreement with Domestic Bank in early 2000. Domestic Bank's stand-alone ATMs were located in commercial establishments throughout the Northeast. NECDS placed the ATMs and performed maintenance and Domestic Bank supplied the cash, the U.S. Attorney's office said.

According to court documents, Baig and his NECDS co-conspirators – former NECDS chief executive officer Joseph Sarlo, former general manager John DeMilo and Gary Vestuti, a NECDS employee – "ordered excess cash from Domestic Bank and used it to refill ATMs that would otherwise have been refilled with NECDS' funds."

They covered up the scam by using some of the excess cash to fill another ATM that was previously shorted cash, while Domestic Bank received false information for several years indicating its cash was correctly accounted for, the U.S. Attorney's office said.

DeMilo, Sarlo and Vestuti each previously pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud. Vestuti was sentenced to 27 months of prison on Sept. 13, 2011. DeMilo and Sarlo await sentencing.

Honoring a Camp Ingersoll Legend in Portland

by Joshua Anusewicz

At Camp Ingersoll, campers and staff abide by what they call “the four pillars of character development,” which can be found right in the camp’s mission statement: caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.

Henry Coe, assistant director at the camp, knows those pillars by heart, and could probably recite them in his sleep – which isn’t a surprise, because he has each quality in spades. It’s why he can’t go anywhere without seeing someone from Camp Ingersoll that he knows, excited as can be to see him. It’s why just recently a former staff member who had lost both of her parents asked him to walk her down the aisle at her wedding. It’s why he’s been an integral part of the camp for 40 years, helping shape the lives of thousands of the area’s young people.

It’s also why this year’s annual end-of-summer gala, held next weekend at Camp Ingersoll, will be in celebration and recognition of Coe, who is retiring this year after four decades of service to the camp.

“Last year, I decided that I’m too old,” he said with a laugh.

Coe, 76, doesn’t mind a little self-deprecation every now and then, as it suits his humble personality just right. His attitude has served him well throughout his career, one that began as a teacher long before he came to Camp Ingersoll. A Durham resident, Coe began by teaching third grade in Middlefield for 20 years, eventually moving up to the middle school in Durham for another 20 years. It was in Durham where he spearheaded an “integrated” classroom, an effort that sought to mix students of differing abilities to help those that struggled with learning by including them in mainstream classes.

Working in that integrated program, which Coe called “very progressive at the time,” provided the groundwork for how he felt a camp could be run. When Coe arrived at Ingersoll in 1972 as summer camp director, however, the small camp was still very traditional and just beginning to spread its wings. A former Girl Scout camp, Camp Ingersoll was founded by the Middlesex YMCA in 1960 as a day camp

that provided separate activities for young girls and boys.

Upon arrival, with his teaching experience in tow, Coe looked to develop programs for the campers that were geared toward specific needs of the children. With just 95 campers, his first order of business was to make the camp co-ed, a decision that didn’t make him many friends amongst the veteran staffers.

“I was warned that the older staff isn’t going to like it and that it was a very traditional camp,” Coe recalls. “Everything turned out just fine.”

After bringing the camp together as one, Coe and the staff set out to develop Camp Ingersoll into what he calls “the premier camp in Connecticut.” Over the years, Coe said he has seen changes made at Ingersoll that have been adopted at the state and national level, including one of the first camps in the state to have all staff members CPR-certified. Coe also helped develop a “master plan” for the camp and overhaul the daily schedule for campers, as well as adapt new, progressive programs and scrap those that are no longer relevant. Now, campers enjoy the traditional activities like swimming, hiking, and arts and crafts alongside activities like music, dance and video technology.

“Some camps might not offer all of that, but we do,” he said proudly. “We’ve been able to keep our traditional activities while changing with the times.”

Ingersoll has also included off-site activities such as horseback riding and golf to their programming, as well, Coe said.

In 2000, Coe retired from teaching and the following year, became assistant camp director at Ingersoll, a newly-created position to make room for Patrick Connelly, who is now the senior director of membership and programs for the Middlesex YMCA. Coe said he planned to stay on as an assistant to help Connelly transition into the role, and the two “hit it off very well,” Coe said.

“And 12 years later, I’m still here,” he adds with a long laugh.

It’s not surprise, either, that Coe stuck around longer than he expected. He recalls fondly all of the people he’s met throughout the years and

the relationships he’s built. He referred to all of his staff members over his tenure as “role models,” whether they knew it or not, that quickly made lifelong friendships with campers and fellow staffers.

To prove his point, Coe brought up a personal memory of his granddaughter, a camper who will be going into high school this year. Several years ago, Coe said she struggled with low self-esteem and a poor image of herself. Coe said it took one summer and two counselors that became “ideal role models” for her and now she’s confident, outgoing, and a better student, too.

“What a change in her,” Coe said, adding that she still keeps in touch with the counselors. “And it’s not just the campers all the time. Each year, I would tell each staff member that you’ll have a life-changing moment this summer. Just the connections that grow are something to see.”

He then quipped, “And we’ve had quite a few staff members marry each other, so we’ve had some real connections.”

But when he told his staff that they will be role models, he took his own advice, as well. For years, above his desk, was a sign that read, “Dream it. Believe it. Achieve it.” And if you do that, he said, “it can be done” by working together.

The fact that he worked together with so many people over the years is why he deflects the praise that’s been showered upon him since he announced he would retire, and why he clams up a bit when talking of the gala in his honor.

“When they asked me if I’d be alright with it, what am I going to say?” he asks. “It was never about me; it was all about us. It was about working together as a team. It was all about working together.”

But he is looking forward to it, he promises.

“It’s going to be fun,” he said with a smile, “and I hope to see staff I haven’t seen in a long time. They’ve all left a part of themselves with me that will never go away.”

The gala will be held Saturday, Sept. 8, from 5:30-11:30 p.m., at the camp’s Grand Pavilion. The cost of tickets is \$55 per person and all proceeds will go to new projects at the camp;



Camp Ingersoll assistant camp director Henry Coe will be retiring this year after four decades of service.

tickets are available online at midymca.org or by contacting the YMCA at 860-343-6207. The event will include catered food, a cash bar, live music, dancing and a silent auction.

