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News Bulletin

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Volume 37, Number 23

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

September 14, 2012

Remains of Missing East Hampton Woman Found

by Joshua Anusewicz

The search for a missing East Hampton woman came to an abrupt – and tragic – end Sunday, when the woman's remains were found in a remote area of Glastonbury, police announced this week.

On Tuesday, the state medical examiner's office, according to the Glastonbury Police Department, announced that the cause of death for Jini Barnum, 30, was traumatic asphyxia from neck compression, or strangulation. The death has been ruled a homicide, police said.

According to a release from Sgt. Richard McKeon, the public information officer for Glastonbury Police, the remains were found around 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 9, by a woman walking her dog on a path off of Windham Road, a remote area of Glastonbury located near the Meshomasic State Forest.

McKeon said the woman found what "was believed to be human remains," and police responded, locating a "shallow grave."

McKeon said Glastonbury Police and the Connecticut State Police Major Crimes Unit were on the scene throughout the day on Sunday, gathering evidence from the scene. Police Chief Matthew Reimondo said Wednesday East Hampton officers were also called in shortly after the discovery of the remains, as Glastonbury Police knew East Hampton was searching for a missing woman.

On Monday, Sept. 10, the state medical ex-

aminer identified the remains as those of Barnum, and the cause of death was announced the next day. As of Tuesday afternoon, police were no longer on the scene of the discovery.

Barnum had been missing since July 29, after having a disagreement with her boyfriend. Police have reported that Barnum left her Main Street home shortly after the argument and had not been seen since. Barnum's boyfriend, Anthony Garofalo, reported her missing the following day.

After roughly three weeks of investigation, East Hampton Police announced that the search for Barnum had become a criminal investigation, based on how long Barnum had been missing. Sgt. Garritt Kelly said at the time that Barnum had not had any contact with close family or friends, and was "not the type of person who would up and vanish."



Jini Barnum

This week, the investigation was centered on "retracing" what occurred July 29 and the days that followed.

"We're retracing the steps right now and we have a focus that we're pursuing," Reimondo said Wednesday.

Though the local and state police have been reticent in discussing the criminal aspect of the case, police have remained firm that Garofalo, who is believed to be the last person to have seen Barnum, is considered a suspect. Reimondo added Wednesday, though, that while Garofalo is a suspect, the police are in the process of "ruling out" other suspects before focusing the investigation on one individual.

Barnum and Garofalo have a 3-month-old daughter together; Barnum also has a 7-year-old son from a previous marriage.

Garofalo, 38, has come under scrutiny in the

case after it was announced that he was arrested on Aug. 3 for violating "special parole." He is currently being held at Hartford Correctional Center, but officials have refused to announce the reason for his parole violation.

Garofalo is a convicted felon and a registered sex offender stemming from a crime he committed in November 2001. According to a 2002 report from *The Hartford Courant*, Garofalo pled guilty to first-degree kidnapping, first-degree sexual assault, third-degree sexual assault and third-degree assault on a disabled person after he attacked and raped a deaf woman he met at a bar. In 2002, he was sentenced to eight years in prison for the crime, according to the report.

Since her disappearance, however, the focus of Barnum's family and friends has been on locating her. Members of the Middletown Eagles, a charitable organization that Barnum was a longtime member of, had organized search parties and posted fliers throughout the area over the past month in hopes of finding their friend, as well as using Facebook to share information on her possible whereabouts.

Chris Damon, a trustee from the Middletown Eagles, said Thursday members of the group have "been in a funk" since they learned of Barnum's death. Having known her for over five years, Damon said he remembers her as "a proud new mother," an avid NASCAR fan and

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Hebron Fair Draws a Happy Crowd

by Geeta Schrayter

This past Sunday, the final day of the Hebron Harvest Fair saw perfect weather. Blue skies and billowy clouds hung over eager fairgoers, and the warm temperature was coupled with a cool breeze that hinted at the changing season.

Those at the fair didn't seem to notice the leaves on the trees are starting to fade into the bright colors of autumn, however; their attention was instead focused on everything the fair had to offer. And the Hebron Harvest Fair, which is sponsored by the Hebron Lions Club and has been on end-of-summer to-do lists for 42 years, brings quite a bit to the table.

Individuals who arrived hungry found an array of treats to satiate their appetite. Pizza, hamburgers and hot dogs were aplenty, along with fare like cheese steaks and pulled pork sandwiches, gyros and wraps. There was fried dough, of course, but that wasn't the only thing bathed in oil: fried pickles, fried veggies, fried cheesecake, Oreos and Twinkies could be found as well.

For Whitney Russ of New Britain, it was the baked potato that hit the spot.

"I loved the baked potato – it made the fair!" she said of the spud smothered in broccoli, melted cheese and sour cream.

Danielle Dempsey and Olivia Gaidry of Hebron were all smiles as they enjoyed the fair on Sunday with their moms and a group of friends. For them, one of the best things about the day was a lunch that veered away from the usual.

"We had ice cream for lunch!" explained Gaidry.

Along with their hot fudge sundaes, the kids were a big fan of the rides.

Dempsey's favorite was "probably the Sky Flyer," she said, which lifts riders high into the air and swings them around in a circle – and the entire group planned to ride quite a bit more.

"We want to ride more rides," said Gaidry.

Sharon Rizzo of Enfield chose to forgo the rides as she sat with her husband – "we're a little too old," she laughed – but her grandkids were enjoying them, and Rizzo said she liked the food and the animals.

"There's something for everyone," she stated.

Along with the rides and food, the fair had plenty of entertainment. A crowd could always be found around the Dock Dogs pool, where dogs competed in an aquatics competition that judged, for example, how far a dog could jump into the pool, and how fast a dog could swim to the far end to retrieve a toy. The New York Tractor Pullers Association was on site too, and the sound of the screaming engines as they tried to pull a heavy stone boat as far as possible echoed across the grounds. There was also a dairy show, draft horse exhibition, sheep dog demonstration and a number of other events scattered about on Sunday.

Then, as 3:30 p.m. approached, many fairgoers ventured over to the Lions Stage. Some sat themselves on the grass and beneath the shade of nearby trees while others headed to lawn chairs they'd set up earlier in the day.



While attendance was slightly down overall, the Hebron Harvest Fair still packed them in last weekend, particularly on Sunday. Crowds filled the Lions Fairgrounds to see the attractions, ride the rides – and also to feast on the various culinary delights.

Hebron resident Sherri Franceschena and her mother were part of the latter group – they'd placed their chairs by the stage at about 12:30 p.m., in preparation for fair headliner and country music star Jerrod Niemann, who's known

for hits like "Lover, Lover" and "One More Drinkin' Song."

"He's great," Franceschena said, adding she liked that he played off the crowd "and just had

See Hebron Fair Page 2



The remains of Jini Barnum, an East Hampton woman missing since July, were found Sunday on this remote trail in Glastonbury near the Meshomasic State Forest. Connecticut State Police worked with police from East Hampton and Glastonbury police for two days this week, combing the area for evidence.

Barnum cont. from Front Page

an advocate for breast cancer awareness.

"She was just a good person," Damon said. "She was always giving people hugs. She was bubbly, outgoing, and well-liked by everyone." Prior to giving birth to her daughter, Barnum was employed at Dunkin' Donuts on East High Street.

Barnum was a graduate of Chemicum High School in Washington, but moved to Connecticut several years ago with her ex-husband, who now lives in New York with her son. According to Damon, Barnum still has family in Washington, as well as California and Arizona.

Not having family in the area, she was drawn to the Middletown Eagles, which Damon called "a family-oriented place." And since her fellow Eagles were like family, Damon admitted the mood has "been pretty down."

"But it has really brought a lot of people closer together," he added. "It's not how you want to see it happen, but that's been good."

Damon said a large number of Barnum's family members were in the area this week to gather information on Barnum's death, as well as to remember her life with members of the

Eagles on Wednesday night. Damon said the event provided the family with "some closure" by being around "other people who knew her well."

The Middletown Eagles have also started a trust fund in honor of Barnum, geared toward her two children. Damon said that, as of Thursday, the fund had already grown to over \$1,000. The Eagles will also hold two separate benefit events this week to raise money for the trust fund and any additional costs associated with Barnum's funeral. The first event will be a pool tournament tomorrow, Sept. 15, at 6 p.m.; the second event will be a setback tournament and pasta dinner on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 6 p.m. Both events will be held at the Middletown Eagles Club, 64 Stack St., Middletown.

As support has poured in for Barnum's friends and family, however, they are left with the same issue the police are, trying to piece together the details on what happened to Barnum.

"The final part is finding out who did this and why this happened," Damon said.

From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

It may be the most famous moustache in all of sports – it certainly is among Mets fans – and it may have only a couple more weeks of life left.

