

RIVEREAST

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The Andover Public Library may not look like much, but in the same way entire worlds can be found between the pages of a book, there's plenty to discover inside the square, brick building located on Route 6, including a "homey atmosphere" and a couple of comfy chairs to while away the hours.

A Little Library, But Lots to Offer

by Geeta Schrayter

The saying may be "don't judge a book by its cover," but in the case of the Andover Public Library, the phrase could also be, "don't judge a library by its size."

Located in a square, brick building on Route 6, the Andover Public Library isn't very large – less than 3,000 square feet – and it's easy to assume it couldn't possibly have much to offer.

Indeed, Library Director Amy Orlomoski said this week when people stop in for the first time, they often say they didn't expect to find so many materials. And Orlomoski admitted when she first stepped foot in the library for an interview 16 years ago, "I did the same thing!"

"It's much bigger than it seems," she added. "We have more than you think."

The library has 20,000-30,000 books, including a myriad of fiction and nonfiction titles: there are romance novels, mysteries, thrillers, suspense stories, historical fiction and a bit of science fiction. The library contains a "full range of non-fiction," Orlomoski added. "We run the gamut. We have a collection of large print titles and biographies too."

In addition, downstairs contains a large children's section.

"We have a huge amount of books for being a small library," said children's librarian Cathy Campen. "Amy does a good job keeping the collection up-to-date."

And if the library doesn't have what a patron is looking for, Orlomoski said "we can try get-

ting it through Interlibrary Loan."

Interlibrary Loan is a service through the Connecticut State Library that allows libraries throughout the state to borrow books from the State Library connections and facilities; the desired item is mailed to the local library for a resident to pick up and borrow and when they finish, they return it to the library, where it is then mailed back.

Along with books, the library also contains DVDs, CDs, magazines and books on CD; the library has Wi-Fi available, as well as two public computers and a copy/fax machine.

The library also offers museum passes for free or reduced admission to several area museums including The Children's Museum in West Hartford, the CT Science Center, the Old State House, Mystic Aquarium and the Wadsworth Atheneum.

Also in the works is a new service, OverDrive, which will provide patrons with access to eBooks and audiobooks.

"The subscription hasn't started yet," Orlomoski shared, "but the check is going in the mail today [Wednesday], so it should be up soon."

And, in addition to the materials available at the library, patrons can also find a number of programs. These include a weekly story time for children at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays; and two knitters groups on Monday mornings from

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School Board Decision Slammed as Political

by Mike Thompson

The chairman of the East Hampton Board of Education said this week a board decision to bar town elected officials from doing any paid work for the board was not politically-motivated.

But a fellow board member this week slammed the move as "pure politics" and an "embarrassment for the town."

At Monday's school board meeting, chair Ken Barber introduced a motion stating that no town-elected official could be hired by the school board as a vendor or subcontractor.

Barber said his action was prompted by people bringing to his attention that Town Council member Mark Philhower, who is currently running for re-election, had received payments from the Board of Education. Those payments were to Philhower's local HVAC business Tech Unlimited, and were for work done for the school system in February, March and May of 2014.

But, while it was the Tech Unlimited payments that prompted the matter being brought to Barber's attention, Barber said it wasn't specifically targeted at Philhower.

"This is not supposed to be based on one person," Barber said. "This is a procedure for all elected officials."

Barber maintained the school board had no

idea the school system had hired Philhower for work last year.

"The board does not award bids; the board does not see every vendor. That's the superintendent's office," Barber said. "We have very little knowledge of exactly who we are contracting."

But Barber felt it was important that the board at least know who they weren't contracting.

"We needed a procedure," Barber said. "This had to be stopped immediately. ... It's inappropriate to do business with elected officials."

Barber admitted he was surprised there wasn't already a policy about this on the school system books.

"I was very surprised," he said, adding that "the absolute vacuum of guidance was staggering."

As for the timing of the motion – being introduced on the eve of the election – Barber said that, once he found out about the payments to Philhower, he didn't want to wait on the issue.

"Unfortunately, this was when it came to our attention," Barber said. "So what do you do? You either take no action and allow it to continue, or you could very quickly pass a motion and get it done."

Barber said that, without regulation, "this practice could continue at any moment," such as if a boiler or HVAC unit goes, if snow-plowing needs to take place, or another similar situation arises.

Barber's a Democrat, and Philhower a Republican – but the school board chair stressed there was no political motivation at work. Still, he added, "People are gonna say whatever they believe."

