

RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

Volume 39, Number 21

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

September 12, 2014



On Sunday, the highlight of the 44th annual Hebron Harvest Fair was a performance by country artist Rodney Atkins. The concert, which was free with admission, had fairgoers taking a break from the sights, rides, food and festivities to enjoy his performance on the final day of the fair.

End-Of-Summer Smiles on Display at Fair

by Geeta Schrayter

Last week, people partook in a final fling with summer at the 44th annual Hebron Harvest Fair. From Sept. 4-7, the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds boasted food and fun for the whole family, while raising money for charities supported by the Lions Club.

The weather signaled the impending change in seasons, with sunshine and blue skies as well as gray clouds and humidity over the course of the weekend; Fair Superintendent Adam Miclette said while a gloomy forecast meant attendance numbers were down Saturday, there were good crowds the other three days.

"We had good attendance Thursday night, good attendance Friday night and a good Sunday," he said. "It didn't totally make up for [Saturday], but we still had an overall good fair."

And everything, he said, went "quite smooth."

Some of the crowd favorites this year were new to the fair, Miclette continued, and included lawn mower races with the American Racing Mower Association.

"That was a big hit with big crowds," he stated.

On the food front, Miclette said a favorite was the new "barbecue sundae," with layers of corn bread, barbecue pit beans and pulled pork instead of ice cream; mashed potatoes instead of whipped cream; gravy in place of chocolate

sauce and a cherry tomato on top.

Hebron residents Sarah Cohen and Julia Pearson mentioned the barbecue sundae as they roamed around the fairgrounds on the final day, but said they didn't dare try it. Instead, they opted for items like Italian sausage, frozen lemonade, jungle juice smoothies and Thai food.

Sarah also said the fried Oreos were good – but only if they were devoured while warm, before they cooled and got soggy.

For Julia's mom, Debbie Pearson, who called the fair a great event "especially once you have children," it was actual ice cream she enjoyed the most, while her friend Britta Hansen liked the funnel cake.

Along with the food, Sarah and Julia, who recently headed back to school as seventh-graders at RHAM Middle School, said they enjoyed spending time with friends and going on rides such as the swings and Full Tilt, which lifts participants into the air and rotates them in a 360-degree vertical circle.

Other events at the fair were plentiful and varied, and included mechanical shows like the truck pull and demolition derby, musical entertainment, a talent competition, animal exhibits, information booths, vendors selling different wares, and things to view in the arts and crafts building like paintings and photographs, prize-winning vegetables and baked goods.

See Hebron Fair Page 2

Emotions Bloom in Wake of Algae Explosion

by John Tyczkowski

Lake Pocotopaug's name comes from the Wangunk word for "clear water." Such a name is aptly ironic this month, as the lake is anything but clear as it sees one of the worst algae blooms in years.

The lake is a prominent fixture of East Hampton, according to town documents, having been an anchor for town forging, bell-making and sawmill industries during the 18th century, a popular tourist destination beginning during the 1870s and a permanent residence for many citizens in town starting around 1900.

And at Tuesday's Town Council meeting, a large number of the public remarks made dealt with the latest water quality problem, a blue-green algae bloom, and perceived lack of decisive action from the town.

Town resident Donna Jenks criticized the lack of a town-wide fertilizer use ordinance and what she called the perceived inaction on the part of the town.

"The scientists are saying, 'It's you guys putting these chemicals in the water,'" she said, referring to phosphorous-containing run-off from many houses' lawns around the lake. "It's been years and years we've known about this problem; when is someone going to care? I'm just frustrated, very frustrated."

Doreen Nablo took issue with what she perceived as a vague water quality advisory during the initial bloom before Labor Day, when

she said she received a phone call from the town telling her to stay out of the water, despite "inconclusive" testing results.

"If you're going to call me up and tell me to stay out of the water, I need more details than this," she said.

Along those lines, Joseph Feest focused on what he saw as "extremely poor" communication between the town and residents as to what the lake's problems were, and what residents can do about them.

"If you as the Town Council would take the lead on educating the public about the lake and water quality, I would be grateful," Feest said. "We don't need any more studying; we need action."

Currently, the Lake Pocotopaug Commission serves as the town's representative into lake-related issues, while the community is represented by The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug.

The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug formed in 2004 as a "volunteer, non-profit public charity dedicated to the improvement of Lake Pocotopaug and its environs," according to the group's website, ehflp.org, and its Facebook page.

The lake has seen documented water clarity problems since the 1970s, according to a 2002 report by environmental consulting and development agency ENSR International of Westford, Mass. prepared for the town.

In fact, since the 1970s, the town has commissioned over 15 such reports, most of which occurred during the 1990s and 2000s.

However, in recent years, the 512-acre lake, which is the largest natural freshwater lake in the state, has had a history of larger environmental problems.

In 1999, a major fish kill occurred from a bloom of algae known as haptophytes, and in 2012, there was a major cyanobacteria bloom, popularly known as blue-green algae.

And just this past Labor Day weekend, the lake was closed for swimming due to another large blue-green algae bloom.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency's website, toxins found in blue-green algae can cause mild to severe health problems, such as irritation and rashes from skin contact, as well as liver and kidney failure if large amounts are ingested in the water.

Last week, the town allowed swimmers to resume their activities at the lake at their own risk, because the bloom was downgraded to a category 2 from a category 3, on the state Department of Public Health's scale.

Town Manager Michael Maniscalco said that he had met this week with representatives from the DEEP, the Lake Pocotopaug Commission, The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug, and the lake's limnologist, or lake scientist.

"We had a nice conversation about what's

going on in the lake, and what we can do about it now and in the future, and what we have done about it in the past," he said. "I do believe there were some things we could work on, including the communications process. There was a bit of a hiccup there, but I believe we can iron that out very simply."

"It was a very productive meeting and positive meeting," Maniscalco said.

In response to the residents wondering why signs had been posted at the lake this year when they hadn't before, Maniscalco said the town was following new state guidelines that had just been implemented this summer, which mandated that signs be placed during category 2 algae blooms in order to notify residents of the bloom and its associated risks.

Category 3 blooms, he said, require closing down the lake.

Regarding the inconclusive testing results mentioned in public remarks, Maniscalco said that was because of an inconsistency in testing. The limnologist made a visual inspection of the bloom, which indicated a category 3 bloom, but a later toxin count came back negative despite the large algae cell count.

"We said, 'What is going on here? This doesn't make sense,'" Maniscalco said. "Ultimately, we took a proactive stance in closing the lake which, under department guidelines,

See Emotions Bloom Page 2



The attractions that make up the Hebron Harvest Fair and the crowds enjoying all there was to offer Sunday were best viewed from atop the Dutch Wheel. Blue skies and sunshine beckoned attendees, along with and everything the fair had to offer, which included the Dock Dogs Competition, shown below.

Hebron Fair cont. from Front Page

But the baked goods in the arts and crafts building, while also mouth-watering, were for ribbons, not stomachs. One such item was a triple layer chocolate cake with raspberry filling, topped with chocolate ganache and fresh raspberries; it was a creation that earned Andover resident and Board of Education member Christina Tamburro “Best in Show.”

“It was great,” she said of the win, adding she “really worked at [baking] this year” and had also entered a few other baked goods including a cheesecake, brownies and a citrus chiffon cake.

Tamburro, who grew up in Andover and is now raising her children in town, said of the fair, “It’s just a fun thing. We go every year, and watched it grow from a little fair to a much bigger fair.”

She added, “I’m glad that the arts and crafts fair is still going strong” and said she enjoyed visiting the animal barns, eating the donuts sold by the Colchester Lions Club, the RHAM Music Boosters’ milkshake booth, “and I have to get my birch beer every year.”