Keith Hernandez is thinking of shaving.

Hernandez, who played first base for those great Mets teams of the '80s and, since 2006, has helped call the broadcasts of Mets games on TV, told the *New York Times* he's considering showing up to the last game of the season, slated for Oct. 3, sans his iconic 'stache.

You don't have to be a Mets fan to be well-acquainted with Hernandez's facial hair. He only guest-starred in one of the greatest *Seinfeld* episodes of all time – playing himself, afraid to ask Elaine out on a date, and the unwitting object of both a man crush by Jerry and resentment by Kramer and Newman due to a spitting incident outside Shea Stadium in the late '80s. (Although I agree with Jerry; there had to have been a second spitter.) And for years, Hernandez and basketball great Walt Frazier did the commercials for Just For Men hair coloring, reminding viewers that there's "no play for Mr. Gray."

Through the years, Hernandez, 58, has kept his moustache black, thanks largely due to the Just For Men gel he was paid to endorse. But this year, in an advertising company blunder Don Draper never would have stood for, Hernandez and Frazier were dropped this year, and the Just For Men ads instead started sporting a goateed baby.

"They said our ads were stale and they wanted to go in another direction," Hernandez told the *Times* last week.

So, no longer contractually obligated to show up with his hair fully dyed whenever he appeared on TV (I kid you not; two execs even watched each Mets game to make sure no gray was sneaking in), Hernandez has, this season, been letting his moustache go natural. As a result, the *Times* reported, Hernandez's moustache has grown grayer with each passing broadcast.

(The *Times* even wrote, "Sometimes the moustache is more interesting than the game." Ouch!)

Hernandez admitted he isn't entirely comfortable with the new look, although, he said, there are more women telling him they like the moustache gray.

And now he's thinking of letting it go altogether.

It wouldn't be the first time Hernandez has been without what Ned Flanders calls the old noodle strainer. There was a no facial hair policy when he was on the Cardinals in 1977, so off it went. It returned for the 1980 season, and remained after he got traded to New York in 1983. It briefly vanished again in 1987 when Hernandez, perhaps looking to end a 10-game slump that had dropped his average from .327 to .301, shaved before a June 10 game against the Cubs. (The gambit apparently worked, as he hit two home runs that day.)

Since 1987, though, he has consistently sported that moustache.

How famous has it become over the years? In 2007, it was voted the Top Sports Moustache of All Time in a poll conducted by the American Moustache Institute.

So why get rid of it now? The *Times* didn't make it clear, and Hernandez said he doesn't want to draw attention to it. "I'll do it," he said, "and whoever's watching the game will see it." (Set your DVRs now.)

Perhaps he just wants a change; as someone who's alternated between clean-shaven and not-so-much over the years, I can appreciate that. In any event, Hernandez told the paper it'd take about a month for him to grow his moustache back, so who knows, maybe it'll be back by spring training next year, ready for another season of Mets wins and losses.

Not surprisingly, there has been a decided outcry against Hernandez's plans for the iconic 'stache. "Say it ain't so, Keith!" wrote CBS New York on its website. Meanwhile, NBC Sports' headline on the subject said it all: "Holy Crap: Keith Hernandez may shave his moustache."

I remember seeing Tom Selleck without his moustache. Burt Reynolds too. So I can probably deal with seeing Hernandez's upper lip in the nude. But it'll be weird as anything.

Holy crap is right.

And yes, folks, I just wrote an entire column about Keith Hernandez's moustache. It's good to be the editor.

See you next week.



Pictured above, the expanse of the Hebron Harvest Festival is seen from atop the Dutch Wheel. The fair had plenty of other amusements as well, including the Yoyo, top right, and other carnival rides, along with a performance by country music star Jerrod Niemann, bottom right, that pulled fairgoers away from the food and rides on Sunday afternoon.

Hebron Fair cont. from Front Page

fun." And fun was all there seemed to be had on the final day of the fair. The weather and a near record crowd made it hard to believe only the day before, a different scene ended the festivities early. Fair Superintendent John Johnson Jr. explained Tuesday the fair closed at 7:30 p.m. Saturday due to the forecast, which he said called for high winds, lightning and heavy rains.

Overall, attendance for the four-day fair was down about 15 percent from last year, a drop he said was "definitely due to the weather." Johnson said in 2011 there were about 110-115,000 attendees, compared to around 95,000 this year.

But weather aside, "we did pretty well," he

said.

For Johnson, the 2012 Hebron Harvest Fair marks his final as superintendent. This was his third year overseeing the event, and the stint is usually two.

"I'm happy with the fair," he said. "It's a very rewarding experience."

But Johnson added "it's stressful unfortunately, especially when you take the fair to heart" like he's done for the past few years.

Lion Adam Miclette will be superintendent next year, preparing for a fair that's already scheduled for Sept. 5-8, 2013. And until then, this year's fairgoers have plenty of cotton candy-hued memories to get them through.



Portland PZC Approves St. Clements Hotel Plan

by Joshua Anusewicz

You can expect crews to break ground on the project to construct a new hotel at St. Clements Castle next spring, as the town's Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously approved the project proposal at its meeting last Thursday.

Representatives from St. Clements were on hand at the meeting, as well as George Fellner, the architect for the project, and Corey Garrow, a civil engineer from the firm of Close, Jensen and Miller of Wethersfield. Each presented the final plans for the project and the various approvals the project had obtained that showed the hotel would meet all town and state requirements.

The plan to build the hotel has been in the works for nearly a decade. According to Deanna Rhodes, the town's planning and land use administrator, the proposal is considered "a modification to a special permit" that was originally approved in August 2002 and received a five-year extension in July 2007. The original approved design had plans to attach the hotel to the existing conference center of the castle,

Rhodes stated.

The new hotel facility, which will be known as the "Garden Lodge," will be located in the area just west of the "sunken garden" on the northern portion of the property. The facility will be a freestanding three-story building, with five levels of usable space that would include a top-level "penthouse" with six luxury guest rooms, two of which would be suites. The basement will include a functional multi-purpose room, patio, kitchen/dining area and spa facility with massage therapy rooms, sauna, lounge and a hair/nail salon. There will also be a reception lobby area, two multi-purpose conference rooms and a bar and lounge, as well as a helicopter landing area just south of the hotel on an existing grass field.

Fellner informed the commission that the project has gone through exhaustive measures to obtain various approvals, including meeting with the state archaeologist, meeting water requirements for fire suppression, and reaching approval from Portland Fire Marshall Ray Sajdak. Fellner added that the design for the

sewage system was also approved by the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the town engineer signed off on plans on storm water and erosion matters.

Despite the approvals, some members of the commission were hesitant to approve the plan right away. Commissioner Bruce Tyler questioned the status of a 200-square-foot structure known as the "child stone playhouse," a historic building on St. Clements grounds. According to Sal Simsek, a representative from St. Clements, the playhouse had been torn down but was expected to be rebuilt, at the request of the town's conservation commission.

The problem wasn't *if* the structure would be rebuilt, Tyler said, but when. "These plans don't say when it will happen and that's a problem," Tyler said.

Simsek replied that the timeline for the playhouse's reconstruction won't be known until a "master plan" has been developed, a process that will begin after the approval of the hotel plans. Simsek said that in the roughly two

years it will take to develop the master plan, the site will be tested and a location will be chosen for the playhouse.

John Sullivan, a consultant for St. Clements, added that the facility had "every intention" of rebuilding the playhouse, but that an exact date could not be given.

That answer didn't totally satisfy Tyler, who recommended that a stipulation be written into the proposal that the master plan – with the plan for the playhouse – be completed no later than Sept. 1, 2014, giving St. Clements two years to make a decision on the structure.

"We don't need a date tonight," he said. "We just need you to commit to a reasonable timeline." Both sides agreed, and the stipulation for the master plan's completion was added.

After a small discussion about the placement of the well that will provide water to the hotel, the board voted 5-0 to approve and sign off on the plan. According to Sullivan, St. Clements expects construction on the project to begin in the spring, with the target date for completion roughly 15-18 months away.

Portland to Save By Refinancing Bonds

by Joshua Anusewicz

Portland will save roughly \$825,000 over the next 13 years after refinancing general obligation bonds from 2003-04 that were used for the high school/middle school construction project, First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield announced this week.

According to a release from Bransfield on Monday, the town issued \$9.51 million in "refunding bonds" from the project at the recommendation of the town's financial advisor, Webster Bank, and bond counsel, the firm of Shipman and Goodwin.

The town was advised to refinance at this time due to considerably low interest rates. According to Bransfield, the Government Finance Officer's Association recommends that governments refund bonds when savings dip below a 2 percent threshold; in this case, Bransfield said, the town's savings exceeded 8.7 percent.