The motion "is certainly not aimed at one person," he said. "It is an across-the-board, immediate solution to a problem."

The board motion passed Monday by a 7-1 vote with board member Deb Devin, who could not be reached for comment for this story, voting against.

There was also one abstention by Republican Josh Piteo, who is running for election this year to the Town Council. Piteo said this week he felt the "politically-motivated" vote was indeed aimed at Philhower.

"It's a political motion just before an election, just to get a headline," Piteo said. "It's basically based on one person. ... It's comical and very sad. Pure politics."

Piteo said he abstained because, while he wasn't opposed to the overall idea, he felt it should have gone through the standard proce-

cedure for a new board policy – specifically, gone through the board subcommittee, which he happens to sit on.

"The general premise is valid, but the way they did it is totally underhanded," Piteo said.

"This is a rogue activity," he continued. "It's an embarrassment for the town."

As for Philhower, he said this week he believes the motion "was all politically-motivated."

Philhower said he was "absolutely" surprised when he learned of the board's vote Monday. He noted the item wasn't even on the meeting's agenda.

He said he "seriously" doubted Barber had no idea about the school system's payments to Tech Unlimited last year.

"Look at the dates [on the invoices detailing the payments to Tech Unlimited], and you're telling me you just found out about it? No," Barber said.

The motion was "absolutely political," he said, adding the board was trying to "discredit me."

"I'm a little upset and very distraught that they were trying to destroy my reputation when I give so much to the town," Philhower said.

Philhower said he figures his opponents

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The library is less than 3,000 square feet but with a plethora of books, CDs and DVDs, museum passes and programs, and an upcoming service providing eBooks and audio books, it's filled with just about anything a library-goer could want – or the means to get it.

Andover Library cont. from Front Page

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., and on the third Monday evening of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The library also hosts a regular hula hooping event each Monday that takes place on the library lawn on nice days and in the music room at Andover Elementary School during the colder months. There is also a monthly book discussion; the next one is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m., where Maria Semple's *Where'd You Go, Bernadette* will be discussed. Copies of the book are available at the library.

Along with the above, past programs have included cake decorating and origami, and upcoming events include a possible scrapbooking workshop, a folk dancing workshop Monday, Nov. 9; Christmas card making Tuesday, Dec. 1; adult coloring Monday, Dec. 8; and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus Saturday, Dec. 12.

"And we always welcome program suggestions. If someone has a special talent they'd like to share we can do that too," Orloski stated.

Campan described the library as having a

"homey atmosphere," and Orloski added with a smile that there were a couple of comfy chairs to curl up in. And, perhaps best of all, the majority of the offerings are free – all that's needed is a library card, which costs nothing to obtain.

"People tend to discount us just on our size," Campan concluded, and that's a stigma they're hoping to break.

"We just like people to know we have a lot of stuff here – more than you might think," Orloski stated. "You shouldn't judge by the outside."

Information and updates on the library can be found on the library's Facebook page at [facebook.com/AndoverPublicLibrary.CT](https://www.facebook.com/AndoverPublicLibrary.CT). The library now has extended hours and is open Monday and Wednesday from 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 12-8 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The library is located at 355 Route 6. For more information call 860-742-7428.

School Board cont. from Front Page

"must be seriously worried about me getting re-elected. They must know something I don't."

Philhower added he didn't know if this will affect his election chances. "I really don't," he said.

But, he furthered, he has received support from other town officials in the days following Monday's motion, opining that it was a dirty move.

Indeed, Philhower said, "I understand why good people don't want to run for office."

Philhower said he's done work for the town off and on for the past 30 years. But, he said, he's done.

"Quite honestly, if something breaks this year, you're on your own," he said, referring to town-owned buildings. "I don't need the aggravation."

From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

It's old news now, but, given how often the subject in this column has often reverted back to the orange and blue over the years, you knew I'd have to mention it:

My New York Mets have won the pennant. They are National League champions.

After they won the pennant last Wednesday, and at several points over the next few days, I had to remind myself it was real – they had done it. It's a weird, and wonderful, feeling.

I could spend a lot of ink writing about how long in coming this has been for the team; how nice it is to see all these young guys you've watched grow over the past few seasons get to achieve this success; how hopefully this means the days of the Mets being the butt of so many jokes are over, at least for now (seriously, "LOLMets" went and became a thing in the past few years. Let's put that to bed, shall we?) – but I feel I've done all that before.