And it will doubtlessly include lots of tributes and well-wishes for Coe. The camp that has grown significantly during Coe’s time here – from 95 campers in 1972 to more than 500 a day this year – and it’s those campers that Coe said he will miss the most.

“It’s just like when I was done teaching,” he said. “I’ll miss watching the kids grow. They change and become more competent and mature. You always hear people say, “Kids these days!” I don’t believe that; I think we have the brightest, smartest, creative, most innovative group of young people we’ve ever had and they are going to go on to great things.”

And for those young people who attend Camp Ingersoll, you can be assured they will be in good hands, thanks to the legacy of Henry Coe. As he moves on to the next stage of his life, his spirit will still be at Ingersoll, much like the camp’s spirit will remain in him.

“There’s something about that place,” he said quietly. “It has a heart and a spirit. When you find it, it never leaves you. I can’t explain what it is; it’s just there.”

Kids Karnival Celebrates End of Summer, Community

by Joshua Anusewicz

Blue skies and sunshine provided the perfect backdrop on Sunday for the inaugural Chatham Kids Karnival at Chatham Court, a chance for the residents of the neighborhood to celebrate once more before the summer ends and the children return to school.

And while the local children were certainly the focus of the celebration, the event had a broader theme: bringing together the Chatham Court community.

“I think it really instills goodwill and gives us a chance to work with each other and help each other,” said Chatham Court resident Darlene Larson.

Though organizers dubbed the event the “first annual,” resident Dawn Wadding, the commissioner of Chatham Court and a board member of the Housing Authority, said that this year’s Kids Karnival was a revival of a former event. For at least seven years, Wadding said, the event has been left dormant, as it’s been difficult to find volunteers willing to put in the time and effort to coordinate the activities and to raise money.

This year, however, residents saw a need to provide an outlet for the children. Although 79 of the 161 residents of Chatham Court are children, this summer would feature no summer programs for the children, due to lack of funding. Also, many residents of Chatham Court, which is a public housing complex under the direction of the Portland Housing Authority, were not able to afford to send their children to the various summer programs the town offered either.

So Wadding and a slew of volunteers set out to revive the Kids Karnival – no easy feat, to be sure. Wadding said it took many volunteers nearly two months to plan everything that went

into the event, including activities for the children, decorations and food. The event, Wadding said, would not have been possible without the contributions and donations from the Portland community, including individual residents, local businesses, and the Portland Housing Authority.

The result was a sight to behold; it actually wouldn’t be farfetched to imagine all 161 residents of Chatham Court were there. Children scooted across the parking lot, faces painted, wearing balloon hats made by Sparkles the Clown (who had her own VIP parking spot), holding a hot dog in one hand and a juice box in the other. Music blared as groups of youngsters played basketball, jumped around in the bounce castle, and shrieked as they hummed down an inflatable water slide.

“I’m so excited,” Wadding said of the excitement the event had put on the children’s faces. “This has been our baby all summer, and it couldn’t be better.”

But what Wadding was most proud to show off was a makeshift cafeteria, where groups of kids and families came out from the sun to cool off and enjoy some lunch. Inside, the kids happily munched on the food prepared by the volunteers, interacting with old friends and building relationships with new friends – just what the volunteers had hoped would happen.

“It’s bringing the whole community together,” said volunteer Barry Rogers, a resident of Chatham Court for 13 years. “That’s the most important thing.”

Larson, a seven-year resident of Chatham Court and a Kids Karnival volunteer, didn’t seem surprised by the big turnout and the success, knowing just what Chatham Court is like.



The children of Chatham Court had plenty of activities to choose from at the first annual Kids Karnival on Sunday, but most of the youngsters could be found on the inflatable waterslide, which provided a refreshing respite from the hot summer sun.

“It’s such a nice place to live; I’m glad I live here,” she said, and pointed out that she was able to interact with people from across the complex that she had never met before. “When you get to interact with these people, you can really learn to help each other and make friends.”

It’s safe to say friends were made on Sun-

day, and good times were shared by the residents of Chatham Court. Earlier this week, the kids went back to school, officially ending their summer and most of the fun that goes along with it. But the Kids Karnival, with a much-anticipated return, gave them a lasting memory of the summer, one that’s sure to build the excitement for next year’s celebration.

Hebron Church Garden Serves to Reflect and Remember

by Geeta Schrayter

Heading toward Colchester on Route 85 in Hebron, it's easy to miss the elegant brick structure that is St. Peter's Church if you're not familiar with it. Nestled a little ways back from the road and partially hidden behind trees, a driver could easily pass without noticing the pretty 1826 building. And if someone isn't familiar with the church, it's even less likely they'll know of the Memorial Garden found just around back.

But there a Memorial Garden sits, waiting for anyone – no matter their religious belief – to come for a moment of respite and reflection, to inter the ashes of a loved one, or, as Reverend Everett "Perry" Perine said Wednesday, to "just be."

The garden, which is the result of about five years of work, lies on the edge of St. Peter's Cemetery. A stone path curves around plots of shrubs, trees and flowers such as roses, azaleas and lilacs and leads to a granite altar made from an original step of the church and two old gate posts that sits beneath a pergola. Three stone benches wait to be used by visitors and three burial areas for the interment of ashes are marked with granite stones.

Late Wednesday morning, the sun was shining as butterflies flew from one flower to another while a cool breeze hinted at the changing season. Despite the nearby road and the occasional *whoosh* of a passing car, the garden had an unmistakable serenity about it, thereby achieving one of the goals Perine said the parish had in its creation.

"When we conceived of the garden we had three things in mind that we really wanted – three things – that's very Christian, right?" laughed Perine.

One of them was to create a peaceful place where community members could sit and reflect.

"We're hoping that the community would know about this and would feel welcome to come and sit on the bench and enjoy the quiet," said Kathy Kniep, co-chair of the Memorial Garden Committee. "It's a very beautiful place – I love coming out here."

"We wanted to open it up to the community, so anyone could come and have a quiet place

on the edge of Hebron and just be," said Perine. "It's a beautiful area. You can kind of forget the traffic even if it does go by, just sit and be present."

Another goal was to create a space to hold various services. Perine explained not only funeral services but the blessing of the animals and weekday services, when weather permits, are all held in the garden.

"We wanted a place where we could hold services," he said. "That's really important, to have a functional space, not just a place for burials."