Also enjoying the fair Sunday were Governor Dannel P. Malloy and state Sen. Cathy Osten – both of whom are seeking re-election in the fall.

For Osten, Sunday marked her third trip there of the weekend.

“I always come to the Harvest Fair,” she explained. “I try to support everything that’s within the 10 towns in the 19th district; it’s really important for me to see the constituents.”

Osten added she’d enjoyed a variety of fair food – something she quipped she’d probably rue later.

“I loved it all but I’m going to regret it at the end of the day,” she smiled.

Like Osten, Malloy said the fair was a great opportunity to see people.

“It’s a nice opportunity to get out, see Connecticut, see people who are going to have to make a decision [for governor] in a few months and answer some questions – it’s a nice thing,” he said.

Malloy also branched out of his comfort zone and tried Poutine at the event, a Canadian dish consisting of French fries topped with gravy and cheese curds.

“I have a French-Canadian sister-in-law so now I can tell her I tried it,” he laughed. “It was pretty good. Truth be told, with French fries, just salt and pepper is fine – you could have stopped there before the cheese and the gravy, but I’m glad I had it.”

In addition to the food and schmoozing, Malloy said the fair also provided the opportunity to listen to some “good music.”

“I had no idea who was playing,” he said of country artist Rodney Atkins, “so it’s pretty good stuff.”

For Miclette, Atkins’ performance was his favorite part.

“It was a tremendous concert,” he said. “We didn’t hear anything bad about it.”

Acting as fair superintendent is a two-year stint, which means this was Miclette’s final year in charge. Speaking on the role, he called it “quite rewarding.”

“When you sit there and see the majority of people with smiles on their faces – kids having a good time, the elderly smiling – you say at the end of the day ‘It’s worth it,’” Miclette said.

Also making everything worthwhile is the money the fair rakes in for the Hebron Lions. Since its inception, the Hebron Lions Club has donated \$2.5 million to charity, Miclette explained, and he said the fair is the club’s largest fundraiser.

He concluded, “We would like to thank all the people that showed up and supported us so we can support the community.”



Emotions Bloom cont. from Front Page

is allowed to be done.”

In 2007, the Lake Pocotopaug Commission conducted a survey of 330 residents living within the lake’s watershed, or the area from which all water drains into a single spot. According to an informational brochure from the town, the lake’s watershed is 2,381 acres in size, most of which is located to the west and south of the lake.

One main point from the survey was that a plurality of respondents thought that excessive phosphorous, fertilizer run-off and erosion were all responsible for creating algal bloom problems.

Additionally, 93 percent of those surveyed said they would support a town ordinance that

“limited the use of phosphorous fertilizers in the watershed.”

Though not directly connected to the survey, late in 2007, the board of directors of the Edgemere II condominiums on North Main Street decided to stop fertilizing the condos’ lawns, in an effort to prevent excess phosphorous from washing into the lake.

However, during the following summer in 2008, the Town Council defeated a proposed fertilizer ordinance up for vote. This happened due to disagreements over the ordinance’s enforcement provisions and over whether the town would be overstepping its authority in regulating what types of fertilizers all stores in town could sell.

Andover School Board Adopts District Goals

by Geeta Schrayter

The Board of Education Wednesday discussed and adopted its district goals for the new school year – and also learned about a new method students are using to pay for their lunches.

Schools Superintendent Andrew Maneggia explained the goals to the board, the first of which was that “all teachers will focus on the academic performance of all students, with attention given to students who are on the free or reduced-price lunch/breakfast program.”

Maneggia shared the reason that goal “is spelled out” is because as part of the state’s School Performance Index (SPI), one of the target areas for the school was those students, whose performance “is lower than the state feels it should be.”

Maneggia furthered the graduation rate of students on the lunch/breakfast program tends to be lower than those who aren’t, “so the state is saying we need to pay attention, and get those students at grade level or above.”

But despite Maneggia’s initial explanation, some of the board members had some comments about the goal.

“We hold all students to a high standard,” board member Whitney Covell asserted.

Maneggia agreed that was the case, but added just because all students are *held* to a high standard, “doesn’t mean they’re all reaching them.”

“The state established this for us,” he continued.

Member Lisa Hewitt added the focus “seems like a kind of reverse discrimination,” since it

suggests extra focus be given to students who come from lower-income families, while students who aren’t on the lunch or breakfast program may also need assistance.

However, board vice chair Christina Tamburro called the focus “a reflection of the statistical reality,” which shows students who come from lower-income families typically exhibit lower achievement.

Maneggia added on to that point, saying “the reality is students in the program have a lower graduation rate and a higher drop-out rate, so the state is saying, ‘Focus on them.’ As the superintendent, I’m saying we’re going to focus on all the students, but the state is trying to do something about the bigger picture.”

Next, Maneggia explained all kindergarten through sixth-grade teachers will fully implement writer’s workshop, which he said began last year.

“We’ll continue that and complete that program for each grade,” he stated.

The next goal the board adopted was that “parental communication will continue to be a priority for all staff.”

Maneggia shared one way this would be addressed was during open houses, where, as suggested by the teachers, discussion with parents would be curriculum directed, with the teachers talking about instruction and explaining expectations.

Then, he said, staff would continue to work on communication from both an individual and grade level.

The final goal was related to common core: “staff will modify the curriculum and instruction based upon the Common Core and the Connecticut Common Core of Teaching,” the goal reads.

To this, Maneggia simply said, “It’s no secret that nationally, the Common Core is being implemented. We will continue that initiative.”

He added it would likely take the next three years for the Common Core to be fully implemented – and called the change a “massive job.”

After Maneggia’s explanation, the board unanimously approved the goals as presented.

* * *

Also at the meeting, the board unanimously approved some end-of-year transfers Maneggia said were necessary to balance different accounts.

These included: \$1,962 from the psychologist account to the salaries account to cover the severance benefits for some retired staff members; \$3,962 from the occupational therapist account to the purchased property services account for various maintenance work; and \$5,290 from the electricity account to the equipment account to cover the purchase of some tables and chairs for a second computer lab at the school – as well as the purchase of biometric scanning equipment for the cafeteria.

Earlier in the meeting, Maneggia explained the equipment had been purchased to make the lunch process easier. The equipment allows students to pay for their lunch by scanning their

index finger – their print is linked to their account, which parents can add money to either by check or online.

On Thursday, Food Service Manager Cheryl Folsom explained prior to the new equipment, there was an “archaic” system in place.

“We had a paper ticket system,” she said, “which was very archaic in that we had to record balances of accounts and whether or not a child owed money on paper rather than have it put on a computer and having better access to it.”

The equipment, she furthered, was acquired to make everything more transparent in case of an audit. The old register that was used was from around 1990, she explained, and added she’d use a button for \$1 for different items then would mark on the tape what the specific purchase was after the fact, “instead of just putting it on the register and having it come up.”

The new system will make it easier during an audit – and also makes the process easier for Folsom as well as the kids.

“It’s been great. The kids love it; they think it’s fun,” she said, and added, “It does make it easier – there’s less paper, so we’re trying to go green as well as make it more efficient.”

The new system took effect at the start of the school year.

* * *

The next Andover Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. in the Andover Elementary School library, 35 School Road.

Plymouth and Cruz Part Ways in Hebron

by Geeta Schrayter

At a special meeting held last Thursday, Sept. 4, the Plymouth Board of Education unanimously voted to approve a settlement agreement – that included her resignation – with former Hebron Schools Superintendent Eleanor Cruz.

Cruz took over as the Plymouth superintendent after leaving Hebron in December 2012. Shortly after she left the district, the Hebron Board of Education, prompted by concerns expressed by some staff members, investigated Cruz’s spending habits, and alleged she received a number of unauthorized payments including money for insurance and gas reimbursements, and had also used the district’s credit card to make unauthorized purchases amounting to around \$15,000.