For the remaining term of the bond issue, the town will now pay an "all-in rate" of 1.77 percent, down from between 3-4 percent, Bransfield said. The term of the bond issue has not been extended, she added.

"It's certainly going to help us," she said, adding, "It will save the taxpayers money and

that's always our goal."

Bransfield said that she and Tom Robinson, the town's director of finance, have monitored the "refunding environment" over the past six to eight months, along with the guidance of the financial advisor and bond counsel. When the decision was made to refinance, the bonds were sold by negotiation with the firm Piper Jaffray & Co.

Aside from saving money, Bransfield also said that the refinancing "reaffirmed" the town's "Aa3" rating by Moody's Investor's Service. Bransfield said that in its review of the town, Moody's said that the rating reflects "manageable debt burden and stable financial operations with healthy general fund reserves."

"It shows good financial oversight by our town staff and the Board of Selectmen," Bransfield said.

At the next Board of Selectmen meeting, representatives from Webster Bank will be on hand to explain the process of the refinancing and how the town will save money. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 19, at 7 p.m. at the Portland Public Library, 20 Freestone Ave.

Watt Recovering Following Heart Attack

by Geeta Schrayter

Hebron Board of Selectmen Chairman Jeff Watt is currently recovering at home after suffering a minor heart attack – and a gallbladder infection, too.

Watt explained Tuesday he started to feel symptoms Monday, Aug. 27, but at first he thought it was an asthma attack.

"So I stayed home," he said. "I was just going to sleep it off, then go back to work the next day."

But when he awoke the next day, his blood pressure and pulse were high, so he decided to go to the Marlborough Medical Center to try and have it regulated. It was there that he learned it wasn't an asthma attack at all.

"When I got in there [the doctors] said 'You're not having an asthma attack; you're having a heart attack,' and they rushed me to Hartford Hospital," he said.

Watt stated a clot was removed from the back of his heart and a stint was put in place. He said he was actually "feeling very good" by Tuesday night and was moved out of intensive care into a regular room on Wednesday. But then, Wednesday night rolled around

and he began to have "terrible pain" in the area of his stomach: the pain turned out to be a gallbladder infection.

"So right up until Wednesday of last week [Sept. 5], they were trying to get the infection of the gallbladder down" and "get the medications right between the heart and the gallbladder," Watt explained.

Watt returned home last Friday, Sept. 7, but will have to return to the hospital in about a month to have his gall bladder removed. The operation couldn't take place immediately since he's on blood thinners for his heart. Watt is expected to be out of work for about two more weeks, but he has no intention of being idle. He noted he isn't confined to the house, can drive – and even went to an executive session with the Board of Selectmen regarding the town manager's position Monday night.

"I just have to be very careful of how much I do and not overdo it," he said.

But as far as the upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting on Sept. 20, "I'll definitely be there," Watt said with certainty.

East Hampton Fire Commission Forges On After Resignations

by Joshua Anusewicz

The future of the East Hampton Fire Commission has been in jeopardy in recent weeks as three of its members – including the chairman – abruptly resigned last month.

At the commission's meeting on Monday at the Company One Firehouse, however, the two remaining members and a few town officials reassured the group of firefighters assembled that the commission would move on from the resignations and begin the process of appointing new members.

To that point, the town has already started accepting applications from interested residents to fill the positions vacated by former chairman David Simko, Richard Brown and Dean Michelson. The new members would join Richard Dufour and Leroy Goff, who elected to remain on the commission.

Adding to the abruptness of the resignations is the unknown reason for the three men to step down from the commission. Though some have speculated that personality clashes are to blame, officials have remained tight-lipped as to why

the commissioners resigned.

"I don't know the whole story and I'm not sure we'll ever know," said Town Council member Barbara Moore Wednesday. "At this point, we just have to move forward."

Moore was present at Monday's meeting, along with Town Council Chairwoman Sue Weintraub and Board of Finance Chairman Matthew Walton. With only two sitting members on the commission, parts of the meeting had an awkward feel to it, beginning with the appointment of Dufour as chairman and Goff as vice chairman. Each man recommended the other for the spot, and then looked to him for the consenting vote.

The fact that only two members remained on the board eventually led to some in attendance questioning the appropriateness of the meeting. Moore, after calling the commission "a really great group of guys," stated that the commission should wait and reconvene when a full commission is in place. A firefighter also

questioned whether the commission needed a quorum to hold the meeting in the first place.

Dufour, who admitted that he considered canceling the meeting, announced that he had spoken with Town Manager Michael Maniscalco and a town attorney, both of which informed him that the meeting could be held. Dufour said the commission follows town regulations, not state regulations, for holding a meeting; for the meeting to be held, Dufour said the commission needs "half of the sitting members, plus one."

That the two remaining members of the commission elected to go through the trouble to hold the meeting wasn't lost on those in attendance.

"We're going forward with the things that need to be taken care of, and I'm glad that you're both staying on to be a part of it," Weintraub said.

Weintraub informed the commission that the town has received a number of "great applications" that the council's appointments subcom-

mittee would be reviewing beginning this week. The hope, Weintraub added, is that the positions would be filled by the commission's October meeting.

The commission and the firefighters were relieved to hear that. "Thank you for the support; we really appreciate it," said Assistant Fire Chief Marty Swan.

Moore, a member of the appointments subcommittee, said Wednesday the council will be presented five candidates for the position and four new members will be chosen, as Dufour's term will be up at the end of November. Moore said the council generally does not review the appointments to commissions and vote, but she felt that the whole board should be involved because of the "importance of the commission."

"I think it will be good for the council to talk to each person, face to face," Moore said. The fire commission will hold its next meeting on Monday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Company One Firehouse, 3 Barton Hill Rd.

Concerns Raised in East Hampton Over Tax Deferral Program

by Joshua Anusewicz

At a regular meeting of the Town Council on Tuesday, the construction of a new commercial building on Route 66 brought about a lengthy discussion of the town's tax deferral policy, a program that provides tax relief for property owners building new developments.

The proposal first came to the council at its last meeting in August, brought to the table by prominent local property owner Wayne Rand. According to Rand, construction has begun on a new commercial building at 201 W. High St., which will house four separate businesses.

At that August meeting, Rand came before the council to ask for approval to take part in the town's tax deferral program, which would allow for the property to be taxed at a lower percentage of the property's worth for a certain amount of years. Rand's request was met positively by some members of the council, but some had trepidation over what seemed like incomplete paperwork that Rand had provided. Some council members also wondered why the proposal had not been seen by the Economic Development Commission (EDC); the council eventually pushed back approving Rand's requesting, asking that the proper paperwork be completed and that the EDC review the proposal.

According to Town Manager Michael Maniscalco, the cost to construct the building has been estimated at \$275,000. With the tax deferral, Rand would pay taxes on 50 percent of the property's value in the first year and 75

percent of the property's value in the second year. The property would then return to its normal assessment after two years, Maniscalco said.

On Tuesday, Rand presented the council with the updated paperwork and announced that the application had gone through the EDC for review. Councilor Ted Hintz, Jr. made a motion to approve the application, but the motion was met with some resistance by other councilors.

Councilor Kyle Dostaler commented that the language of the town's tax deferral program was outdated – having been written in the 1980s – and seemed to be “a taxpayer gift.”

“It's fundamentally flawed,” Dostaler said of the resolution. “I think it needs to be looked at.”

Councilor George Pfaffenbach agreed that the language of the resolution needed to be looked at, but added that it was not fair to punish Rand for the town's flawed program. “I definitely don't think we should have a moratorium,” he said.

Dostaler disagreed. “It's not fair to the taxpayers,” he said, adding, “They're going to have to pick up that slack.”

Taking it another step was councilor Derek Johnson, who said there was no official report from the EDC that supported the project application, and that a letter of support from town building official Jim Carey and assessor Carol Ann Tyler had not been provided to the council.

“How is it we are supposed to grant the deferral when there is no report saying that all of the criteria have been met?” Johnson asked. “There is nothing here tonight that shows this project is compatible [with the tax deferral program].”

Hintz then questioned Johnson's motive for bringing this concern to the council at that time.

“Why is it, after two sessions of council, that you're coming up with reason after reason to put off this decision?” Hintz asked heatedly.

Johnson left that answer to the council. “If the council wants to vote on this, we can,” he replied.

Councilor Barbara Moore sided with Hintz and Pfaffenbach.

“I'm embarrassed we're even talking about this. It's not a lot of money,” Moore said. “I just feel like we're not supporting this town's businesses if we don't approve this.”

The council seemed split until Vice Chairman Glenn Suprono weighed in, throwing his support behind Rand.

“[Rand] has done a lot of business in this town and I trust the history behind Mr. Rand and his enterprise,” Suprono said. “I don't feel it's fair to penalize him for the failure in our own system.”

The motion was then brought to a vote, which passed 5-2. Johnson and Dostaler cast the dissenting votes.