But the other goal was in relation to burials: to make a place where ashes could be interred as an alternative to purchasing a cemetery plot. Although St. Peter's is an Episcopal church, Perine explained the parish is open to individuals of any denomination who want to use the garden for burial of a loved one. A memorial service may also be held under the supervision of Perine, but he said that doesn't mean the service has to be Episcopal.

"We are open to having people have other ceremonies," he said. "We can talk about what services are appropriate."

In the Memorial Garden, the ashes are placed directly into the ground as opposed to kept in a container, as they would be in a burial plot. Perine explained this is symbolic of the parish's view on life and death. By placing the ashes directly into the ground, they seep into the soil and help create plant nutrients.

"The plants in the burial areas then grow, and it's symbolic, for us at least, of the whole cycle of death and resurrection: out of death comes new life," he said.

There is no fee for the interment, but for \$115 a bronze memorial plaque can be purchased and placed in the garden. Apart from that, the names of the people interred are inscribed in a Memorial Book. A donation may also be made to St. Peter's by the friends and family of the deceased to be placed in a fund used for the maintenance and development of the garden.

"If anyone is interested in pursuing this, they should contact me and I'll give them the information on how we can make that happen – not if it can happen, but *how* we can make it happen," said Perine.



Behind St. Peter's Church in Hebron sits a Memorial Garden, where the parish holds various services, the ashes of a loved one can be interred, and community members can come for a moment of respite and reflection.

"We really hope the community will be made aware of the garden and feel comfortable about visiting," said Kniep. "The only problem is that it's at the back of the church. If people know that it's there and they just stop in sometime, they'll find a really beautiful place. I think anybody driving by would not have a clue that we have such a beautiful spot."

Kniep said the garden is the first place she goes when she comes to the parish and Perine added he enjoys going out to sit there during the week.

"It's just a wonderful space," he said. "It's a nice worship space and I'm thrilled with it."

Going forward, Perine said the challenge was upkeep and keeping it "fresh." He said Kniep and the Memorial Garden Committee are good at replacing plants when needed and adding new ones where appropriate. The committee also coordinates "Weekly Weeders" to help with maintenance and Perine said the involvement

of parish members helps them feel like they're a part of the garden.

"That makes the parish feel that this is their garden, not just a garden that's been made for them."

Perine said the more people who enjoy the garden and want to be a part of its care, the better.

"We didn't want something that was going to be done, then fall into disuse," he said. It was important to us to create a space people wanted to take care of and be a part of."

And now, that's exactly what they've got. Through the work of the parish, Perine said the garden has grown "into what I think is a really remarkable place."

The Memorial Garden can be found beneath the shadow of the church bell tower at St. Peter's church, 30 Church St. For more information, visit stpetershebron.com.

Hebron Seniors Have Final Meeting with Prague

by Geeta Schrayter

On Wednesday afternoon, a dozen seniors sat in the Russell Mercier Senior Center and waited for the arrival of a face they'd become familiar with over the years: that of retiring state Sen. Edith Prague.

Prague was at the senior center to share a plethora of information with the seniors about programs that are available to assist them. It's a visit she's often made during her tenure as senator, but Wednesday's appearance was her last as state senator: after 18 years representing the 19th District, Prague, 86, is retiring when her term expires in November.

Upon her arrival, Prague announced she had a gift for those in attendance. She then presented them with the official visitors' guide to Connecticut, and urged them to take advantage of the many different things to do in the state.

"There's lots of places in Connecticut to go," she said, noting the book hadn't been printed last year, but when it was printed this year she'd grabbed a bunch for the seniors in her district – the gesture was just another example of her care for the senior population.

Interim Town Manager Andy Tierney was present at the event, and said Prague had done "a wonderful job representing Hebron."

"And all seniors," added Senior Services Coordinator Sharon Garrard.

"She leaves some hard shoes to fill," Tierney furthered – and to that, Garrard said filling them would be "impossible."

For an hour, Prague sat and distributed a number of packets and pamphlets filled with

information on programs and services for the seniors including home health coverage, a Medicare summary, information about estates and the Probate Court, home care, reverse mortgages and free cell phones.

She spoke with the seniors as though she were an old friend, and when one mentioned her free cell phone was only loaded with 125 minutes per month as opposed to the advertised 250, Prague took down her name and number and said she'd call the company herself to get the issue resolved.

Prague said she wanted the seniors to have all of the information she'd provided so they could take care of themselves as best they could. She said she'd be back, but wasn't exactly sure in what capacity.

"I want you to have this [information] because I'll be back, but I don't know when," she said.

As discussion on the provided information came to a close, a cake was brought out to thank Prague for all of her work and wish her the best.

And the seniors were all quite thankful. Carol Pugliese said Prague would be "sorely missed," and Gloria Catullo noted Prague's frequent visits with the seniors.

"She's been here for years," Catullo said. "Every fall she passes out all the new literature. She's really been a friend to the seniors."

But even though her time as senator is ending, Prague was adamant in saying she wasn't going to vanish.

"I'm not going to disappear," Prague said.



After retiring Senator Edith Prague shared a plethora of information on programs available to seniors at the Russell Mercier Senior Center on Wednesday, those in attendance thanked Prague for her years of service with a cake and a side of well-wishes.

She noted she'd no longer be chair of any committees, "but I'm not going to disappear. God knows what I'm going to do, but I'm looking, and I'm only a phone call away."

And true to her commitment to the seniors, even now Prague continues to work for new

ways to help them. Currently, she's involved with a task force that's looking to help keep seniors at their homes, even after they become ill: shifting from institutionalized health care to home health care.

"I still have stuff to do," she said with a smile.

Cruz to Leave Hebron Schools

by Geeta Schrayter

The school year in Hebron has only just begun, but a big change is already on the horizon. Come Dec. 14, the school district and community will be saying farewell to seven-year Superintendent of Schools Ellie Cruz, as she departs to become superintendent of schools in Plymouth.

Cruz made the announcement Wednesday afternoon, after being notified by the Plymouth Board of Education Tuesday night that she'd been formally appointed. Cruz said Wednesday that while she hadn't really been looking for a new position, the opportunity presented itself and fell in line with her goal of someday working with a kindergarten through grade 12 school system. (Hebron is only a kindergarten through grade six system, with grades seven through 12 part of the RHAM school district.) Additionally, she felt the Hebron district was in a place that made it okay for her to move on.