I will say this: this year has been a fantastic ride for the Mets, one that I hope will end with four more wins under their belt and a World Championship flag to fly above Citi Field. The World Series started Tuesday night, after I wrote this column. Win or lose, it's been an incredibly successful season for the team. But that championship trophy – I want to be able to see the Mets hoist it.

Speaking of baseball, I was happy to hear Colchester's own Ron Wotus – the longtime bench coach of the San Francisco Giants – was interviewed by the Washington Nationals for their managerial vacancy.

Ron has been the Giants' bench coach since 1999 – meaning he was there for the team's world championships in 2010, 2012 and 2014. Having had enjoyed so much success, it's not surprising teams are talking to him about filling managerial vacancies.

I had the pleasure of interviewing Ron following the 2012 championship. He told me managing a team is something he'd like to do, "but I think it would have to be the right situation. What that is, I don't know."

The Nationals' gig isn't the first one Ron's been interviewed for; last November, the Tampa Rays interviewed him for their own managerial vacancy, before ultimately going with Kevin Cash, and the year before, he had an interview with Seattle about its vacancy.

Ron seems like a great guy, and he obviously knows his stuff when it comes to base-

ball; you don't stick around as a team's bench coach for 16 years – under three different managers, no less – if you don't know the game. I have no doubt he'd thrive if he landed a team. It's an opportunity he frankly deserves.

It's Election Day next Tuesday, so don't forget to vote. I say it every year – okay, every other year – but local elections are very important; a lot more important than I think many people believe. Decisions town officials make can impact your life very, very directly – particularly if you do anything in your town.

Everything from fees at the transfer station to how long the library stays open to what the next Plan of Conservation and Development looks like is shaped by the people who get voted into office next week. It's not a responsibility you should take lightly, nor is it one you should avoid. Democracy – at all levels – is important, and everyone should be a part of it.

Lastly, some quick, but mostly terrible, jokes I recently came across:

What's the best thing about Switzerland? I don't know, but the flag is a big plus.

I invented a new word! Plagiarism!

Did you hear about the mathematician who's afraid of negative numbers? He'll stop at nothing to avoid them.

Why do we tell actors to "break a leg?" Because every play has a cast.

Did you hear about the actor who fell through the floorboards? He was just going through a stage.

Helvetica and Times New Roman walk into a bar. "Get out of here!" shouts the bartender. "We don't serve your type."

Yesterday I saw a guy spill all his Scrabble letters on the road. I asked him, "What's the word on the street?"

Once my dog ate all the Scrabble tiles. For days he kept leaving little messages around the house.

A woman in labor suddenly shouted, "Shouldn't! Wouldn't! Couldn't! Didn't! Can't!" "Don't worry," said the doc. "Those are just contractions."

A bear walks into a bar and says, "Give me a whiskey and cola." "Why the big pause?" asks the bartender. The bear shrugged. "I'm not sure; I was born with them."

See you next week.

Portland Election Day is Here Again

by John Tyczkowski

It's time to head to the polls again in Portland to decide which residents will help run the town.

Voting will take place Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Waverly Center, located at 7 Waverly Ave.

The race for first selectman, a full-time, paid position profiled in last week's *Rivereast*, will be a three-way race this year between Democrat incumbent Susan Bransfield, Republican Dan Colby and American Independent Party candidate Lambros Lambrinides.

Also profiled in last week's issue, the Board of Selectmen will be a seven-candidate race. Democrats are fielding incumbents Kathy Richards, Fred Knous and Brian Flood, as well as Ben Srb. Republican candidates include incumbents Carl Chudzik, as well as Mike Pelton and Rob Taylor.

Of the seven, voters can cast a ballot for any four, and the top six vote-getters will be elected.

Perhaps most historically, this year sees the first town clerk election in nearly four decades which does not involve long-time town clerk Bernie Dillon, who retired this January.

Democrat Kayleigh Kinsella and Republican Ryan Curley, previewed in last week's *Rivereast*, face off for this full-time, paid position.

Four candidates are on voters' ballots for the Board of Education, previewed two weeks ago in the *Rivereast*.

For a four-year term beginning this year, Democrat incumbent MaryAnne Rode, as well as newcomer Jim Tripp, are running, as is Republican Tim Lavoy. People can vote for any two of those three. Republican Gisela Rice is running unopposed to fill a two-year vacancy on the school board.