Achieving more unanimous support was a

proposed “Second Reading Policy,” which would require items brought before the council to be discussed at two meetings or more before action was taken on the matter.

The idea was hatched by Maniscalco, who presented the council with a draft of the policy that was reviewed and approved by a town attorney. Maniscalco said the policy would alleviate recent issues of items being pushed onto the council for approval at the last minute.

“We're trying to slow down the process so the council has a chance to review the matter and give you an opportunity to talk to your constituents,” Maniscalco said to the council. He added that in the case of an emergency, the policy could be waived if voted on by a “supermajority” of the council.

The draft was well-received. “This is great to have in place,” said Chairwoman Sue Weintraub. She added that town staff would also be made aware of the policy, so that town employees would not attempt to push across an item in hopes of a quick approval.

“I agree that it's useful only if staff is aware” of the policy, Johnson said. “We need that lag time.”

The proposed policy will be discussed again.

The next regular meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 6:30 p.m. at East Hampton High School, 15 N. Maple St.

Reich Stepping Down as East Hampton Asst. Superintendent

by Joshua Anusewicz

On Nov. 1, one of the longest-serving members of the East Hampton school system, Assistant Superintendent Kevin Reich, will retire from his post.

The announcement was made at Monday's Board of Education meeting.

“Throughout my tenure, I have had the opportunity of working with many dedicated Board of Education members, town officials and superintendents who provided support and guidance,” Reich stated in a letter to the school board. “I am also grateful to have been able to work side by side with gifted and resourceful administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries, nurses, cafeteria staff, custodians, technology staff and central office staff who assisted me throughout my career.”

Reich's decision to step down comes several months after his superior, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Judith Golden, announced that she would retire at the end of 2012. The school board is currently stuck with the task of finding a replacement for Golden, and will now be doing the same for Reich – who quipped this week he's leaving some big shoes to fill.

“It's going to be hard to find someone who



Kevin Reich

does what I do,” Reich said wittily on Wednesday. But it would be difficult to prove him incorrect. Since he joined the school district in the early 1970s, Reich has held positions at various levels, chipping in wherever he was needed.

The journey began, Reich said, when he became a fourth grade teacher in 1972, a position he held for seven years. He then moved on to teaching sixth grade for three years, eventually filling a temporary role in the central offices beginning in 1983.

Reich said that at the time, the district was between superintendents and needed some help in the central offices. He was recommended to fill an interim role, at which he excelled to the extent that the new superintendent, William Breck, kept Reich on as the district's business manager. That position ultimately morphed into the director of curriculum, which would also include administrative services like maintenance and transportation.

Those services, Reich said, didn't always mean just sitting in the office. At one point, the driver of the school van was unavailable. “Guess who filled in?” Reich said with a laugh.

The same thing happened when the district's groundskeeper wasn't in to help manicure the athletic fields. “You name it, I've done it,” Reich said.

Reich would eventually top out at assistant superintendent, a major milestone in any educator's career. But his most important memory from his time in East Hampton schools

was when he met his future wife, Joanne, the principal of Memorial School, in 1993.

Reich said that not long after the two were married, Joanne was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, a disease she battled until her death in January 2000. The two adopted a son, Matthew, now 16, shortly after his birth in 1996.

Looking back on that time, Reich couldn't say enough about the community's support.

“Your kindness, support and prayers during my wife Joanne's illness and the assistance you provided me and my son, Matthew, following her passing is something I will always cherish,” Reich stated in his letter.

His commitment to family, Reich said, certainly played a role in his decision to retire. Reich said part of his reason for retiring was to spend more time with his son, who will be leaving for college in two years, and his 98-year-old father. He also added that since he has been an employee for so long, there was no “pay benefit” to staying in his position, as there would be no salary increase.

Though Reich may be retiring as assistant superintendent, he will by no means become a stranger to the school system. The Board of Education announced Reich will remain on central office staff as the “director of operations,” a position created to help bridge the gap as the school board decides how the structure of the school administration will be configured.

Board of Education Chairman Mark Laraia said Wednesday that there would be “no better

person for the job” of operations director, a part-time position that will see Reich work 80 days until Oct. 31, 2013.

Still, while he's sticking around in a part-time fashion, Laraia said Reich's impending retirement would be a “loss” for not only the school district, but the entire town.

“He's been here for such a long time,” Laraia said. “His roots are here. He's a big part of this community. Him and Dr. Golden have been a great team.”

It has yet to be determined how the board plans to proceed with the two upcoming vacancies at the top of the district, Laraia said. He said the hope is to hire a superintendent and have that individual choose how to move forward, either with a new superintendent or the creation of a new position. Laraia said that the search for a new superintendent is “going well” right now, and the school board hopes to hire a candidate by the end of the year.

Laraia did say, however, that Reich would not fade off into the sunset, particularly during budget season, something Reich said he is fully prepared for.

“They might ask me to help with some things, and I have a sneaking suspicion I'll be getting a few calls,” said Reich.

Judging by how often he's pitched in over the years, you can't blame Reich for thinking that. And due to the exemplary job he's done over the years as an educator, you can't blame the school board for wanting him there.

Hebron Police News

8/30: Gregory Bader, 18, of 64 Jerry Daniels Rd., Marlborough, was charged with DUI and improper turn, following a one-car crash on Jones Street, State Police said. According to police, the vehicle left the roadway and rolled. A passenger in the vehicle, Richard A. Walz Jr., 21, of 63A Lafayette Rd., Marlborough, was transported to Marlborough Clinic due to reports of pain, police said.

9/5: Jimmy Byrd, 52, of 24232 Painter Dr., Land O Lakes, Fla., was charged with first-degree reckless endangerment and operating a crane without a license, State Police said.

9/10: Mario Sessa, 61, of 94 Old Andover Rd., Hebron, was charged with disorderly conduct, third-degree assault and risk of injury to a minor, State Police said.

Marlborough Police News

9/8: Mark Brinkerhoff, 61, of 498 Forbes St., East Hartford, was charged with DUI, speeding and failure to drive in proper lane, State Police said.

9/10: Timothy Foley, 55, of 1 Foote Rd., Hebron, turned himself in to Troop K and was charged with third-degree burglary, sixth-degree larceny, State Police said.

East Hampton Police News

8/18: A 15-year-old juvenile of East Hampton was issued a summons for third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, East Hampton Police said.

8/23: Two 14- and two 15-year-old juveniles of East Hampton were issued summonses for third-degree burglary, third-degree criminal mischief and conspiracy to commit third-degree burglary and third-degree criminal mischief, police said.

8/31: Tiffany Jean Dellacamera, 24, of 159 Main St., was arrested for third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, police said.

9/5: Michael Christopher Poe, 37, of 88 Main St., Apt. 1, was arrested on four counts of first-degree failure to appear and two counts of second-degree failure to appear, police said.

Portland Police News

9/6: A 17-year-old male was arrested for second-degree falsely reporting an incident and second-degree breach of peace, Portland Police said.

9/8: Rickey Haney, 25, of 50 Curtis Ave., Bristol, was charged with third-degree assault, second-degree threatening and third-degree criminal mischief, police said.

Andover BOE Discusses School Bus Cameras, Musical Instruments

by Geeta Schrayter

At Wednesday's Board of Education meeting, the start of a new school year meant the election of officers for the year – and the slate stayed the same.

Jay Lindy was unanimously re-elected as chairman, Christina Tamburro as vice chairwoman, and Whitney Covell as secretary.

Once elections were taken care of, the board moved along with the other business of the night. Members approved approximately \$1,800 for the purchase of six cameras for the rear of the district's buses. Last year, the buses were fitted with new cameras in the front of the bus, but after reviewing one of the videos, Superintendent of Schools Andy Maneggia explained it was difficult to discern the children sitting in the back.

"The way the camera is situated now, it can capture a good part of the bus driver and half-way back you can pick out kids," he said. But from halfway back to the rear, the kids can't really be discerned until they're exiting the bus. "We thought one camera would do the job, but it doesn't."

Maneggia said there was "no comparison" between the old cameras and the new ones. "What we have is far superior," he said.

The new cameras start to record as soon as the bus starts. They have audio, and the option for the bus driver to push a button and flag a certain area if an incident occurs for easier review. The hard drives will also record for about 30 days before starting over.

The motion to approve the purchase of six additional cameras passed unanimously.

* * *

The use of musical instruments at the school was also discussed. Maneggia explained there are a number of students who use school instruments during the year as opposed to renting them from a music store. The general fee for the latter, he said, is anywhere from \$30-50 for the first few months. Afterwards, parents usually enter into a lease-to-purchase agreement costing \$50-70 per month depending on the cost of the instrument.

Currently, Maneggia said there is no fee for use of the school's instruments but after they're returned, the school incurs the cost of sending them out to be cleaned and make any necessary repairs.