The Hebron board hired a firm to conduct a

forensic audit of the board’s spending and alerted the state police to its findings. A lengthy investigation ensued – one that ultimately led to her arrest Aug. 7.

Cruz was charged with first-degree larceny – a felony – for what the investigation determined to be \$6,286.36 in expenses that were personal in nature.

After her arrest, the Plymouth School Board placed her on paid administrative leave, which she has been on ever since. This week, her attorney, John Gesmonde, said Cruz had voluntarily submitted her resignation. The resignation was effective Aug. 31.

“This is a decision she made that the board supported,” he explained. “I think it was her intention not to distract from the business of the school district and the students and parents.

In Plymouth, there’s enough work to be done there and her circumstances should have no play in the school district moving forward.”

He concluded, “so [Cruz] just took herself out of the picture and that’s it.”

Gesmonde said included in the separation agreement is “a component for the continuation of her salary for a period of time as well as payment of benefits that she would have received had she spent the whole year there.”

Neither Plymouth Board of Education Chairman Raymond Engle, or Vice Chairwoman Karen Kulesa returned calls for comment for this story, but, according to published reports, Cruz will be paid her daily salary of \$553.85 through Nov. 30, for a total of \$32,677. In addition, she will continue to receive health insurance through the same date.

Along with the above, published reports say Cruz will receive \$17,446 worth of unused vacation and \$22,673 in contributions to annuities.

In a statement read at the end of the Sept. 5 Plymouth board meeting, Engle said, “The board believes the agreement resolves all matters concerning Ms. Cruz’s employment [and] is an important step in enabling the district to move forward constructively.”

The statement continued, “The board’s decisions tonight hopefully provides some closure to the community on the issue. The board is committed to moving forward by renewing its focus on student achievement and goals of the district for the 2014-2015 school year.”

Cruz was next due in court on the larceny charge today, Sept. 12.

Hebron Student Gets Dropped Off at Wrong Stop

by Geeta Schrayter

School administrators are currently reviewing bus protocol after a student from Gilead Hill School was dropped off at the wrong stop last Friday.

According to a message from Schools Superintendent Jeff Newton emailed just after 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5, “a student from GHS was inadvertently dropped off at the wrong stop.”

He added, “The child is safe and we have been debriefing the situation with the bus company.”

Newton explained Thursday a substitute bus driver mistakenly dropped off a first-grader at the wrong place. After other students noticed and alerted the driver, the bus turned around and retrieved the child.

Newton furthered, “Student safety is of the utmost importance, especially when it comes to transportation.”

He added “further review, discussion, and necessary action” would take place “to ensure a situation of this nature does not occur again.”

The Board of Education was scheduled to meet Thursday night after press time, and Newton said the current transportation policy would be brought to the board to review.

“We’re going to have some discussion on the language in there, and possibly working to change it to support an adult being on site before dropping off a youngster,” Newton concluded.

East Hampton School Board Receives Updates on Facilities, Buses

by John Tyczkowski

The Board of Education Tuesday received an update on the town's search for new government offices, as well as one on how the transition to a new school bus company is proceeding.

Board member Josh Piteo updated the board on the search for a new Town Hall and Board of Education offices, citing the difficulty of having to repurpose an old structure instead of building a new one.

"The town is actually land-poor; we don't own a lot of land. We've missed the opportunity over the years to land-bank space, like for a new school or new town offices," Piteo said.

He also said the town and school board offices would most likely not be relocating to Center School as had been previously discussed, citing the move and associated costs as too expensive.

"The cost to renovate [the school] for town offices would be prohibitive, compared to what building a new complex would look like," he said.

Piteo said that, according to feedback from town and board staff, the Town Hall and board offices would be combined into one building at the new site. He discussed the possibility of constructing a new building on Route 66, or of moving the current Board building at 94 Main St. to a new location and constructing the new town offices on that site.

However, Piteo mentioned that the cost of any plan is problematic at this point.

"We're in the middle of renovating the high school, and that's a big-ticket item," he said. "Everything has a cost. We've had to look at how we can fulfill all of these obligations successfully in a cost-effective way."

On a related note, Piteo said Center School is in need of immediate maintenance for its boiler system, in order to keep the school safe and useable for students.

"There's a heating problem with the boiler system and that is a great concern," he said.

"You don't want the system going belly-up in the middle of January, when the students are going to school there."

Piteo also mentioned that there was land available near Memorial School that the town could consider purchasing to use to build a replacement for Center School, which he said was a "crucial concern" for the future.

The board also voted unanimously, after some questions, to buy a software package, STAR, from the vendor Renaissance Learning, to monitor student progress across public schools and across grades in order to ensure each student is developing normally.

"This software would help us maintain coherence in our assessments of students in grades K-12 in accordance with the Common Core," Superintendent of Schools Diane Dugas said. "Our current assessments are not coherent, and it's hard to track students' progress across grades."

Dugas said that the software would cost \$26,000. It would be purchased at that price annually with updated assessment standards information, and the purchase price would include training in the software for teachers and staff.

She also said that the software is part of a federal and state universal screen mandate that is designed to measure students' progress in literacy and numeracy, as well as to measure how districts are implementing their curricula.

As part of the student side of that mandate, Dugas said the data collected with the software could be used for interventions for students at risk academically, in accordance with the academic support component of the state's Science Research-Based Intervention (SRBI) plan.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools Tim Van Tasel said STAR was on the list of software recommended by the state, and that he's heard a lot of positive buzz about the software from

workshops he's attended around the state.

"We're getting a full complement for both literacy and for math, which no other program can offer us. At this price, you really can't match it," he said. "We're always looking to do what we can for the right price, and this is the right price."

Dugas also touched upon the new Dattco school bus company in town. Over the summer, Charlie Nichols sold his Nichols Bus Service to New Britain-based Dattco.

"We have had some challenges, but for the most part, [Dattco is] becoming more coherent in their patterns and routes," she said.

Dugas said many of the bus drivers had to learn two routes, and that delays may have happened due to drivers acclimating to their routes.

"There are some buses that have one run to make in the morning, and double runs in the afternoon," she said. "That requires drivers to become aware of two routes, not just one."

Also, she said that both Dattco and the district were making changes to their school bus routes, and that it is a transition time for them both.

"We appreciate everyone's, especially parents', cooperation and communication with us as we smooth out some of the changes that have been made this year, not just by the bus company, but by us as the district as well," Dugas said.

The board also recognized three new certified staff members who joined East Hampton Public Schools this school year.

These included Brandy Gadoury, the new Memorial School assistant principal; Molly Mandeville, a new kindergarten teacher; and Angie Lepore, the new interim director of support services and pupil personnel.

Dugas introduced all three. She said that Gadoury had previously been a first- and sec-

ond-grade teacher in Stafford for 27 years, which included district committee service. Gadoury had also been named Stafford's teacher of the year in 2010, and was a finalist for the state's teacher of the year.

Dugas also said that Mandeville had previously taught pre-school at the Goddard School in Farmington, and also possessed "multiple relevant clinical experiences" due to her master's degree in special education from Southern Connecticut State University.

The superintendent introduced Lepore as a "lifelong special educator" who had started her special education teaching career in East Lyme, and then moved to New Britain to work in special education leadership, after receiving an advanced degree in that field from the University of Connecticut.

Also discussed at the meeting was that a bacterial infection had been detected during regular testing of the potable water supply at EHHS at the beginning of the week.

"Clean water is being provided, it's a minor issue, we're flushing chlorine through the system, so once that's done, it should be taken care of," board member William Marshall said. "The water is usable for everything except drinking, and it's being dealt with proactively."

Dugas said that she had sent a letter home to parents on Monday, and that everyone at the school has been using bottled water while the water is treated.