The district has "worked so hard these last seven years, and so many of our goals have been met," she said. "We've achieved so many important things, and I always kind of feel this personal integrity, where you don't leave in the middle of a commitment."

But now, she added, "it just seemed like it aligned."

With achievements such as the expansion of full-day kindergarten, the award of the school readiness grant which brought more full-day preschool slots to the town and all of the work done by the board and the staff, Cruz said the schools were "in really good shape" and ev-

erything felt "right."

"It just felt right that maybe now it was time for someone new to carry on and bring some new focus and ideas," she said.

Cruz will be moving to another small school system – although Plymouth's 1,900 students still exceeds Hebron's 1,049 – and she said the town's sense of community and focus on education was also similar – and an attraction.

"It just intrigued me, and when I met the people and the community – it's so much like Hebron in a way, in terms of the parents and the community having such a deep interest in kids," she said. "And so to me, that was a huge attraction."

In addition, Cruz said she's looking forward to the challenges a K-12 school system will present – because if she doesn't feel challenged, she feels like she's not pushing herself.

"So I'm really looking forward to the challenge that a K-12 district will bring.... I haven't experienced that yet," she stated, adding, "I'm really excited about what's coming over the horizon."

But of course, after seven years in Hebron, it would be nearly impossible for the departure to be anything but bittersweet – both for Cruz and for those who've worked with her.

"She's going to be sorely missed," said Interim Town Manager Andy Tierney. "It was a shock to me, but at the same time I wish her well in her endeavors and I think that Hebron is going to have some tough shoes to fill when

selecting a new replacement."

Tierney added that when he talks to residents who've moved to town, many of them say "they come here because of our school system, and I think [Cruz] had a big part to do with that."

Selectman Brian O'Connell said he heard the news early Wednesday evening and said he appreciated everything Cruz had done for the Hebron community and the schools.

"I think she's done a good job with regards to budgeting and maintaining services in very difficult economic times," he said, "and I think she will be missed by many in the community."

Board of Finance member Malcolm Leichter felt similarly, calling her departure "a big loss for Hebron."

Cruz "made a significant impact on the education system," he said. "She's been an excellent money manager and at the same time, delivered very good results in the educational progress of our students."

Board of Education Chairwoman Kathy Shea also lamented Cruz's departure, saying the superintendent made "tremendous strides" in the district.

"We are going to miss her a lot," Shea said. "We feel that we've had a very good experience with her as our superintendent in Hebron."

For Cruz, it's the people she'll miss the most.

"I'll miss the people," she said. "When you're in some place for this period of time you make some really deep and lasting friendships. And literally, I've raised children, if you think about

it: they start here at 3, and I've seen them grow. I'll really miss the relationships and the community. And you know, the things you leave behind, you hope become a foundation for good things to come."

Cruz also said she valued the relationships she had with the superintendents for the Marlborough, Andover and RHAM schools.

"We clearly worked through some delicate issues together, and I really valued that relationship and their guidance and mentoring," she said.

Cruz will remain in Hebron until Dec. 14, per a 90-day clause in her contract. She said that would allow her to assist with the beginning of the budget process and present it before she left, "and that was important to me. I think it would be difficult to leave in the middle of that."

Shea said she expects Cruz's resignation would be formally received and acted upon at the next Board of Education meeting. The board would then decide how to proceed with finding a replacement.

"I don't really know what's going to happen," she said. "The board will have plenty of discussion in terms of what to do moving forward."

And as Cruz moves forward with the Plymouth district, she said there's nothing to look back on with regret about her time in Hebron.

"No regrets," she said. "Never a regret. I'm extremely happy and pleased."

Colchester Resident Looks Back on 'Incredible Experience'

by Katelyn Kelleher

A collective sigh of disappointment swept the world when the closing ceremonies of the Olympic Games wrapped up earlier this month, but a Colchester medical staff volunteer is still living in the fresh memories she has of London.

Licensed massage therapist Laura Stevenson-Flom, one of only a handful of international massage therapists selected to volunteer their expertise through Games Maker, left for London July 21 and came back to Colchester with the memories of "an incredible experience watching it be an incredible experience for the athletes."

"It was everything and then probably a thousand times more than I even anticipated," Stevenson-Flom said of the challenging mix of working, sightseeing and navigating her way through a different country.

The trip started with Stevenson-Flom as a spectator – she was a lucky lottery winner of a prime ticket in the 80,000-seat Olympic Stadium to get a volunteers-only preview of the opening ceremonies. The rehearsal was the first time the 20,000 performers had worked all together in the stadium.

"I was at eye level to the performers," she said. "I saw the sheep and the ducks and the horses. It was an absolutely amazing performance."

The rehearsal had every feature of the real deal with the exception of the athletes' parade and the live musical performances – but Stevenson-Flom didn't miss out on any of it. She watched the live opening ceremonies from one of three Trinitrons set up in Victoria Park, about three miles from the stadium. And her view from a few miles away wasn't bad, either.

"When James Bond's helicopter came in we saw him and 'the queen' parachute out of the plane," she said with a laugh.

Quickly, Stevenson-Flom was immersed in her busy schedule of long shifts followed by long commutes – although she lived only three miles away from the Athletes' Village, her morning shifts started before the trains ran, so she did a lot of walking.

Working on athletes in the polyclinic hospital was a bit different than expected for

Stevenson-Flom, who has spent her career working to help athletes, some Olympic-caliber, improve.

"My type of work is being very, very specific. I had 45 minutes to an hour per client, one right after the other, for 10 hours a day," she said. "It was a lot more intense than I had anticipated it being, but in a good way."

Stevenson-Flom said she ran into some difficulties in the beginning because a large percentage of the athletes did not speak English, using interpreters and eventually establishing hand signals with some of the athletes.

"With the athlete you don't really need words," she said. "You really don't need words working with body parts."

"You really have to know the different muscles in the body and what you're trying to accomplish," she added. "Athletes of this caliber come in really knowing what they want."

She worked on some athletes, even whole teams and their coaches and physiotherapists, every day, and found that even the best athletes in the world are still human.

"Sometimes you'd have to talk them down off a cliff or talk them up that cliff," she said.

In one case, the pressure the athlete put on himself paled in comparison to the pressure his country put on him.