Running for a five-year term for the Zoning Board of Appeals, which starts in 2016, are Democrat Michael Lastrina and Republican Kevin Anderson. People can vote for one of the two. Republican Robert Casati is running unopposed for a five-year term on the ZBA that will start this year.

Lastly, on the Board of Assessment Appeals, Democrats John Dillon and Thomas Malecky are running, as well as Republicans Peter Castelli and Ashley Varrichio. People can vote for any two.

Over the past decade of municipal elections, voter turnout had stayed consistent, between 34 and 41 percent. However, that turnout rate took a nosedive in 2013, with only 27 percent of registered voters heading to the polls.

Portland has approximately 6,300 registered voters of all affiliations.

Election Day Returns in Hebron Next Week

by Geeta Schrayter

Next week Hebron residents will have the opportunity to head to the polls and show their support for their fellow Hebronites who are running for an elected position in the town.

On the Board of Selectmen those candidates include two incumbents and two newcomers vying for three seats. The four were profiled in last week's *Rivereast*; here is a quick summary.

On the incumbent side, current Chairman Brian O'Connell, a Democrat, is looking to serve for his third term. O'Connell has lived in town since 1991 with his wife and two children and owns O'Connell Wealth Management. O'Connell said he thought his experience was beneficial to the board and said he was interested in bringing fresh ideas to the town through new volunteers as well as "prudent, intelligent economic development."

Current selectwoman Gail Richmond is also hoping for another term. Richmond, a Republican, was appointed in January after then-Chairwoman Gayle Mulligan resigned following her election to the state legislature.

Richmond said she considers her varied volunteer, education and business experience a benefit. She said she considers working with the schools to help them keep their budgets low important, as well as economic development, explaining, "We all want to preserve that semi-rural charm that we have, but we need that economic development to keep the mill rate down because if not, everything is on the backs of the homeowner."

Running for a first term on the board is Republican Clara O'Brien and Democrat Robert Merrifield.

O'Brien has lived in Amston for 21 years with her husband where they raised their three children. She works as a registered nurse and currently serves as chair of both the Water Pollution Control Authority and the Board of Assessment Appeals.

O'Brien said she isn't in favor of cutting services to residents like decreasing library hours or charging fees for the transfer station. She also mentioned the state budget as an issue along with decreasing enrollment in town.

Merrifield, meanwhile, has lived in Hebron since 1971. He spent 18 years as a teacher at

Gilead Hill School, after which he opened Merrifield Appraisal in town.

Merrifield said he felt his background in business and education, as well as opportunities he's had to work with Hebron residents of all ages, would make him a positive addition to the Board of Selectmen.

* * *

For the local Board of Education there are four candidates for four seats, including two incumbents and two newcomers. As with the selectmen, these candidates were profiled in a recent *Rivereast*; here is a brief summary.

Returning to the board will be current chairwoman Maryanne Leichter and member Geoffrey Davis, who joined the board in March. Both are Democrats.

Leichter has lived in Hebron since 1974 and raised two children in town. She has over 37 years of educational experience and has also spent time on the RHAM Board of Education.

Leichter said she wanted to stay on the board to continue working with the new administration, including Superintendent of Schools Tim Van Tassel who started in July, to move the district in the right direction.

Davis meanwhile, has lived in town for almost nine years with his wife and son, who currently attends school in town. He is a certified K-12 school counselor in Southington.

Davis said he joined the board for the children, adding, "We're going to have to really be focused on making sure we are fiscally responsible with the budget that will be coming up... We need to be very conscious of the taxpayers but also the schools' needs."

On the Republican side, two newcomers will fill the seats of departing members Amy Lynch Gracias and Abe Krisst: Kevin Williams and his mother, Kathy.

Kevin Williams works as the director of customer excellence with American Express and has lived in Hebron off and on throughout his life.

He is currently serving on the RHAM Board of Education but feels he will be able to better serve on the town board. He said he "will always listen to those who want to be heard" and

said some of the issues facing the Hebron board were similar to those facing RHAM and include enrollment, the budget and the impact of state statutes.

Kathy Williams has lived in town since 1966. Before retirement, she worked at the Savings Bank of Manchester for 31 years as both a loan officer and in the information technology department. She has said communication and the budget are key issues.

* * *

As far as the Board of Finance, two new members will join the board: Democrat Ramon Bieri, and Republican David Veschi.