"It's a non-harmful bacteria," she said. "It's expected to all be resolved within a day."

Dugas also said that such a bacterial infection was not new, and "had occurred previously."

At the same time, Board of Education Chairman Kenneth Barber said it was "not a common recurring issue."

"It's like a light bulb burning out once in a while," he said.

East Hampton School Board Reviews Test Data

by John Tyczkowski

Assessments and metrics were a main focus of the Board of Education at its Monday meeting.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools Tim Van Tasel gave a presentation on the testing performance of the town's public schools on multiple assessments in relation to state and district reference group (DRG) standards.

East Hampton schools' SAT composite scores were higher than Connecticut and national averages. Also, reading and writing scores tended to be higher than state and national averages, though math scores were inconsistently higher and lower than state and national averages over the years.

"Math has historically, across the board, been a lower performing assessment. This isn't just in East Hampton, this is everywhere," Van Tasel said. "Questions include if this year was a more rigorous assessment, or if it was more challenging than last year's."

Also, he said the composition of cohorts of students varies from year to year, and it's impossible to compare performance between graduating classes.

"It's oranges and apples; it's different," he said.

Regarding AP courses, Van Tasel said East Hampton High School's offerings have "steadily increased," citing that the school only administered 73 AP exams in 2006, and in 2014, that number was 143 exams.

According to the presentation documents, EHHS now offers nine AP courses, including English Language and Composition, United States Government and Politics, Biology, Statistics and Biology, and that in 2014, the school had a 95.1 percent passing rate for students who took the exams.

On the science portion of the CAPT, Van Tasel said East Hampton students consistently outscore state and DRG averages. According to 2014 data, 61.1 percent of students scored at goal or above, compared to the DRG average of 55.9 percent and the state average of 46.8 percent.

"We take it to the next level here in East Hampton," Van Tasel said. "'At goal or above' is a higher expectation than 'proficient.'"

The usual assessment benchmark for CAPT

scoring is 'proficient,' according to state guidelines.

Regarding CMTs, Van Tasel said that East Hampton students once again score higher than state and DRG averages in the area of science.

In eighth grade, 81.1 percent of students scored at goal or above, compared to a 76.6 percent DRG average and a 62.5 percent state average.

In grade five, students scored on average only slightly lower the DRG average (69.3 percent to 69.8 percent), and still outscored the state average (59.6 percent).

Overall, Van Tasel said that future steps for the schools would be successfully integrating Common Core State Standards and the state's science standards with the local curriculum, as well as implementing technology-based assessments to support East Hampton public schools' objective of digital literacy for students, while simultaneously gauging students' progress.

"We don't want to just give students a pen-and-paper test, we want to give them the application of learning," he said. "We want to teach

them, 'If we've taught you a concept, how can you apply it to the real world?'"

Another point Van Tasel discussed at the meeting was that the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) which East Hampton adopted as part of the Common Core Standards contains no science assessment, which is mandated by Connecticut.

"We do still have our state requirement, and this is done by our students in 10th grade," Van Tasel said, referring to the CAPT. "Right now we're using the Smarter Balanced Assessment for students in third through eighth grade, and in 11th grade."

However, Van Tasel said that once the consortium that created the assessment transfers ownership of the test to the state in two years, a science assessment will be first on the list to add.

"Somehow, some way, there will be a science section addition," he said. "We have it by legislation. The test will become property of the state of Connecticut, and we'll have that science section for students."

'One Suicide Is Too Many' in East Hampton

by John Tyczkowski

Spurred to action by her brother's suicide and her own battle with clinical depression, East Hampton resident Holly Neiweem has begun in earnest to advocate for those who suffer from mental illnesses such as depression, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia.

Last December, Neiweem founded the Benny Fund (bennyfund.org), which, according to the organization's website, is a non-profit "committed to mental health advocacy and eliminating the stigma associated with illness."

Neiweem, chair and treasurer of the organization, said that, in particular, establishing an open and unprejudiced dialogue is the cornerstone in any mental health advocacy effort, because peoples' preconceptions can lead to difficult-to-break stigmas.

"For example, mental illness is in people's minds often strongly associated with violence. But if you look at the research, there's a very loose connection between the two," Neiweem said. "You think someone's crazy, you probably think they're violent too, and it makes opening up about it a lot harder, and it makes discussing it in general more difficult too."

She said the Benny's Fund was established in remembrance of her brother, Benjamin Neiweem, a graduate of EHHS who committed suicide at the age of 24 in August 2013.

"There needs to be a much more honest and open dialogue about this, even if it makes people uncomfortable," Neiweem said. "It's far more helpful in the longer run. If you catch mental illness at the right time and treat it properly, you can lead a full life. And that involves talking about it openly."

"If you don't talk about it, and you avoid it, that's when it spirals out of control," she said.

This sentiment is well-reflected in the motto prominently displayed on the organization's Facebook page, [facebook.com/bennyfund](https://www.facebook.com/bennyfund): "One suicide is too many."

Though the Benny Fund name hadn't yet been chosen, its first major fundraising event, a 5K and fun run, was in October 2013. The organization later earned its non-profit status this past July.

Neiweem said that 5K and fun run last fall was thrown together extremely quickly in an effort to start raising money for the cause, which at that time consisted of scholarships for high school students affected by mental illness and for students heading to trade school who were active in sports and outdoor activities, which were hallmarks of her brother.

Neiweem said another component to founding the Benny Fund was her personal experience suffering from clinical depression, especially due to the fact that she didn't learn what it was for a long time because there was no dialogue about it. She said it gave her a unique perspective on mental illness advocacy.

"It's very isolating; you feel constantly alone," she said. "It's almost like a self-stigma. Deep depression often involves feelings of self-worthlessness, which makes the person feel alone and stay away from other people. It's a pretty vicious cycle."

According to the Benny Fund website, the non-profit now offers scholarships to high school students who either were affected by mental illness, or who want to pursue a career in mental health.

Neiweem said the non-profit awarded its first scholarships in May of this year.

The other part of the money the Benny Fund raises goes toward mental health advocacy efforts in the community, as well as mental health education in schools.

"I tried to look at mental health advocacy on a broad spectrum. I wanted to get involved in a wide array of ways we could help. That includes funding for mental health education in schools," Neiweem said. "I look at this like a preventative health sort of thing, like exercising to protect yourself from heart disease later on."

"One in four people will suffer from mental illness," she said. "That's a lot of people that we can help proactively."

Last year, almost 200 people participated in the road race, now named Benny's Run this year, and the event raised nearly \$10,000, according to a Benny Fund press release.

As of press time, Neiweem said around 100 people had already signed up to participate in



East Hampton resident Holly Neiweem founded the Benny Fund, named after her brother, who committed suicide last year. There will be a 5K and fun run next month, to raise money for the foundation. Holly and her family are shown here, advertising last year's run. From left are brother Daniel Neiweem, sister Rebecca Pratt (holding daughter Abigail Pratt), Holly Neiweem, parents Anne and James Neiweem, and sister Cheryl Brew. Photo by The Benny Fund.

this year's 5K road race and kids' fun run on Saturday, Oct. 4.

In addition to the road race and fun run, this year's event will feature informational booths with mental health and advocacy resources, Neiweem said, because this year there was more time to get a more complete event together.

And she said that she sees these events as very necessary to the cause.

"These runs are a nice way to have a community-building event, since community is crucial to supporting those with mental illness," she said. "It's a nice way to approach a very not-fun topic, and to get people to talk openly."

Neiweem said she is glad to have the oppor-

tunity to influence people's thinking on mental illness and getting the community involved in advocacy efforts, which can be crucially important to helping people with mental illnesses.

The Benny Fund "is something that I hope will make a difference, even if it's a small one," Neiweem said.