"I had a particular runner, he was a sprinter from a very small African country, who came to me right after his race," she said. "He had no English and I was doing work that I expected to do on him and suddenly I realized he was sobbing on my table. He was holding his back and curled up into a fetal position crying."

After a general practitioner examined the athlete and determined there was nothing physically wrong, a psychiatric doctor on staff was brought in and determined the he was depressed.

"He had lost," Stevenson-Flom said. "He was the only hope for his country for a medal in the country's history."

For other athletes, specifically three teenage sprinters from another African country who had no running water in their village, the Olympic facilities and the whole experience was overwhelming, she said.

Stevenson-Flom didn't get to work on many

U.S. athletes in London, as she explained the athletes – especially the famous names – have their own support staff. She knew she was invaluable to the athletes that didn't.

"Basically they were reliant on the volunteers that the Olympic Committee had," she said.

That helped Stevenson-Flom work through the pain she experienced from 10-12-hour shifts, miles of walking daily and having recently recovered from breaking both her feet, then one a second time in the last 18 months. She had tickets for the closing ceremonies, but opted for a different plan.

"I just couldn't walk that far. My feet were tired so I sat in my flat and watched on my little 13-inch television," she said. "I put my feet up and watched it on the telly, as they call it."

During one of two days off during her entire experience, Stevenson-Flom, her feet killing her, took a guided bus tour that brought her to the Salisbury Cathedral, Stonehenge, and the Roman Baths.

When she had the opportunity to work in a different venue than Athletes' Village, Stevenson-Flom took it. On the second to last night of competition she was placed as a first responder in a call center in the Aquatics Centre to manage any trauma situations. She expected an uneventful night, until an emergency call came that a woman had fallen on her head from the top row to the ground seating of the Aquatics Centre.

"She was unconscious; bleeding from her nose, eyes and ears," she said.

Stevenson-Flom coordinated the medical response, and after a two-hour process, the situation was resolved, though she never found out about the woman's condition.

For a bit of relief after all the excitement, the venue manager sent Stevenson-Flom over to a women's water polo match, which just happened to be an American gold medal match that the Americans won.

"As a volunteer, you kind of sign an agreement that you're a non-partisan observer," she said. "I was okay until they started raising the American flag. I looked around at the other Games Makers and I kind of shook my head



Massage therapist Laura Stevenson-Flom gets into the Olympic spirit while volunteering in London.

and the venue manager said, 'It's okay, Laura.'

"I put my hand over my heart and started singing 'The Star-Spangled Banner' and tears were coming down my face," she continued. "I cannot explain the pride when your country's flag goes up."

Since the games, Stevenson-Flom has returned to work as director of the ECHO Cancer Foundation in Norwich. She expects to resume regular massage office hours at In Balance Therapeutic Massage in Colchester the first week in September.

And, despite the jet lag, sore feet and all the chaos that made up Stevenson-Flom's 2012 Olympic experience, she's setting her sights on 2016, with the application date to volunteer for Games Maker approaching.

"I never thought I'd say this, but I'm looking forward to Rio [de Janeiro]."

From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

When you're running for political office, you sort of expect silly, decades-old tales from your past to be dug up and used to make you look bad.

But when you work as a customer service rep at Wells Fargo, you might expect things to be a little different.

Richard Eggers, 68, of Des Moines, Iowa, probably did. Last month, Eggers was fired for – of all things – putting a cardboard cut-out of a dime in a washing machine *nearly 50 years ago*.

Court records indicate Eggers was convicted of operating a coin-changing machine by false means.

The 1963 incident was a “stupid stunt,” Eggers freely admits, but really, the man shouldn't have been fired over it.

As stupid as Eggers' termination sounds, it turns out he may not be alone; according to the *Des Moines Register*, big banks have been firing low-level employees like Eggers since new federal banking employment guidelines were enacted in May 2011 and new mortgage employment guidelines took hold in February.

The tougher standards were meant to get rid of executives and mid-level bank employees guilty of transactional crimes, like identity fraud or mortgage fraud, the paper reported; however, they're being applied across the board, due to possible hefty fines — \$1 million or more – for noncompliance.

Nationally, banks have fired thousands of workers, California attorney Natasha Buchanan said, adding that the banks “are afraid of the FDIC and the penalties they could face.”

The FDIC does provide a waiver process for people to show they're still fit to work at a bank despite a past criminal conviction, the Associated Press said, but it usually takes six months to a year to be approved. An automatic waiver is also a possibility – that process works more quickly – but it is limited to people who were sentenced to less than year of jail time and never actually spent a day behind bars.

Eggers was jailed two days for his heinous early-'60s crime, and thus doesn't qualify.

Nevertheless, though his options look bleak, a Des Moines attorney is helping Eggers navigate his way through the waiver process. Hopefully, the guy can get his job back. He hardly seems like the kind of white-collar criminal the feds had in mind when they drew up these new regulations.

In the meantime, any poor 18-year-olds reading this who are thinking of saving a few quarters by scamming the local Laundromat – think again. You never know

when that past is going to haunt you.

* * *

Happy belated birthday, Besse Cooper!

I can hear the murmurs going out from all over *Rivereast*-land: “Who?”

Cooper, a resident of Monroe, Ga., turned 116 this past Sunday. She is the world's oldest living person, according to *Guinness World Records*.

Cooper was born in 1896 in Tennessee. She moved to Georgia during World War I in search of a job as a teacher. In 1924, she married her husband Luther, and together they had four children. Today, according to *Guinness*, she has 12 grandchildren and more than a dozen great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

She also recently got a bridge named after her in her Georgia town.

The pop culture magazine *Entertainment Weekly* unearthed its own fun facts to put Cooper's age in its proper perspective. At 116 years of age, Cooper:

Has seen radio, movies and television invented during her lifetime;

Is old enough to recall both the real-life *and* the cinematic sinkings of the Titanic; and

Has been alive for all 30 of the Summer Olympic Games (the games started the year she was born).

By the way, what's Cooper's secret for longevity? “I mind my own business,” she told *Guinness*. “And I don't eat junk food.”

* * *

Lastly, I have some personnel news to pass along: this is reporter Katelyn Kelleher's last issue of the *Rivereast*, as she is moving on.