"We're proposing a rental charge for the use of school instruments," he said. "This is not an attempt to make money, the attempt is to break even, and if we start accumulating some money in that particular account, then there's always the need to replace some instruments and we'll use those for that."

Maneggia added the interest in music has increased "dramatically" and the school would like to be able to grow the program. He also stated if a family was unable to pay the fee – which was proposed at \$50 – the school would use the same criterion that's used to determine if a student is eligible for free or reduced lunch to see if they're eligible to get the instrument free.

"It's a big win for the parents because they don't have to buy one," said Lindy.

The motion to charge \$50 for the use of school instruments, with the funds to be ear-

marked specifically for the band program, passed unanimously.

* * *

Board members also approved an asbestos management plan and an asbestos monitoring contract. As required by the state, the school is required to maintain an ongoing record of their asbestos abatement. Maneggia explained for a number of years the school didn't file certain reports "because I thought that once the school was approved as per the state, you didn't have to do it anymore – but you have to every six months."

"The last time the school was in compliance was when it was part of the regional school district," said Maneggia. (The school has not been a part of the district since 1997.) "So from that period of time until there was a review [about a year and a half ago] there were certain inspections that should have been made but weren't."

He added the school was "missing some paperwork, that's really what it boiled down to."

To make the school compliant, an asbestos management plan needed to be created. Maneggia said it took a "considerable amount of time" but didn't change anything at the school. "Everything is exactly the same way it was prior to when we did this, with the exception of probably six to eight elbows in tunnels that had asbestos in them" which was then sealed.

"The good news is we're in compliance, and most importantly there was never any kind of danger to anyone," he said.

The motion to approve the plan passed unani-

mously.

In addition to the plan, Maneggia said to remain in compliance, a licensed technician needs to inspect the building every six months. The results of the inspection will be given to Maneggia who will then use them to fill out a form to be sent to the Department of Health "and we'll remain current."

The motion to approve an agreement with Fuss & O'Neill EnviroScience, LLC for asbestos surveillance passed unanimously.

* * *

The board also ratified the hiring of third-grade teacher Karen Nixon. After screening close to 100 applicants, Nixon was offered the teaching position in July.

Nixon graduated earlier this year from the University of Connecticut with a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education and a Master of Arts degree in curriculum and instruction. In addition, she has a minor in Spanish, a specialization in math and was on the Dean's List.

Maneggia explained under board policy, the superintendent has the authority to hire staff, and then the action of the superintendent is ratified by the Board of Education.

"So I'm asking you to ratify the appointment," he said.

The motion to ratify the appointment of Nixon passed unanimously.

* * *

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 10, at 7 p.m. in the Andover Elementary School library.

Andover Elementary School Does 'Very Well' on CMTs

by Geeta Schrayter

Superintendent of Schools Andy Maneggia discussed the results of the Connecticut Mastery Tests with the Board of Education Wednesday, and said the school "continues to do very well."

The test results are "a reflection of the efforts of our teaching staff and the commitment of the parents and our students," he said.

Maneggia explained if the results are looked at longitudinally, the growth of students can be tracked and "significant growth" can be seen from grades three to six. But, he added, "there are still some ups and downs in different areas."

In the third grade, 87.8 percent of students scored at or above state goals in math, while 80.5 percent scored at or above in reading and 73.2 percent scored at or above in writing. The scores for reading and writing are both a slight decrease from last year's third-graders, who scored 80.9 percent and 83.3 percent, respectively, while the math score is an increase over last year's 66.8 percent.

In the fourth grade, 81.6 percent of students scored at or above goal in math while 81.6 percent scored at or above in reading. Finally, 78 percent scored at or above state goal in math. All three scores are a decrease from last year, when 91.2 percent of students scored at or above

in math, 94.1 percent scored at or above in reading and 91.4 percent scored at or above goal in writing.

Fifth-grade math increased from 91.4 percent in 2011 to 97.1 percent this year, while reading increased from 62.9 percent of students at or above goal in 2011 to 91.2 percent in 2012. Writing, however, decreased from 86.5 percent to 82.9 percent.

In the sixth grade, science and math increased over the prior year, but reading and writing decreased. Science increased 18.3 percent over last year to 88.6 percent of students at or above state goal. Eighty percent of students scored at or above goal in math this year, a 12 percent increase over last year. But reading saw a 6.8 percent decrease to 86.8 percent of students at or above state goal, and writing decreased.

"We slipped a little bit in writing," said Maneggia. He explained school staff "is taking a look at that on a grade level basis to see what efforts can be made to improve that achievement."

Maneggia also highlighted the fact the scores that were presented were only the students who achieved at or above the state goals. He explained many districts choose to include those students who scored "proficient or higher," and

if Andover had chosen to do so, their numbers would have increased.

"For instance, in third grade the math score is 87.8 percent and proficient is 94.1 percent," he said. "I prefer not to issue these because our objective is to get all kids at goal or higher."

He added it would be easy to report these scores as well, and the numbers would be "way up there," but he said "that isn't the yard stick we'll be using."

Principal Dave Griffin added he needed to "gloat a little," and shared the fifth-grade math score for students at or above goal was the first in the state out of 169 towns. Fifth-grade reading was sixth in the state, and in science, where Griffin said the school was in "the low 60-percent" when the section was first implemented, the school was 14th in the state.

All of the school's scores were also above the state average.

"I think it's just a credit to all the support [Maneggia] has given in making sure teachers have what they need, the change in some of the curriculum and certainly the board's support in so many areas," he said.

"We do have work," Griffin added. "We always have work but as a board we need to be pretty proud of the students coming through

here."

"The board can feel pretty comfortable with the scores," said Maneggia. "There's room for improvement – we're always striving for more, but we hold our own."

Individual CMT scores are in the process of being sent home to parents.

Also at the meeting, Maneggia shared the school had met the requirements in the Annual Performance Report and the CMT District Targets from the state.

"So as far as the school is concerned, we meet the requirements based on the indicators they show," he said.

Indicators in the Annual Performance Report – which replaces the Adequate Yearly Progress report – include measuring child progress, participation in assessments, suspension rates and special education at the school.

For the CMT District Performance Target, Maneggia explained the school met the targets, and was therefore required by the state "to maintain what we're doing now."

"If we had not met approval, there would have been a number of things saying we have to do this and that," he said. "What the state is saying to us in essence is 'maintain the performance of your students.'"

Gunshots Fired Near WJJMS

by Mike Thompson

A report of "concerning noises" outside William J. Johnston Middle School led to the arrest of a local man Tuesday on charges he was firing off his guns in the rear of his residence.

As there is no air conditioning at WJJMS, teachers had their windows open Tuesday afternoon and, at around 12:45 p.m., noticed "concerning noises" coming from outside, Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Matthieu said. Matthieu said the teachers notified the school principal, who then notified state police.

Police responded, heard the noises and determined they were gunshots, Matthieu said. Police said a search of the area led to the location and arrest of Michael Brinson, 42, of 252 Norwich Ave., Apt. G.

WJJMS is located at 360 Norwich Ave. According to police, Brinson admitted to discharging a handgun and a shotgun at the rear of his residence. Police said he was found to be under the influence of alcohol, and also did not possess a state pistol permit.

The weapons were located and seized, police said, and Brinson was taken into custody without incident.

Brinson was charged with carrying a pistol without a permit, unlawful discharge of firearms, illegal carrying of firearm under the influence of alcohol or drugs, tampering with or fabricating physical evidence and breach of peace, police said.

While the police investigation was going on, Matthieu said, gym classes that were being held outside were brought inside, simply as a precaution.

While Matthieu is relatively new to the school superintendent role – taking over for departing Karen Loiselle-Goodwin just last month – Tuesday's incident was not exactly a trial by fire for him. Matthieu noted he was principal of Bacon Academy for 13 years, and as such, "I dealt with my series of crises."

Brinson was released on a \$1,000 surety bond, police said. He is due to appear Thursday, Sept. 20, at Norwich Superior Court.

Colchester Police News

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

8/28: John P. Smith, 46, of 640 Old Hartford Rd., was charged with third-degree criminal mischief and disorderly conduct, Colchester Police said.

8/28: Jamison Ray Cole, 37, of 58 Connecticut Blvd., Oakdale, was charged with second-degree harassment and criminal violation of a protective order, State Police said.

8/30: John C. Didato, 19, of 30 Deer Run, East Haddam, was charged with DUI and unnecessary noise/defective muffler/horn/excess smoke/exhaust, Colchester Police said.

8/31: Roosevelt Grant, 23, of 178 New State Rd., Apt. 21, Manchester, was charged with criminal violation of a protective order, State Police said.

9/5: Rafal Dinde, 29, of 60 Queen Terr.,

Southington, was charged with third-degree criminal trespassing, State Police said.