For more information on registering, on the logistics of the race or to donate, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/CT/EastHampton/BennysRun>.

Free T-shirts are provided to those who pre-register. Though same-day registration is possible, pre-registration is preferred.

Temporary East Hampton Police Lot in Foreclosure

by John Tyczkowski

The property the town has chosen as the new home of its police cruiser fleet is apparently in foreclosure, the Town Council learned Tuesday night.

With Connecticut Light & Power planning to expand its facility, it notified the town it wanted some of its property back – specifically, the property it had long let the town use for its police cars. With an Aug. 31 deadline looming, the council late last month selected a new, temporary home, a vacant piece of a medical office building at 205 East High St.

However, councilor Ted Hintz Jr. brought to the council's attention Tuesday the property, which the town decided to lease for one year from Tunji Somma, is in foreclosure – and that Somma did not mention this upfront.

Councilor Kevin Reich, acting as council chair in Barbara Moore's absence, said that the council was not aware of this before they voted on the property.

Councilor Mark Philhower expressed concern that if the property were foreclosed upon, and someone bought out the building within a year, the town would have to move its police property early.

"We're in danger of having spent money twice because we entered into an agreement with someone who has a building in foreclosure," Philhower said.

However, Town Manager Michael Maniscalco said that he had been talking with the bank that the property would be foreclosed to, and that he had told the bank the town would want to stay on that property for the full year even if it were foreclosed upon.

"As long as we're able to get in there and do our operations there, who we're paying for the property's use shouldn't really matter," Maniscalco said.

He also said that while he wasn't aware of the foreclosure at the time either, he was able to determine that Somma does not owe any back taxes to the town.

"I wasn't aware of [the foreclosure] until we had been directed to lease the property," said Maniscalco. "That said, at the end of the day, we needed to find a place for our cars. We did as much due diligence as we could given the timeframe."

Reached by phone Thursday, Somma said since the building wasn't fully occupied, he couldn't meet the financial obligations of the lease and the property technically went into foreclosure.

But with the police now leasing the vacant part of the building, Somma said he could "easily write a check" to end the foreclosure. However, he said he wants to sell the property altogether to the town – a transaction that would include permits for a new 7,000-sq. ft. building as well. The purchase, he said, "would be a great benefit ... the town can erect a brand-new police station there and consolidate their municipal offices."

Regarding project details of operations at the property, Maniscalco said the proper police zoning permit had been obtained, and that renovations were already beginning this week on-site.

Police Chief Sean Cox said equipment has already been deposited at the property, and that the windows are in the process of being reinforced.

He also said that the fence was slated to begin construction the day after Tuesday's council meeting, but said in response to questions from the council that he couldn't give a time estimate on the fence's completion until after

construction had proceeded further.

Also on the Town Council's agenda was a discussion of the town's special revenue fund policy for town agencies.

Hintz began the discussion by bringing up the point that police have traditionally only used the public safety special revenue fund, to the exclusion of other emergency services.

Hintz cited a case in which the town's fire department was trying to secure funds to purchase a new fire engine, and when the department attempted to use special revenue funds, it was told the money was "pre-determined" for police use.

"Public safety is more than just police," Hintz said.

However, without resolution on that issue, the discussion then shifted to a specific provision of the special revenue fund policy's language.

The section the council discussed states that if special revenue funds for the public safety and the parks and recreation departments have money in excess of \$50,000 left at the end of the fiscal year, the Board of Finance could recommend that the balance be transferred to the Capital Reserve Fund, "or be reserved for future capital purposes relative to the source of the fund."

Councilors expressed concern that \$50,000 was 3.67 percent of the police's patrol budget, but an estimated 13 percent of the Parks and Recreation Department's budget.

The council decided to modify that section of the special revenue fund policy by changing the \$50,000 amount to a flat 3.5 percent for both departments, leaving all other provisions in place.

Under that change, the public safety special revenue fund percentage would be based upon the police's patrol budget only.

The modification passed unanimously.

Maniscalco also reported that Connecticut Natural Gas is planning to expand its operations in town, and that there would be a joint meeting held within the next month between the town council, the Board of Finance, the Board of Education and representatives from CNG to discuss the expansion.

In addition, Maniscalco gave a positive update on the performance of the new \$3,000 water drain at Sears Park, part of which came from first-hand knowledge.

"I've spent time out in the rain there observing it, and I've seen that it's working very well," he said.

Also, Maniscalco said CL&P has received zoning approval for its expansion behind Town Hall – the expansion that's forcing out the police cruisers – and has started putting in fences for its parking lot behind the police station.

"We're working with them as diligently as possible to be good neighbors," he said. "They've been very good neighbors to us."

The Town Council also set a Sept. 23 public hearing on creating an advisory committee for the public library, which would contribute input on the library's services. The hearing time and location has yet to be determined.

The board's purpose would include assisting in securing grants for library services, helping to determine what library services should be, aiding in marketing the library and its services and serving as the liaison between the library and the town government.

From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

I was sad last week to hear about the passing of Joan Rivers. I didn't watch her a whole lot, but when I did see her, she often made me laugh. And the older clips of her – from before her late-'90s reinvention as a brutal judge of all things fashion and celebrity – could be great. Her standup in the '60s, '70s and '80s could be very funny. Yes, it could be unnecessarily cruel at times – sometimes quite cruel, in fact – but it could also be quite amusing.

But what saddened me the most about it was how sudden Rivers' death was. Yes, I know she was 81. But she was, by all accounts, a healthy and active 81. Heck, she had a UK tour planned for later this year. So she went in for a fairly routine procedure on her vocal chords, only to stop breathing and go into cardiac arrest. She never came back.

I couldn't help but think about her family, and feel very sorry for the fact they probably never had the chance to say a proper goodbye. This was supposed to be no big deal. And then it became very much a big deal. So I felt terrible for her family. The very public suddenness of her passing served as another reminder about how precious life is, how you just never know when a life is going to be lost. And really, it feels like we've had plenty enough reminders of that as it is lately.

Anyway, being the TV nerd that I am, I was interested by the stories that came out after her passing about Joan Rivers and Johnny Carson's feud (which was actually rather quiet, as far as feuds go). I had been vaguely familiar with the feud, and the stories about it served to remind me of some of the details.

Back when she was doing stand-up, Rivers was on Carson's *Tonight Show* a lot. A lot. And Carson always seemed to get a huge kick out of her. So much so that he let her guest-host for her on multiple occasions, and in 1982, she was named the show's permanent guest host.

Then, in 1986, Rivers received a very lucrative offer from Fox to host her own late-night talk show, which would compete directly against *The Tonight Show*. This was a big deal – not only would she have been the first female late-night host ever, but she'd be helping to launch an entire network. The Fox network didn't exist before 1986; *The Late Show*, as it came to be called, would be its first program.

And everything was kept very hush-hush – per Fox as well as Rivers' advisors. Rivers didn't let Carson know of the negotiations as they were going on, or even that she'd accepted the offer – at least not right away. The day before the press conference announcing Rivers was heading to Fox, she tried to get in touch with Carson, as she'd heard the news had already been leaked. (Apparently it was one of the worst-kept secrets in Hollywood at the time.) Carson refused to take her call. She tried him again the next morning; this time she got through, only for him to hang up on her.

And that was that. Carson never spoke to her again. *The Late Show* launched in October 1986, but soon turned into a low-rated disaster, and Fox fired Rivers in May 1987. In August of that year (and shortly after he and Rivers had separated), Rivers' husband, Edgar Rosenberg, killed himself. So, to put it mildly, 1987 was a very, very tough year for Rivers. But Carson – whom Rivers had thought of as a father figure, and someone

who believed in her in the 1960s when not a lot of people did – still didn't reach out.