Though she wasn't here very long – about seven months – Kate quickly made an impact. She covered her two towns, Colchester and Marlborough, very well; during her time here, she's proven herself to be a great, thorough reporter. Her stories have been a breeze to edit – well-written, informative and enjoyable. Also, she's always been willing to go the extra mile for a story, and has been a great team player too, willing to cover events or fill in for other reporters on short notice when the need would occasionally arise; as an editor, you love to see that.

Also, during Kate's time here I've gotten many compliments from readers in her towns about the stories she's done; as an editor, you love to hear that too.

Best of luck to you, Kate, on your future endeavors. I know all of us at the *Rivereast* will miss you – and the residents of Colchester and Marlborough will as well.

* * *

See you next week.

Marlborough Police News

8/21: Prahans Desai, 37, of 4 Williamsburg Rd., was charged with breach of peace, State Police said, and was also taken into custody on active arrest warrant for second-degree failure to appear, State Police said.

8/24: Winston Latif, 22, of 668 Farmington Ave., West Hartford, was charged with speeding and DUI, State Police said.

8/26: William Shuff, 23, of 191 Queen St., Southington, was charged with unlawful discharge from a firearm, hunting/discharge of a firearm from a public highway, carrying a firearm while under the influence, third-degree criminal mischief and first-degree reckless endangerment, State Police said.

Colchester Police News

8/21: Raymond Wachtarz Jr., 23, of 18 Hickory Rd., was charged with DUI and seatbelt violation, State Police said.

8/22: Lynette St. Pierre, 26, of 28 Marble St., Manchester, was charged with speeding and DUI, State Police said.

8/22: John Silveira, 45, of 419 Old Hartford Rd., was charged with DUI, State Police said.

8/24: Jessica Welden, 31, of 53 Nutmeg Ln., North Windham, was charged with second-degree failure to appear, State Police said.

8/25: Joseph Lepak, 55, of 102 Bull Hill Rd., was charged with DUI, State Police said.

8/26: Zachary Girouard, 22, of 1166 Route 94, Hebron, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to drive in the proper

Hebron Police News

8/22: Hebron resident troopers are investigating the burglary of a residence of Mohegan Lane in which several handguns and other items were stolen. Anyone with information is asked to call Trooper Daniel Greenwood at 860-537-7555 ext. 4022.

Portland Police News

8/15: David Smith, 22, of 92 Cynthia Ln., Middletown, was charged with three counts of failure to appear, Portland Police said.

East Hampton Police News

8/16: Leo Gordon Williams III, 34, of 103 5th St., Norwich, was arrested for third-degree larceny, State Police said.

lane, illegal possession of narcotics, operating a motor vehicle without a license and possession of a controlled substance out of its original container, State Police said.

8/26: Pedro Acevedo, 24, of 31 Stanley Ct., New Britain, was charged with DUI, making an improper turn and failure to drive in the proper lane, State Police said.

8/28: Melissa Galloway, 29, of 1078 Old Clinton Rd, Westbrook, was charged with DUI and speeding, State Police said.

8/28: Daniel Soucie, 42, of 96 Littlefield Rd., Scotland, was charged with breach of peace, third-degree assault and using a motor vehicle without permission, State Police said.

Watt Suffers Minor Heart Attack

Board of Selectmen Chairman Jeff Watt suffered a minor heart attack this week, the town announced in a news release.

Watt was not feeling well and was admitted to the hospital Tuesday, Aug. 28, the town said. He was diagnosed with suffering a minor heart attack due to a blockage.

According to the news release, Watt is doing well and is expected to be home by this weekend. He will need to rest approximately two to four weeks and is expected to have a full recovery.

Get-well cards may be sent to 80 Gilead St.

Obituaries

East Hampton

Karen Nielsen Carr

Karen Nielsen Carr of Lady Lake, Fla., and formerly of East Hampton, died Tuesday, Aug. 14.

Born in Hartford and raised in Manchester, she graduated from Manchester High School Class of 1960, received a bachelor's degree from Eastern Connecticut State College (formerly Willimantic State College) and a master's from the University of Hartford. She taught in various school districts throughout the state and worked for the Connecticut State Welfare Department for more than 20 years. She moved to The Villages in Florida in 2004 after her retirement, where she enjoyed volunteering for Operation Shoeboxes and participating in many other clubs.

Ms. Carr leaves a loving daughter, Victoria Carr and her partner, Richard Hills of East Hampton, and her grandchildren, Charlotte Cassidy Hills and Richard Hills Jr., her sisters, Andrea Terney of Connecticut and Janis Litchfield of Florida, and many nieces and nephews. She was a friend to many and will be remembered for her smile, her generosity, and her positive outlook on life. She will be missed by all those whom she touched.

Burial will be private and a celebration of her life will be held in Connecticut at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations for her grandchildren's education may be made to the Bank of America, and sent to the administrator, Andrea Terney, P. O. Box 687, Granby, CT 06035.

East Hampton

Evelyn M. Sadlowski

Evelyn M. Sadlowski, 71, of East Hampton, widow of the late Stanley J. Sadlowski, died Friday, Aug. 24, at her home, surrounded by her loving family.

Born Nov. 15, 1940, in Stafford Springs, she was the daughter of the late John T. and Margaret (Carder) Macfarland. Evelyn had lived in East Hampton since 1966 and had been employed as an associate financial supervisor for the State of Connecticut Comptroller's Office.

She is survived by her longtime companion Mike Gionfriddo, her two sons James Sadlowski and his wife Annette of East Hampton, Stanley Sadlowski Jr. and his wife Carol of Wallingford, her five grandchildren and her beloved dog Bridey.

She was predeceased by her brother, Michael Macfarland.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Aug. 29, in the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton. Burial followed in Lakeview Cemetery. Friends called at the funeral home Tuesday, Aug. 28.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 825 Brook St., I-95 Tech Center, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

East Hampton

John R. Cannon Jr.

John R. "Jack" Cannon Jr., 86, of East Hampton, beloved husband of Kathleen (Myers) Cannon, died Wednesday, Aug. 22, at his home. Born July 27, 1926, in New Haven he was the son of the late John R. and Catherine (Dotten) Cannon.