9/5: Mariusz Warszawik, 29, of 28 Crossbow Ln., Middletown, was charged with second-degree criminal trespassing, State Police said.

9/6: Jacob Kniska, 23, of 315 Carli Blvd. was arrested on a warrant for second-degree failure to appear, State Police said.

9/7: Joshua T. Bucchere, 19, of 678 Beaumont Hwy, Lebanon, turned himself in to Troop K for third-degree burglary, sixth-degree larceny, conspiracy to commit third-degree burglary and conspiracy to commit sixth-degree larceny, State Police said.

9/8: Jose Figueroa, 42, of 100 Maple St., East Hartford, turned himself in to Troop K for third-degree burglary, sixth-degree larceny, credit card theft and illegal use of a credit card, State Police said.

Obituaries

Colchester

Mildred Fiondella

Mildred (Metzler) Fiondella, 91, passed away Saturday, Sept. 1, at the Harrington Court nursing home in Colchester after a battle with cancer. Born in Cheshire on April 5, 1921, she was the daughter of Benjamin and Helen Metzler. She married Marshall J. Fiondella on Dec. 23, 1942, in Verplanck, N.Y.

Mildred was preceded in death by husband Marshall Fiondella Sr., son Marshall Fiondella Jr., Benjamin Metzler and Helen Metzler (parents), brothers Edwin, Thomas and Benjamin Metzler, sister, Martha Wills, and daughter-in-law, Anna (Morse) Fiondella.

She is survived by her children, William, Daniel, Joseph, Marie, Christine and Carolyn and their spouses; sisters, Georgina Hendrick, Dorothy Metzler and Joseph Metzler and several nieces and nephews.

There are no calling hours and service will be at graveside Saturday, Sept. 15, at St. Andrew's Cemetery in Colchester. It will be given by Chaplain Christopher Reinisch of Hospice.

Portland

Beatrice Lacaillade

Beatrice (Booska) Lacaillade, 89, died surrounded by her family Saturday, Sept. 8, at Water's Edge Health and Rehab Center after a long illness.

Born July 7, 1923 in Bristol, Vt., she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Delia (Patenaude) Booska. She was a Portland resident for many years before moving to Haddam. Beatrice was an avid animal lover and enjoyed feeding the birds when she was able.

She is survived by her daughter, Linda Saraceno of Haddam; son and daughter-in-law, Edward and Janice Lacaillade of Portland; five grandchildren, Michelle Armetta and her fiancé, Sean Condon, Brian Lacaillade and wife, Kelly, David Saraceno and wife Kate, Amy Yanosy and husband Steve, and Thomas Lacaillade Jr.; seven great-grandchildren, Anthony and April Armetta, Noah and Nicole Lacaillade, Jacob and Addison Yanosy and Graham Saraceno; a brother, Lawrence Booska and sister-in-law, Leona Booska; and nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by a son, Thomas R. Lacaillade; a son-in-law, Richard Saraceno; a granddaughter, Lisa Price; stepfather, John Thomas; brother, Alfred Booska; and sister-in-law, Lucille Booska.

Services will be private and at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Beatrice's memory may be made to the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Rd., Newington, CT 06111.

Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, has care of arrangements.

Colchester

Catherine Josephine King

Catherine Josephine King, 103, of Colchester and formerly of Waterbury, went home to the Lord peacefully Monday, Sept. 10. Born Feb. 5, 1909, in Waterbury, she was a daughter of the late John and Anna (Healion) Meskell.

Mrs. King was a secretary for Saxe & Floto Greenhouse in Waterbury for 32 years before her retirement in 1977. Catherine enjoyed being active and bowled for many years in a variety of leagues as well as line dancing in the Waterbury area. She loved chocolate, UConn basketball, the Boston Red Sox, playing cards and most importantly, her family and friends.

A devout and faithful Catholic, she was a long-time communicant of SS. Peter and Paul Church in Waterbury and later worshipped at St. Andrew in Colchester.

She leaves her daughter, Nancy Rosa of Watertown; her daughter-in-law, Daryl King of Bridgeport; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her two sons, Leo C. King Jr. and John King; her son-in-law, Thomas Rosa; six siblings; and her longtime companion, William "Bill" Mackiewicz.

The funeral liturgy will be celebrated at 11 a.m. today, Sept. 14, directly at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester. The family will receive guests starting at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

Graveside services will follow at 2:45 p.m. today at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, 669 Platt Rd., Watertown.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to the staff at Harrington Court in Colchester for the loving care extended to Catherine throughout the years.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Office of Radio & TV, Archdiocese of Hartford, 15 Peach Orchard Rd., Prospect, CT 06712.

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

Portland

Jean M. Robinson

Jean M. Robinson, 75, of Portland, wife of Matthew E. Robinson passed away Saturday, Sept. 8, at Middlesex Hospital. She was the daughter of the late Dominic and Rena (Brignano) Sala.

Born Oct. 18, 1936, in Hartford, she was raised in West Hartford, moved to Norwalk and lived in Norwalk and Wilton for over 30 years. Jean was a graduate of Central Connecticut State University and received a master's degree from Fairfield University. She was a teacher for the Darien School System for 30 years before retiring. She was a member of the Church of St. Mary in Portland, and she enjoyed playing golf and tennis.

Besides her husband, she leaves a sister, Claire Henson of Manchester; brother-in-law, Albert Fournier of East Hartford; nieces and nephews, Linda and Dan Devlin of Manchester, Elaine and James Twomey of North Andover, Mass., David and Anne Fournier of South Windsor, Edward and Michelle Fournier of Hebron, Kathy and John Rook of Andover, Kim and Steve Sullivan of Alpharetta, Ga., Sharon and Steve Palmer of Norwalk, Lauren Spear of Weston, Gregory Robinson of Las Vegas, Nev., Kathy Brown of Tampa, Fla., Michael Robinson of Syracuse, N.Y., Tom Robinson of Clinton, Mass., Brian and Kristen Robinson of Syracuse, N.Y., Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Murphy of Manilus, N.Y., Michael and Eileen Roberts of Virginia and Patricia Robinson of Syracuse, N.Y.

She was predeceased by a sister, Lorraine Fournier and nephews, Tommy and Kevin Henson.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Sept. 13, from Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, with a Mass at the Church of St. Mary, 51 Freestone Ave., Portland. Burial was in Swedish Cemetery, Portland. Relatives and friends called Wednesday, Sept. 12, at the funeral home.

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

To send an online expression of sympathy, visit portlandmemorialfh.net.

Portland

Connie Ferrigno Chowaniec

Connie (Ferrigno) Chowaniec, 93, wife of the late Joseph J. Chowaniec, passed away July 6. She and her husband were longtime residents of 6 Russell Ave., Portland. She was born in Middletown March 23, 1919, the daughter of the late Antonio and Michela (Ranno) Ferrigno.

She is survived by her beloved daughter, Duane Marie Chowaniec; a sister, Rose (Ferrigno) Shefcyk, both of Portland; and many nieces and nephews.

She was a supervisor of the sewing room at Harlow Products Corporation in Middletown for 31 years. They originally were manufacturers of large squad tents and flying suits, worn by our bomber crews during World War II, specialty items, including plastic coated baby bibs, Pandees and ladies garments. She worked hard and was a great example to all who knew her. Always unselfishly caring for others and her wonderful sense of humor. She will be remembered for her cooking and entertaining by her family, friends and relatives, that later inspired her to become the owner/operator of Connie's Catering Service.

She loved to travel, taking long motor trips to Oregon, California, Washington, Montana, Maine and Vermont. Also enjoying local all-day trips with her daughter, and days at the seashore blue-crabbing.

She was predeceased by her brothers James, Anthony, John, Louis and Joseph Ferrigno, and sisters Martha Bartelotta and Marie Murdock. She was also predeceased by her nephew, Peter Ferrigno, who she lovingly gave wonderful care for many years. She always had a special place in her heart for her beloved Peter. She was also predeceased by several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held July 11 at the Coughlin-Lastrina Funeral Home, Middletown, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Portland. Burial was in the family plot in St. Mary's Cemetery in Portland.

Portland

Joseph George Lynch

Joseph George Lynch, born Aug. 12, 1924, formerly of Covell Hill Road in Portland, passed away at his residence in Hartford Monday, Sept. 10. Joe Lynch was the oldest of four children born to Joseph C. and Marie H. Lynch of East Orange, N.J.

Joe was known for his considerable accomplishments, his loyalty, generosity, quick wit, humor and adventuresome spirit. Following his high school graduation at age 16, Joe briefly attended Miami University in Ohio before enlisting in the service. Joe served in World War II as navigator on B17 bombers flying missions over Europe, earning three Purple Hearts for his valor.