Rivers said she tried several times in the following years to reach out to Carson – including when his own son, Richard, died in 1991. But Carson wouldn't have any of it. When he died in 2005, Rivers revealed publicly that she and Carson hadn't spoken since 1986.

Now, last week, *Newsday* had a column sharing, in greater detail, the story I just shared. The columnist then asked: Who was wrong – Rivers or Carson? The answer, the columnist concluded, was both of them – and I have to admit, I'm inclined to agree. I admit there could very well be more to the story that I don't know, but based on what's been made public, I think both were wrong.

Rivers should've let Carson know what was going on. Yes, she had reasons to think NBC was souring on her (for example, her last contract with NBC was a one-year one, compared to a two-year one they'd given Carson), and she probably never would've been given *The Tonight Show* after Carson left. (In fact, nearly 30 years after Rivers started *The Late Show*, there still has yet to be a female-hosted late-night show on any of the broadcast networks.) And she'd lined up a guest-hosting gig on *Tonight* for just the week before Fox's press conference announcing her arrival, and I understand her not wanting to put that in jeopardy.

But Carson still really got her career going. Her first appearance on *Tonight* was in 1965, and over the ensuing years, she became, as she later put it, "Johnny Carson's daughter," a reference to his mentorship of her. Her autobiography, *Enter Talking*, even includes a forward from him. She really should've let him know what was going on, despite what Fox and her advisors told her. Would his feelings still have been hurt that she was leaving? Maybe. Maybe he would've simply seen this as her big break and wished her well. But, at the very least, he would've preferred hearing it from her, and not the press, which is how he'd learned of it.

(Also, shortly after word of the Fox show went public, Rivers – perhaps angry at Carson's refusal to talk her – proceeded to take little jabs at Carson and the *Tonight Show* – which also wasn't very gracious.)

But at some point, I think Carson should've let bygones be bygones. After her show tanked, after they'd both been through so much personal tragedy (her with her husband's suicide, him with his son's death), he probably should've tried reaching back when she'd reach out. What's said during the course of business is often times just that: business. I completely understand his feelings being hurt by everything that went on, but he held on to that hurt for a *long time*. Sometimes you need to set aside your anger and realize why you became a fan of someone in the first place.

Life's simply too short to spend it in a feud – or, in this case, icing someone out of your life. Rivers could've reached out to Carson before the news of the Fox show went public – and she certainly could've done without trashing Carson and *Tonight* after the news did go public – but Carson also could've found some time over the nearly two decades that followed to forgive and forget.

* * *

See you next week.

East Hampton Police News

8/22: Todd Travis Bower, 25, of 230 Old West High St., was arrested and charged with third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, East Hampton Police said.

8/22: Michael Bower, 23, of 230 Old West High St., was issued a summons for second-degree criminal mischief, police said.

8/22: Alex Banning, 21, of 4 Smith St., was issued a summons for third-degree criminal mischief and operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

8/29: Barry Marchinkoski, 48, of 1 Labella Circle, Middletown, was arrested pursuant to

an active arrest warrant and charged with criminal trespass and shoplifting (sixth-degree larceny), police said.

8/31: Daniel D. Winslow, 39, of no certain address, was arrested and charged with home invasion, second-degree strangulation, disorderly conduct and failure to comply with required fingerprinting, police said.

9/2: Trevor Michael Foster, 19, of 220 Norwich Ave., Lebanon, turned himself in pursuant to an active warrant for his arrest, and was charged with second-degree assault and disorderly conduct, police said.

Andover Police News

9/4: Clare Llynda Carrara, 20, of 21 Lakeside Dr., Andover, was issued an infraction for failure to drive right, police said.

9/5: Chad L. Nadeau, 24, of 294 Boston Hill Rd., Andover, was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct, threatening, possession of narcotics, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of less than half an ounce of marijuana, according to police.

9/5: John Totri, 53, of 30 Lakeside Dr., Andover, was arrested and charged with second-degree breach of peace and second degree threatening, according to police.

9/7: According to police, a homeowner on Lakeside Drive returned home to discover several items were missing from their house; these items included two televisions and music equipment. Anyone with information is asked to contact Trooper Paul Arigno at Troop K in Colchester, at 860-465-5400.

Marlborough Police News

9/7: Maria Walton, 53, of 40 Woodland Rd., Bloomfield, was charged with DUI, police said.

9/9: Michelle A. Wnuk, 22, of 39 Mildrum Rd., Berlin, was issued an infraction for following too close, police said.

9/9: Edwin Collado, 23, of 255 South St., Vernon, was charged with DWI and reckless driving, police said.

Colchester Police News

9/4: Evan Wojcik, 22, of 17 Overlook Rd., East Hampton, turned himself in to Troop K on an active PRAWN warrant for second-degree failure to appear, State Police said.

9/6: Osvaldo Beard, 19, of 1 Marshall Pl., New London, was arrested and charged with reckless driving and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license/registration, said police.

Hebron Police News

9/5: Police said Troy A. Hicks, 26, of 174 Stonington St., Apt. B1, Hartford, was taken into custody and charged with second degree failure to appear, police said.

9/5: Police said Caresse Wood, 22, of 9 Jones St., Hebron, was arrested and charged with second degree breach of peace and criminal assault of a police officer, police said.

Obituaries

Colchester

Evelyn M. Ferrary

Evelyn M. Ferrary, 85, formerly of East Haddam and New York City, left us Friday, Sept. 5, to reunite with her husband and son, whom she missed dearly and longed to be with every day. Born July 8, 1929, in New York City, she was a real beauty, inside and out.

Evelyn was a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was also a devoted daughter and sister. She was a daughter of the late Charles and Mary (Vincens) Hartman and married the love of her life, Douglas, on June 4, 1949, and they were quite the couple, always the life of the party; they loved each other deeply.

The couple raised their family in New York City and then retired at a very early age in East Haddam. They shared sixty years of marriage before he predeceased her on Oct. 27, 2009. She was also predeceased by her beloved son, Douglas Ferrary Jr., on Oct. 27, 1984.

Evelyn was formerly a member of the East Haddam Republican Women's Club. She absolutely loved the casinos and enjoyed them often with her friend, Vera Glemboski. She was the last surviving sibling of the Hartman family and will now be joining all of her brothers and sisters and their spouses.

Evelyn will be sadly missed but always remembered by her family: her daughters, Kathie Ferrary of Florida, Susan and her husband Paul Glemboski of Connecticut, Donna and her husband Greg Wyman of Connecticut; her three grandsons, Christopher, Philip and Paul Douglas; her seven great-grandchildren; and numerous extended family and friends. She also shared the last three years of her life with a devoted caregiver and friend, Myriam, an angel sent from Heaven.

In her last three months of life, she was cared for by an incredibly compassionate team at Harrington Court in Colchester.

Family and friends attended calling hours Tuesday, Sept. 9, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. The funeral assembled at the funeral home Wednesday, Sept. 10, and a celebration of the funeral Liturgy Mass was held that morning at St. Andrew Church in Colchester. Burial followed in Mt. Parnassus Cemetery in East Haddam.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Alzheimers Association.

For online expressions of sympathy, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton

Marc Raymond Nicolletta

Marc wouldn't want anyone writing an obituary about him; let this be a brief biography with an unfortunate placement.

Marc Raymond Nicolletta, 52, of East Hampton, made his stage appearance Aug. 6, 1962. He took his final bow before the curtains closed, guitar in hand, on Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2014.

Marc loved his dogs. Merlin, Pepper, Loki and Gandalf were the last in a long line of hairy hogs that shared his bed and affection.

His absence will ache in the hearts of his loving mother, Carole Nicolletta; father, Raymond Nicolletta; two beautiful children, Meghan and Zachary; his other "son" Torrey; his two hairy children, Gandalf and Loki; and many others.