Jack was a graduate of both Quinnipiac and University of Bridgeport, and had worked as an accountant for United Technologies Corp. until his retirement in 1992. He honorably served his country in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Jack was a member of the Antique Auto Club of East Hampton, the Franklin Auto Club, the East Hampton 3rd Connecticut Regiment Fife and Drum where he was a musketeer and also served as the business manager. Jack was active in the Old Home Day celebration and served as grand marshal in the 2005 parade. He always enjoyed his 1922 Franklin touring car.

Besides his wife he is survived by his son, William John Cannon of East Hampton; three daughters, Susan Bouton and her husband Thomas of New York, Jillian Cannon of Ashford, Heidi Cannon of Groton; two brothers, Roy Cannon of Wallingford, Russell Cannon of Oregon; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his twin brother shortly after birth, William Cannon.

Funeral services were held Monday, Aug. 27, at 11 a.m., in the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, with Rev. Thomas Kennedy officiating. Burial followed with military honors in the family plot in Lakeview Cemetery. Friends called at Spencer Funeral Home Sunday evening, Aug. 26.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.



Colchester

Dominic Joseph Tesauero

Dominic Joseph Tesauero, 82, of Colchester and former longtime Norwalk resident, died Friday, Aug. 24, at the Yale-New Haven Hospital. He was the loving husband for 59 years of Lorraine Dupuis Tesauero.

Dominic was born in Stamford March 1, 1930, son of the late Pasquale and Vincenza Fiore Tesauero. He was a graduate of J.M. Wright Tech and served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict. Dominic was retired from the Norwalk branch of the U.S. Postal Service. After his retirement he worked in the mailrooms of Save the Children Federation and R.T. Vanderbilt and was a security guard at the Rowayton Train Station. He was also past chancellor of the Knights of Columbus, Council 46 and past commander of the Catholic War Veterans in Norwalk.

In addition to his wife, Dominic is survived by his three loving children, Sharon Falcone and her husband Arthur of Salem, Glen Tesauero and his wife Roselyn and Patricia Ruggiero, all of Norwalk. He also leaves his grandchildren Matthew, Jason, Jon, James, Michael, Taylor, Catie and Andrew along with great grandchildren Nathan, Cole, Christian, Jack and Sloane.

He leaves behind three siblings Anthony Tesauero of Naples, Fla., John Tesauero of Colchester and Anne Mantia of Westport, and many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Wednesday, Aug. 29, at St. Matthew Church, 216 Scribner Ave., Norwalk. Burial with full military honors followed at St. John Cemetery. Dominic's family received friends at the Magner Funeral Home, 12 Mott Ave., Norwalk, on Tuesday, Aug. 28.

The family would like give special thanks to the Yale-New Haven Hospital C.I.C. Unit.

Donations in Dominic's name may be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105501 or to the American Cancer Society, 95 Brook St., I-95 Tech Ctr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

For directions or to sign an online guest book, visit magnerfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Gay'le (Hinman) Johnson

Gay'le (Hinman) Johnson, 61, of Colchester, beloved wife of John Carl Johnson, passed away Sunday, Aug. 26, at home. Born May 19, 1951, in New Haven, she was a daughter of the late Gilbert and Rose Hinman.

Mrs. Johnson was devoted to social work, serving others as the director of the Groton YWCA, My Sister's Place Women's Shelter and other human service positions. She held an avid love of Labrador retrievers, especially running on the Air Line Trail with them. In her spare time, she enjoyed aromatherapy, traveling and cruising.

In addition to her loving husband of 32 years, she leaves two sisters, Lois Chambrelli and Pamela Finch, both of Wallingford, and numerous extended family members and friends.

A chapel service will be observed at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 1, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. Friends may call one hour prior to the service. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the ASPCA, 520 8th Ave, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10018.

For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Mary Dalsass

Mary (Aliprandini) Dalsass, 101, wife of the late Rocco Dalsass of 359 Harland Rd., died Sunday, Aug. 26, at Harrington Court in Colchester. Born in Tuenno, Italy, on March 22, 1911, she was the daughter of the late Giovanni and Emelia (Deromedi) Aliprandini.

She was united in marriage to Rocco Dalsass in Brooklyn, N.Y. He predeceased her on June 29, 1968.

Surviving are four sons and their spouses, Louis and Beatrice Dalsass of Bozrah, Aldo and Virginia Dalsass of Easton, Pa., Mario and Diana Dalsass of Prescott, Ariz., and Vincent Dalsass of Basking Ridge, N.J.; 12 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; one brother, Tomasso Aliprandini, and one sister, Fortunata Pizzolli, both of Tuenno, Italy; also several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by one sister, Liva Aliprandini, and two brothers, Leo and Adolph Aliprandini.

Visitation was held Thursday, Aug. 30, at the Labenski Funeral Home, 107 Boswell Ave., Norwich, which is where the funeral will assemble today, Aug. 31, from 9:30-10:30 a.m., and proceed to a Mass of Christian Burial at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church, Taftville, with interment to follow in Maplewood Cemetery.

Hebron

Laura J. Mund

Laura J. Mund, 89, of Hebron, widow of the late Frank R. Mund, died Sunday, Aug. 26, at Marlborough Health Care. Born Dec. 13, 1922, in Colchester, she was the daughter of the late Raymond and Nellie (Scranton) Jones.

Laura had worked as a supervisor at the Arbor Acres Farm Inc. until her retirement. She was a member of the Congregational Church of Marlborough, the Marlborough Fire Department Auxiliary, East Hampton VFW Post 5095 Auxiliary, Hebron American Legion Post 95 Auxiliary, and the Marlborough Moose Lodge 1631 Auxiliary. Laura enjoyed reading and meeting and making new friends.

She is survived by her son Frank R. Mund Jr. and his wife Gwen of Hebron; two daughters, Beverly Shipman and Audrey Mund of North Brookfield, Mass.; two sisters, Arline Fuller of Colchester, Muriel Lord of East Hampton; seven grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Laura was predeceased by her sister, Gertrude McKinney, and her brother, Raymond Jones.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Sept. 1, at 11 a.m., in the Congregational Church of Marlborough. Burial will be private, at the convenience of the family, in Marlboro Cemetery. Friends may call at Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, this evening, Aug. 31, from 5-7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Marlborough Congregational Church Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 57, Marlborough, CT 06447, or to Masonicare Partners Home Health and Hospice, 111 Founders Plaza, Suite 200, East Hartford, CT 06108.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Colchester

Kathleen Mather

Kathleen "Kay" Margaret (Callanan) Mather, 91, of Colchester, and formerly of East Windsor, wife of the late Clarence "Pete" Mather, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 28. Born in Windsor Locks, one of nine children born to the late Jeremiah and Lucie (Briggs) Callanan, she grew up in Windsor Locks and lived in East Windsor for most of her life before moving to Colchester 17 years ago.