Following his discharge, Joe attended what he referred to as the "finest educational institution in the world," Wesleyan University in Middletown, where he earned an A.B. with honors in government. After graduating in 1947, Joe served during the 80th Congress as administrative assistant to Connecticut's U.S. Senator, Raymond E. Baldwin.

Following his graduation from Harvard Law School in 1951, Joe joined the law firm of Halloran, Sage, Phelon & Haggarty. He remained with this firm throughout his 60-year career as the six man firm grew from its location in a small brick two-story house on Lewis Street in Hartford to include over 80 lawyers and offices in six different Connecticut locations as well as an office in Washington D.C.

Joe became a noted trial attorney, concentrating in the fields of aviation law, product liability, probate and education law. Joe later served as a parajudicial officer in the U.S. District Court assisting in the mediation, arbitration, and settlement of civil law suits. Joe also served as Portland's town counsel and was judge of probate for the town of Portland for two decades. In addition, Joe was legal counsel to Wesleyan University for many years. In May of 2004, Joe was much honored to receive the Raymond E. Baldwin Medal, Wesleyan's highest honor awarded by the alumni body for extraordinary service to the university and to the public.

Joe was a member of the board of directors of New England Air Museum, the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, the Rockfall Foundation, as well as vice chairman of the State of Connecticut Insurance and Risk Management Board. In 2003, he received the Secretary of State Public Service Award. Joe was a Life Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, The American Bar Foundation and was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 1982.

Joe's loyalty is exemplified by his relationship with Wesleyan. Many people have been touched by Joe's allegiance to Wesleyan, both figuratively and literally. If you have ever sported a cardinal stuck to your clothing, you have met JGL. From the early 1950s into the 21st century, Joe attended all but one of Wesleyan's football games both home and away. Joe was noted for his tailgate refreshments and for hosting an annual end-of-the-season party after the Wesleyan vs. Trinity game. The winning team determined the color of the tie Joe wore to the party. In 1999, Wesleyan again recognized Joe, naming him "Fan of the Century."

Joe was also a loyal member of the former University Club and then very active in the Hartford Canoe Club, where he often entertained family and friends. Joe enjoyed many dances at the Canoe Club, liked Broadway musicals, big band music and jazz, and joined in singing Wesleyan songs or Irish tunes whenever the occasion presented itself.

Joe Lynch's generosity was legend and perhaps best symbolized by his tradition of serving Sunday morning breakfast. If the flag was on the front door, Joe himself served breakfast from 7 a.m. to noon to anyone and everyone who entered, from the newspaper boy to the governor. Sunday breakfast crowds could top 60 people.

While rehabilitating from his war wounds, Joe met his future wife Lieutenant Vicky Hamilton who was serving as a physical therapist. Joe and Vicky were married in April of 1946 and established their first residence in Portland. When Joe completed law school, the couple returned to live in Portland where they raised four children and continued to reside until Vicky passed away in 2003. The neighbors of their Covell Hill home and the Portland community enriched their lives as well as the lives of their children.



Although Joe enjoyed establishing and following traditions, he also had a spirit of adventure. Joe and Vicky were world travelers enjoying a variety of journeys with their family and friends. The couple shared ski trips to Vermont, New Hampshire and Colorado (with Joe as a passive participant), trips to the Caribbean, cruising across the Atlantic on the Queen Mary to return home on a supersonic jet, rafting down the Colorado River and boating up the Shannon River in Ireland. Tortola became a traditional yearly venture both for Joe and Vicky and then for Joe. He rode in hot air balloons and took a ride in a glider plane; sword fished and played the gut bucket on the docks of Block Island and the Civic Center.

Joe always preferred being the host and was a reluctant guest. On the occasion of his 70th birthday (August 1994), Joe was nowhere to be found. It was later learned the he had loaded his Volvo with sandwiches and beer and set off on a solo mission, arranging for a police escort to the stage at Woodstock II.

Joe Lynch was predeceased by his wife of 57 years, Vicky Hamilton Lynch. He is survived by their four children, Leslie Lynch Raider and her husband Paul, Shirley Lynch Scarlett and her husband George, Michael Garth Lynch and Wendy Lynch. He will be much missed by his eight grandchildren, Rebekkah Raider Corbett and her husband Dan, Laura Anne Lynch Lee and her husband River, Woody Colling and his wife Jessica, William Joseph Lynch, Brenden Colling, William Scarlett, David Lynch and Evan Scarlett; as well as his two great-grandchildren, Elsie Anna Corbett and Trace Ewan McFarland.

Elsie and Trace viewed their great-grandfather as a master of providing entertainment for children from family Thanksgivings at the Equinox, pony rides at the Canoe Club brunches, a carousel ride in the summer and ice skating in the winter within walking distance of his apartment and St. Patrick's Day parades that could be seen from his balcony. In 2009, Joe was the Hartford Town Marshall for the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Joe Lynch is also survived by many, many friends and the people whose lives he touched. His quick wit, practical jokes and ability to tell funny stories will be remembered by all who knew him.

In accordance with his wishes, a celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

To send an online expression of sympathy, visit portlandmemorialfh.net.

Colchester

Lori Jean Dickinson

It is with profound sorrow that the family announces the passing of a loving sister, aunt and friend – active Lion, longtime board member of the Colchester Business Association and past member and treasurer of the Colchester Farmers Club – and talented floral designer Lori Jean (Chandler) Dickinson, at her home in Colchester Monday, Sept. 10.

Born on Dec. 21, 1963, she was the beloved daughter of the late Eileen (Hill) Chandler.

She leaves two sisters and brothers-in-law, Carol "Tina" and Norm Bell and Donna and Tony Skawinski, all of Colchester; her brother, Russell Terry Chandler of Groton; her special nephews, Brian and wife, Jane Bell of Sweden, Barry Bell and Brett Bell, both of Boston, Roger Thomas of Glastonbury and Arthur and wife, Charma Thomas of Florida; and her precious grandnieces, Victoria and Alexandra Bell, both of Sweden.

It would take volumes to attempt to mark all of the selfless volunteer efforts and many accomplishments – but each and every person whose life was touched by her gentle, loving kindness knows the void that her passing leaves and will carry the torch of her legacy for years to come.

Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. today, Sept. 14, at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester, with a celebration of her life at 7 p.m.

She will be laid to rest with her mother privately in the New St. Andrew Cemetery, Colchester.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Colchester Lions Charities, P.O. Box 423, Colchester, CT 06415.

More Obituaries on Following Page

Hebron

Richard W. Beaudoin

Richard (Dick) W. Beaudoin, formerly of Hebron, passed Sunday, Sept. 9, at the age of 79, after a long illness. Dick died peacefully at his home, surrounded by his family.

Dick is survived by his wife of 61 years, the love of his life, Patricia Jean (LaBrec) Beaudoin; his five loving children, Richard William Beaudoin II and his wife Laura of New London, his daughter Laurie (Beaudoin) Gentino and her husband William of Wethersfield, Christopher Scott Beaudoin and his companion Sherry Thibodeau of Port Charlotte, Fla., Michael Aaron Beaudoin of East Windsor and Jeffrey James Beaudoin of Hampstead, N.C. Dick leaves behind his cherished grandchildren, Karie Beaudoin-Nero, Kristy Beaudoin-Kozlak, Eric Gentino, Stacey Gentino, Rebecca Beaudoin, Danielle Beaudoin and Tanner Beaudoin. Richard also showed love on his six great-grandchildren, Olivia Nero, Talon Kozlak, Alexander Nero, Owen Kozlak, Juliet Nero, and William Nero. Known as "Poppy" to his many adoring grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Dick was a nurturing presence in their lives. Dick is also survived by a special family friend Paul Napolitan.

Dick was born in Hartford June 1, 1933. Dick was predeceased by his mother and father, Irene Gregoire-Girard and Napoleon Joseph Beaudoin.

Dick spent his early years between Connecticut and Maine before going to live with his beloved aunt and uncle, Florence and Wilfred Morin, also deceased. It was his Aunt Florence, whose love and influence, shaped and inspired his life. Dick's family will be eternally grateful to Aunt Florence and Uncle Wilfred.

In addition, Dick is survived by his cousins, whom he referred to as his brother and sisters, Dorothy Santacrose, Doris Haag, Joyce Riccio and Ray Morin. Dick is also survived by his sister, Elaine Ahern-Girard, and brothers Gregory Girard, Michael Girard and David Girard.

Dick and Patti were married in Wethersfield on March 17, 1951 (St. Patrick's Day) at the Methodist Church and began what was to be an amazing journey together. Patti and Dick were rarely apart, true partners in every way, they cherished each other and showered their family with Love. Dick joined the U.S. Army Reserves in 1954 while working at Cooper's Furniture in Wethersfield.