Although his survivors will miss him dearly, we all know he is rocking the heavens with his sister Kristie. Don't worry about his bed being empty either; because Merlin will gladly keep him warm at night.

Marc lived in East Hampton. He graduated from Xavier High School and "RiverRat University." At the time of his death, he was also employed by Glastonbury Public Schools system where he served over 15 years.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Sept. 11, at Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland. Burial was in St. Mary Cemetery, Portland. Calling hours were Wednesday, Sept. 10, at the funeral home.

Marc would have told you that black is not his color and should not be worn during this time.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a non-profit Weimaraner rescue. Checks can be made out to "NYS Weimaraner Rescue" and mailed to: 4324 Cassadaga Stockton Rd., Cassadaga, NY 14718.

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



Colchester

Dana Edward Bradstreet

Dana Edward Bradstreet, 80, of Colchester, beloved husband of Beatrice (Hanlon) Bradstreet for 57 years, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 9, at Hartford Hospital, surrounded by his loving family. Born Jan. 22, 1934 in Bridgewater, Maine, he was a son of the late Vernon and Mamaree (Schriver) Bradstreet.

He was a proud Army veteran of the Korean War. Mr. Bradstreet worked as an assistant test operator at the Wilgoos Lab of Pratt & Whitney for many years before his retirement.

He was a longtime member of the Baptist congregation of the Colchester Federated Church, where he served as Deacon Emeritus. Over the years, he was a coach of Colchester Midget Football, as well as a member of the Indian Guides.

In addition to his loving wife, he leaves three children and their spouses, Beth Ann (Michael) Voiland and Dana Steven (Judean) Bradstreet, all of Colchester, and Krista (Glenn) MacGregor of Glastonbury; nine grandchildren, Sarah, Leah, Rebekah, Dayna, Therese, Jesse, Joseph, Jacob and Joshua; four great-grandchildren, Kaitlin, Kolton, Logan and Beatrice; seven siblings, Douglas Bradstreet, Arlene Kinney, Donna Spaulding, Keith Bradstreet, Susan Bradstreet, Vella Griffin and Dale Lowe, all of Maine; his best friend/"brother," Wendell Hutchinson of Broad Brook; and numerous extended family members and friends.

He was predeceased by two siblings, Pauline Cronkite and Daniel Lowe.

The family received guests Thursday, Sept. 11, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. Funeral services will be observed at 10 a.m. today, Sept. 12, directly at the Colchester Federated Church, located at 60 Main Street (on the green). Burial with full military honors will follow in Linwood Cemetery, Colchester.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Colchester Federated Church.

For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Hebron

Aaron Reid

Aaron "Steve" Reid, of the Village of Amston, Town of Hebron, died Monday, Sept. 8, in Ancho, N.M. Steve was born May 8, 1931, in Flushing, N.Y., son of the late John and Gertrude Reid.

His family moved to Hebron in 1949 to start a chicken farm, and Steve was a dedicated member of his community, serving as first selectman for many years; Democratic registrar of voters; a charter member of the Hebron Sportsman's Club; an early member of the Hebron Lions Club and a founder of the Hebron Harvest Fair, on which he worked for over 40 years; and a Connecticut sheriff and marshal. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and being outdoors, and he was instrumental in the acquisition and improvement of Grayville Falls park.

He is survived by his brother Fred Reid and his wife Johanna of New Mexico; his son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Winona Reid of Meredith, N.H.; his daughter and son-in-law, Linda Reid and Mark Branse of Glastonbury; his ex-wives and dear friends, Marie B. Reid of Cromwell and Susan Dickerson of Ancho, N.M.

He was predeceased by his sister, Flora Codman.

There will be no calling hours.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hebron Lions Club, 347 Gilead St., Hebron, CT 06248.

Colchester

Edwina B. Neal

Edwina B. Neal, 81, of 326 New London Tpke., Norwich, entered into eternal rest Friday, Sept. 5, at Harrington Court, Colchester.

She was born in New London, the daughter of the late Elizabeth Greene.

Funeral service and interment will be private.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Lester Gee Funeral Home, 108 Blinman St., New London.



East Hampton

Frank H. Livingston

Frank H. Livingston, 78, passed away peacefully at home with his wife Loraine by his side on Tuesday, Sept. 9. He passed after a courageous three-year battle with amyloidosis. Frank was born Jan. 7, 1936, in Fredericktown, Pa.

He was the son of the late Harry and Georganna Livingston of Schenectady, N.Y. Frank was a resident of Manchester for most of his adult life until he retired and moved to East Hampton, spending winters in Fort Pierce, Fla.

Frank started his career as director for District 50 United Mine Workers in Cleveland, Ohio, before beginning a 30-year career with Connecticut Natural Gas (CNG). Frank started his CNG career in human relations and rose to chief administrative officer before retiring in 1996. Frank attended Slippery Rock College in Pennsylvania, where he was on the swim team, and received a bachelor's degree from the University of Hartford.

Those who knew Frank appreciated his dry sense of humor which he kept right through to the end. He loved skiing and enjoyed many winter weekends with family and friends at his home in Mount Snow, Vt. He and his wife Loraine served as ambassadors at Mount Snow where they met many lifelong friends. He was a member of Manchester Country Club where he played many golf rounds with his dear friends of the Breakfast Club.

Frank loved sports and was an avid Pittsburgh Steelers and Pirates fan, but he was most passionate about spending time with his kids and beloved eight grandchildren. He never missed an event with his grandchildren and took them on many summer trips that they will remember forever. His passion for sports is handed down to his children and grandchildren who will miss his love, guidance and support. His wry sense of humor and storytelling will be missed by all that knew him.

Frank was very generous with his time and donations to many charities and non-profits. He volunteered many years at ECHN as trustee, Manchester Rotary where he was a past president, Kidney Foundation where he was a past president and the Hartford American Red Cross as a director. Frank leaves his loving wife of 57 years, Loraine Livingston (Simard) of East Hampton; his son Daniel and wife Cindy of Coventry; his daughter Georganna Koppermann and her husband Thomas of Westerly, R.I.; and her son Roger and his wife Joan of Greer, S.C. Frank will also be greatly missed by his cherished grandchildren Jessica, Curtis, Corey, Daniel, Rachel, Lani, Lea and Brian.

The family will receive friends Sunday, Sept. 14, from 2-4 p.m., at Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Frank's memory to Amyloid Research Fund, 72 East Concord St., Suite K503, Boston, MA 02118, or bu.edu/amyloid/donate.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Marlborough

Glenn D. Kinghorn

Glenn D. Kinghorn of North Fort Myers, Fla., formerly of Marlborough, passed away Friday, Aug. 29, at Hope Hospice, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was the loving husband of Martha (Shields) Kinghorn and cherished son of Henry and Mabel (Fuller) Kinghorn of North Fort Myers, Fla. He was born May 9, 1942, in Middletown.

He leaves three sons and a daughter: Michael (Jennifer) Kinghorn of Woodstock Valley and their daughter Zoe Bearce of Seattle, Wash.; Robert (Danielle) Kinghorn and their daughters Josphine and Lucille of Brimfield, Mass.; John (Bobbi-Jo) Kinghorn and their daughter Paige of Danielson, CT; Erin Kinghorn of Albany, N.Y. He also leaves his stepchildren and step-grandchildren Richard Stowell and his children Bella, Lilli and Gus of S. Deerfield, Mass., and Rhonda (Derek) Lewis and their children Isaiah and Iris of Springfield, Mass. He leaves his sister and brother-in-law Bonnie and Paul Anderson of Marlborough and his brother Bruce of North Fort Myers, Fla.