Prior to her retirement in 1989, Kay was employed by Cardinal Industries in East Windsor and was previously employed by the former Point Electronics in East Windsor for over 25 years. She was a loving and devoted mother, grandmother, and sister who enjoyed spending time with her family.

She is survived by her beloved children, Carol Fink and her husband Micheal of Colchester, with whom she made her home, Gary Mather and his wife Sharon of East Windsor, and Wayne Mather and his fiancée Wendy Krawiec of East Windsor; five grandchildren, Christopher Fink of Colchester, Richard and Stephanie Mather of East Windsor, Danny Mather of Boulder, Colo., and Casey Mather of Enfield; a brother, Robert Callanan and his friend Evelyn Anderson of Windsor Locks, and many nieces and nephews. Kay enjoyed special times that she spent with her niece Jean Bill and her husband Frank.

She was also predeceased by four brothers, William, Francis, Thomas and Raymond Callanan, and three sisters, June Callanan, Mary Gauthier, and Elizabeth "Betty" Taylor.

Her family would like to thank the wonderful, caring staff at Harrington Court for the special care they gave to their mother.

Her family will receive friends for calling hours today, Aug. 31, at the Ladd-Turkington & Carmon Funeral Home, 551 Talcottville Rd. (Route 83), Vernon, followed by a service beginning at 11 a.m. Burial will follow in Springdale Cemetery, East Windsor.

Memorial donations in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association Connecticut Chapter, 2075 Silas Deane Highway, Suite 100, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

For online condolences and guest book, visit carmonfuneralhome.com.

Portland

Lorraine Risley

Lorraine Risley of Middletown passed away Tuesday, Aug. 21. Born March 8, 1935, in Portland, she was the daughter of the late Henry Charpentier and the late Rose Cote Fritz.

She graduated from Portland High School 1953 and for many years lived and raised her family in Higganum. Lorraine spent several years up until her death, volunteering at the Middlesex Hospital Cancer Center.

Lorraine is survived by her daughter, Laura Risley of North Haven, and her son, Brett Risley and daughter-in-law, Jeanne of Norwalk. She also leaves behind her loving brother, Hank Charpentier and sister in law Sandy of The Villages, Fla. She is also survived by several grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews and many loving friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Lorraine's name may be made to Connecticut Hospice via their website, hospice.com/donate.htm.

Marlborough

Derek A. Rodrigues

Derek A. Rodrigues, 30, of Marlborough, died Sunday, Aug. 26. Born June 24, 1982, in Hartford, son of David E. Rodrigues of Wethers-field and Denise (Langweil) Rodrigues of Marlborough, he had lived in Marlborough all his life. Derek graduated from RHAM High School and Lincoln Technical School and was an electrician in the area.



Besides his parents, he is survived by a brother, Josh Rodrigues and his wife Melanie and their children Zachary, Keenan and Jeremy, all of Marlborough; a sister, Kate Rodrigues of Marlborough; his fiancée, Kari Horton of Glastonbury; his grandparents, Jose and Evelyn Rodrigues of East Hartford and Sheila Langweil of Florida.

Friends called at the Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury, on Wednesday, Aug. 29.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Protectors of Animals. P.O. Box 24, South Glastonbury, CT 06073.

To share a memory, visit mulryanfh.com.

Portland

Christopher Cook-Guetens

Christopher John Cook, 28, of Uncasville, passed away unexpectedly in Portland Monday, Aug. 20. He was born in Norwich Jan. 22, 1984, to John and Tina (Cook) Guetens.

Christopher graduated from Montville High School in 2002. He then went on to receive his associate's degree from Three Rivers Community College. He was currently employed at Burhoe Landscaping in Unionville. Chris loved spending time using his many mechanical talents. A true Mr. Fix It, Chris could always be counted on to lend a helping hand to friends and family. He also loved being outdoors, amateur photography and spending time with the many close friends that he had made throughout high school. His smile, sense of humor and dedication to his family and friends will be sorely missed by all.

Besides his loving parents, he is survived by brothers Bryan and Tyler Guetens of Uncasville, grandmother Ellie Beetham-Ward of Uncasville, and grandfather John E. Guetens Jr. of Cheshire. He also leaves behind an uncle, Scott Cook of Uncasville; an uncle, James Cook of Oakdale; an uncle Vern Guetens of Cheshire; friend to grandfather Edward A. Cook, Pat Leonard of Lebanon; as well as many cousins.

He is predeceased by grandparents Edward A. Cook, John E. Beetham Sr., James E. Ward, and Evelyn J. Guetens as well as several aunts and uncles.

Family and friends visited the Montville Funeral Home of Church and Allen, 53 Norwich New London Tpke., Uncasville, Tuesday, Aug. 28, before a memorial service later that morning. Burial immediately followed at Comstock Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Christopher's honor to the Christopher Cook Scholarship Fund, c/o Montville High School, 800 Old Colchester Road, Oakdale, CT 06370.

Visit montvillefuneralhome.com to leave an online condolence for the Guetens family.

Colchester

Marie Rose Cooley

Marie Rose Cooley, 86, of Colchester, widow of the late Herbert C. Cooley, Jr., passed away Wednesday, Aug. 29, at the Wm. W. Backus Hospital in Norwich. Born April 1, 1926, in Berlin, N.H., she was a daughter of the late Nicodemo and Olivine (Morin) Ientile.

Mrs. Cooley worked in the bakery industry with the Bakery, Confectionery and Tobacco Workers Union for many years before her retirement. She enjoyed caring for her parrot, Sunny, but found her greatest joy in her family.

Survivors include two daughters, Carol Brooks of Middletown and Kathleen LaCob of New Hampshire; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; her sister, Dorothy Leonard of New Hampshire; her longtime companion, Charles Funk of Colchester; and numerous extended family members and friends.

Donations in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 825 Brook St., I-91 Tech Ctr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

Care of private arrangements has been entrusted to the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester. For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.