In 1963, Dick was hired by Bob Wilder to work at a new business called Porch & Patio in Wethersfield. It was the start of a career and a friendship that endured for over 30 years as Bob and Dick built the business together. Dick became the general manager and executive vice president of Porch & Patio. Everyone who worked at Porch & Patio was touched by Dick's generosity, understanding and compassion. Dick made friends easily, and if you worked at Porch & Patio you were treated like family.

Dick built the first family home in 1957 in Amston, and the family expanded. In 1971 Dick and Patti purchased Tall Pines Farm in Hebron. In addition to his work at Porch & Patio, Dick became a gentleman farmer, which of course provided unlimited chores, but also an experience that was rich and satisfying. People traveled many miles to purchase the raw organic milk that came from very pampered Jersey cows. The farm was the go-to place for numerous gatherings of family and friends. The farm was sold in 1999. Patti and Dick spent the next eight years traveling between Florida and their 250-year-old Cape in North Shapleigh, Maine, which he himself restored.

Dick and Patti traveled to many parts of the world together. But it was their time with family and friends that brought the most joy to their lives. Dick was a pillar of strength, humility and honor. Dick was a good man to everyone he met, but to his family he was much more than that; he was beautiful.

Family and friends are invited to a memorial celebration to be held at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 30 Church St. (Route 85), Hebron, CT 06248-1427, on Saturday, Oct. 6, at 11 a.m. Following the celebration there will be a reception at Phelps Hall adjacent to the church. All are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be given to St. Peter's Episcopal Church in celebration of Dick.

Farley-Sullivan Funeral home has care of the arrangements. To wish online condolences or for further information, visit farleysullivan.com.

Andover

Angela Charline Scott

Angela Charline Scott, 31, of Andover, passed away unexpectedly Saturday, Sept. 8, at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford. Born April 28, 1981, in Manchester, she was the beloved daughter of Richard and Charline (McDougle) Scott of Andover.

Angela was a graduate of RHAM High School in Hebron and went on to earn her Master's degree in International Marketing from Philadelphia University.

In addition to her parents, she leaves two brothers and their wives, Jeffrey and Kathy of No. Windham and Kevin and Neida of Waterbury; three nephews, Khalil, Jonathan and Cayden; and numerous extended family members and friends.

The family will receive guests from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester.

For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.



Portland

Michael K. Karabetsos

Michael K. Karabetsos, 72, of Portland, beloved husband for over 45 years of Eleni (Balis) Karabetsos, died Monday, Sept. 10, at his home, surrounded by his family. He was born in Sanga (Tripoli), Greece, son of Konstantinos and Panagiota (Javaras) Karabetsos. Michael was raised by his stepmother, Demetra Karabetsos. He immigrated to the U.S. in 1955.

Mike was a renowned restaurateur, having operated several restaurant's in the Hartford area, among them Mike's Luncheonette for several years, The Pizza Palace, East Hartford, for 30 years and more recently Elaine's Restaurant in Wethersfield, founding it in 1991.

He was a member of St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, where he served on the parish council, and was actively involved in many of the church's activities, especially the Greek Festival. He was president of the Arcadian Club. He enjoyed spending summers in Greece and adored his beloved grandchildren. He was an avid Baltimore Orioles and New York Giants fan.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two sons, Dino and his wife Joanne Karabetsos of Glastonbury, Chris and his wife Elizabeth Karabetsos of Belchertown, Mass., a daughter Patricia Fluet and her husband Scott of Glastonbury; six grandchildren, Ariana and Alyssa Fluet, Michael and Theodore Karabetsos, and Alena and Alexa Karabetsos and a future grandchild; two brothers, James and his wife Elli Karabetsos of Manchester, and William Karabetsos of East Hartford; a sister, Stella Bikakis and her husband Dino of Berlin; and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral will be today, Sept. 14, at 12:30 p.m., at St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 433 Fairfield Ave., Hartford, with the Rev. F. George Zugravu officiating. Burial will be in Cedar Hill Cemetery. Visiting hours were Thursday, Sept. 13, at St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral. A Trisayion service was held Thursday, Sept. 13, at the cathedral.

The family would like to thank the Helen and Harry Gray Cancer Center and Vitas Hospice for all their compassionate care given to Michael.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to: Helen and Harry Gray Cancer Center, 85 Retreat Ave., Hartford, CT 06106 or St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral Basketball Team, 433 Fairfield Ave., Hartford, CT 06114.

To share a memory with the family, visit dillonbaxter.com.

Andover

Eric C. Lehto

Eric C. Lehto, 68, of Andover, passed away unexpectedly Saturday, Sept. 1. He was born in Fitchburg, Mass., on Sept. 19, 1943, the beloved son of the late Weikko and Miriam Lehto.

Eric spent his childhood in Fitchburg, which is where he met Susan, his beloved wife of nearly 48 years.

He is also survived by his brother, Richard, and his loving children: Eric Jr., Karyn, Pamela and Jennifer, and by two grandsons: Curtiss and Harris.

Eric earned his undergraduate degree at Tufts University, where he enlisted with the Navy R.O.T.C. After graduation Eric was stationed in Japan, and served in Vietnam. He then attended flight school and became a pilot. As a pilot he was stationed in Iceland. He flew throughout the world. In the U.S. he was stationed on both the east and west coasts, as well as on the Gulf of Mexico. After full-time service in the Navy, he remained active as a Reservist and achieved the rank of commander.

After Eric left active duty in the Navy, he and his family settled in New Hampshire. Eric earned his master's degree in business and joined the corporate world. He became a vice president for several major stock brokerage firms. Eric and his family enjoyed traveling together and spent many summers in Rhode Island. In 1992, Eric and Sue moved to Connecticut where Eric excelled at selling automobiles. He retired in 2009.

Eric had a winning personality and was liked by all. He is dearly missed by his family and friends.

There will be a private service for family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation in memory of Eric C. Lehto to The Connecticut Humane Society at cthumane.org. If you prefer to mail your gift, send a check in memory to The Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Rd., Newington, CT 06111.

Portland

Dorothy May Engelman

Dorothy May (Leland) Engelman, 88, of Middletown, wife of the late Herbert F. Engelman, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 4, at Portland Care and Rehabilitation. Born in Portland, she was the daughter of the late Myron and Eunice (Post) Leland and was a lifelong Middletown resident.

She is survived by her sister, Lucille J. Baars, of Portland; her brother, Howard M. Leland, of Middletown and several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held Friday, Sept. 7, in Pine Grove Cemetery, South Main Street, Middletown. There were no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, friends may make donations in Dorothy's memory to CT Humane Society, 701 Russell Rd., Newington, CT 06111, or Middlesex Hospital Homecare, 28 Crescent St., Middletown, CT 06457.

Doolittle Funeral Home, 14 Old Church St., Middletown is handling the arrangements. Messages of condolence may be sent to the family at doolittlefuneralservice.com.

Colchester

Patricia Mae Korenkiewicz

Patricia Mae (Delaney) Korenkiewicz of Mohegan Park Road, Norwich, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 11, at Harrington Court in Colchester. She was the widow of Julian A. (Whitey) Korenkiewicz who passed away in January 1997.

Pat was born in Norwich on April 1, 1929, to the late James and Catherine (Rushford) Delaney. Pat was married to Whitey on Aug. 30, 1948, and they raised four sons.

She was a communicant of St. Mary Church in Greenville all of her life. She belonged to several clubs over the years including the Norwich Country Club where she and Whitey enjoyed dancing many evenings, and the Ladies Club. Pat also enjoyed going to the beach and working with her flowers at home.

Pat is survived by three sons; James and his wife Sun Young of Busan, South Korea, Richard and his wife Wendy of Niantic, and Thomas with whom she made her home, and who provided loving care and support for her. A fourth son, Michael, predeceased her in January 1992. She is also survived by grandchildren Jason Korenkiewicz of New York City, Justin Korenkiewicz and his wife Rachel of Windham, Maine, and Hanna Korienkiewicz of Busan, South Korea; one great-grandson, Eli James Korenkiewicz of Windham, Maine, along with many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and son Michael, Pat was predeceased by her mother, Catherine Kain, in 1992; her sister, Katherine Dixon, in 2010; brother-in-law Bill Dixon this year, and her step-father, Owen Kain, in 1997. Her special friend JR, a Poodle, will miss her greatly.

The family wishes to express their gratitude for the outstanding care Pat received while at Harrington Court in Colchester.

Calling hours will be this evening, Sept. 14, from 5-7 p.m., at Church & Allen Funeral Home, 136 Sachem St., Norwich. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, Sept. 15, at 9 a.m., meeting directly at St. Mary Church on Central Ave., Norwich. Burial will immediately follow at St. Joseph Cemetery in Norwich.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Cancer Society. To leave an online condolence, visit churchandallen.com.