Glenn was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, having served as aviation radar man 2nd class aboard the aircraft carrier Bennington during the Vietnam War. He was a member of American Legion Post 197 of Marlborough and the Marlborough Volunteer Fire Department.

He was predeceased by his wife, Nancy (Luther) Kinghorn, the mother of their children, and his wife, Janet Boker.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so to the Marlborough Volunteer Fire Department.



Andover

Winifred B. Thompson

Winifred B. Thompson, 92, of Andover, the wife of the late Clayton A. Thompson Jr., died Wednesday, Sept. 3, at her home. Born in Jericho, Vt., on May 29, 1922, she was the daughter of the late Albert I. and Bertha A. (Brown) Gleason.

Winifred was a loving and caring wife, mother and homemaker. All of her life she was an arm-chair traveler, instilling in her children an interest in foreign lands and cultures, and in subjects too diverse to mention. She taught her family patience and perseverance to the end.

She is survived by her children, Bonnie T. Wesson of Manchester, Lynn Thompson and his wife Janet of Glastonbury, Dale Thompson and his wife Valerie of Manchester, and Laurie Edberg and her husband Terry of Andover; her grandchildren, Roger Wesson Jr. and wife Maria, Matthew Wesson and wife Marie, Stephanie Watkins and husband Robby, James Wesson, Christopher Thompson and wife Diana, Catherine Thompson, Joshua Thompson and wife Elizabeth, Sarah Thompson, Jeremy Edberg and wife Amber, Nathan Edberg and wife Amy, and Aaron Edberg; and her sisters-in-law Barbara Bolduc and Beverly Gleason. She is also survived by 14 great-grandchildren, with the anticipated arrival of a 15th, and by numerous nieces and nephews.

Winifred was predeceased by her husband in 2002, and she was recently predeceased by her son-in-law, Roger A. Wesson Sr.

The family wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to Winifred's wonderful and loving caregiver, Lydia Afforo.

A funeral service was held Thursday, Sept. 11, at the John F. Tierney Funeral Home, 219 West Center St., Manchester, followed by burial in East Cemetery, Manchester. Family and friends called at the funeral home Thursday morning, before the service.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the Alzheimer's Association CT Chapter, 2075 Silas Deane Highway, Suite 100, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, American Cancer Society, 30 Speen St., P.O. Box 9376, Framingham, MA 01701-9376, or Worldwide Lighthouse Missions, 723 Main St., Manchester, CT 06040 (www.wlm.org).

For online condolences, visit tierneyfuneralhome.com.

Cobalt

Melvin Kendrick Johnson

Melvin Kendrick Johnson, 90, of Cobalt, beloved husband of Ann (Elliot) Johnson, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Sept. 2, at Jamaica Hospital. He was born July 31, 1924, in Jamaica, to the late Kendrick and Phillipa Johnson.

He grew up as a member of the Wesleyan Church in Jamaica and learned his carpenter trade in his late teens. He came to the United States in 1944 and was able to use his trade to find work. He lived in Hartford and Marlborough prior to settling in Cobalt. He remained a faithful member of St. Monica's Episcopal Church in Hartford until he was unable to attend services. He was received and baptized at St. Monica's and was a member of the Mr. & Mrs. Club, the Willing Workers, a member of the executive board and director of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. He also shared his tradecraft and helped with many church renovations over the years.

Melvin loved sports and was an avid New York Mets and Boston Celtics fan. He enjoyed reading the newspaper and following the cable news channels. He was loving and supportive of his wife of 45 years, Ann Johnson, and his two children, Roderick and DeShaunta Johnson.

In addition to his wife and children he is survived by his grandchildren, Roinn and River, his son-in-law, Saul Petersen and dear friends, Barbara and Joy Josephs, Enith Cooke, as well as many other relatives and friends.

Besides his parents, Melvin was predeceased by his siblings, Kenneth, Alden Johnson, Amy and Zenola Johnson, and his best friend, Clifford "Uncle Joe" Josephs.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, Sept. 13, at 10 a.m., at St. Monica's Church, 3575 Main St., Hartford. Interment will follow in Mount St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. His family will receive friends from 9-10 a.m., prior to the service at the church.

For online condolences, visit carmonfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Sylvia Margerite Grzelak

Sylvia Margerite Grzelak, 80, passed away Sunday, Sept. 7, at Apple Rehabilitation in Colchester. She was born Sept. 17, 1933, in Jewett City, the daughter of the late Alfred and Blanche (Mondor) Boisvert.

Sylvia worked for many years at the Jewett City Electric Light office. She served as secretary of the Norwich Chapter of AARP for five years and was also the Treasurer of the Ahepa Building in Taftville. Sylvia was very talented at sewing, knitting, quilting and crocheting. She used her many talents to make walker bags for the veteran's homes, knitted chemotherapy caps and prayer shawls for cancer patients, knitted winter hats for Norwich school children and made many blankets and afghans for the Children's Hospital and the homeless. Sylvia also put her wonderful baking skills to work for many good causes.

She is survived by her son, Joseph Grzelak of Griswold, daughter Gail Mulcahy and her husband Bill of Norwich, two loving nieces Maureen O'Toole of Jewett City and Cynthia Dennison and her husband George of Waterford, five grandchildren Joseph Grzelak, Alexander Grzelak, Kelsey Grzelak, Nicole Grzelak, and Christian Mulcahy, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her sister, Lillian Lamothe.

Sylvia's family would like to say a special thank you to the nurses and aides who lovingly cared for her at Apple Rehabilitation in Colchester.

A memorial Mass was celebrated Thursday at St. Mary's Church in Jewett City. Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family. There were no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Sylvia's memory to Masonicare Home Health & Hospice, c/o The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, 74 Cheshire Rd., P.O. Box 70, Wallingford, CT 06492.

The Gagne-Piechowski Funeral Home, 490 Voluntown Rd., Jewett City, has been entrusted with arrangements. For online condolences, visit gagnepiechowski.com.

Colchester

Carrie Winter-Stadnick

Carrie Winter-Stadnick, 56, of 196 Old Norwich Rd., Quaker Hill, passed away peacefully Monday, Sept. 8, at home with her family. Carrie was born in Leominster, Mass., Nov. 29, 1957, the daughter of Robert and Beverly Lund Winter of Colchester. She was the wife of Peter F. Stadnick.

Carrie graduated from Roger Williams College and received her master's degree in 1993 from the UConn School of Social Work. Carrie had worked tirelessly for over 30 years in social work. She was currently a social worker for the acute rehabilitation unit at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital and had been the social worker for the hospital's high risk infant program for incarcerated pregnant women.

She had also worked for the SECT Chapter, American Red Cross; The Alliance for Living; and for the Center for Hospice Care of SECT where she developed their bereavement program. Carrie had also taught a death and dying course at Three Rivers Community College and had presented a seminar at the UConn School of Social Work.

Besides her husband and parents, Carrie is survived by her sister Jill Spelucin and husband Gary of Portland; sister Cheryl Rafferty and husband Bruce of Ronkonkoma, N.Y.; her sister, Karen Winter of Vermont; her kitties, Sulu and Cloe; as well as her nieces and nephews, Corie Lepanto, Erin Palian, Bruce and Robert Rafferty, Christopher Bertram and their families.

Her heart's desires included swimming, gardening, kayaking, snowshoeing, walking, hiking and crafts of all types.

The family would like to thank the many generous friends and colleagues at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital, the Dana Farber Institute in Boston and the L+M Cancer Center in Waterford for extending heartfelt care to Carrie.

Visiting hours will be held Saturday afternoon, Sept. 13, from 3-5 p.m., at the Byles Memorial Home, 99 Huntington St. New London. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Ocean Conservancy, Arbor Day Foundation, ASPCA or the Disabled American Veterans.

Visit byles.com to sign the guestbook or share a memory.