Bieri has lived in town with his wife and two daughters since 2008 and is the owner of AgeWell Health LLC in town. Bieri is currently a member of the local Board of Education and said he plans to serve on both boards, something he thought would allow for "a more integrated perspective that will help the town." He said he was looking to help "with new and hopefully creative ideas on spurring investment to the town, saving the town money, and trying to create collaborative work efforts between the Board of Finance and the other boards."

As for Veschi, he has lived in town for around 20 years and works for UnitedHealth Group. Veschi called himself "level-headed," which he said was a good attribute for a finance board member: "someone not looking to see a personal agenda, just looking after taxpayers and their funds."

He said being a part of the finance board was about "trying to adhere to the budget and using taxpayer money as efficiently as we possibly can."

* * *

For the RHAM Board of Education, residents will have the opportunity to vote for two of three candidates: incumbent Republican Tom Tremont, incumbent Democrat Amy D'Amaddio and newcomer William Malitsky, a Democrat. These candidates were also profiled in a recent *Rivereast*, and here is a quick summary.

Tremont has lived in town with his wife for 37 years, raising two children in town, and has served on the RHAM Board of Education for

10 years. Tremont said he enjoys being on the board where he can help ensure students are provided the tools needed for a quality education and future. He added he also considers it important to give back to the town you live in, and mentioning addressing declining enrollment as an important issue, as well as "the encroachment of the federal and state government into the school systems."

"The government does have a role in education, I understand that," he explained, "But little by little the government is taking, I believe, too big a role."

D'Amaddio is looking to serve for a second term. She has lived in Hebron for the past 14 years with her husband and three children, and has been employed as a juvenile probation officer for nearly 20 years.

D'Amaddio said she had a passion for advocating for the kids in the community and with another term she felt "we can continue to make positive changes to the district."

Malitsky has lived in Hebron for 17 years with his wife and two daughters, who are current students at RHAM High School.

Malitsky's work history includes working for two Democratic Speakers of the House of Representatives. He currently works at the Hartford law firm Halloran & Sage Government Affairs.

Malitsky said he felt he had a lot of expertise in dealing with different situations that would make him a benefit to the board and said he wanted to use that to help "make the school system the best we can for our kids."

* * *

Also present on the ballot next week will be Democrat Peter Byram and Republican Mark Falade for the Board of Assessment Appeals; Democrat Frank Zitkus and Republican Lewis Hinman III for the Planning and Zoning Commission; Democrat Gilbert Salk and Republican June Danaher for the Zoning Board of Appeals; and Republican Marilyn Alden for Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate.

Election Day is next Tuesday, Nov. 3. Voting takes place from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. at Hebron Elementary School, 85 Church St.

Walt's Celebrating 50 Years in Colchester

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

To be in business 50 years – and remain a family-owned business at that – is a considerable achievement. So Walt's Country Motors definitely has something to celebrate.

Walt's Country Motors, nestled just off 429 New London Rd., opened its doors Oct. 16, 1965. Today it is run by one of Walt Sawchuk's sons, Bill Sawchuk.

Walt was a salesman for Ford, and a "Top Hatter," meaning he was one of the top salesmen in the company, his wife Dolores recalled. Although he loved sales, the pressure of working at a dealership got to him. So, he and Dolores opened up their own shop.

The business is actually located near Salem – a decision that definitely had its critics, Dolores recalled. "Everyone thought it was too far out in the country," she said.

But, as it turned out, it was an ideal spot, and brought in Salem business.

"All the beach traffic came through this way," John Sawchuk, one of Bill's brothers, said. "Country Motors, it was perfect for the setting."

While things didn't go quite the way Walt planned for Walt's Country Motors, Dolores said that, if her husband were alive today, he would be happy with it.

Originally Walt wanted the business to be a used car dealership, but also hired a mechanic for service, especially on the used cars. At its peak, Walt's Country Motors sold between 30 and 40 used cars a month. Bill, who was 9 at the time of the opening, began watching and learning the ropes of being a mechanic and a bodywork man.

"Walt was never a mechanic. Bill is," Dolores said. "When Bill graduated high school and we wanted to send him to college for bodywork, they said they couldn't teach him anything. He

already knew more."

Dolores said that was when Walt added a bodywork wing onto the garage. Bill worked out of that wing, while Walt – always a salesman – chatted with customers, Dolores recalled.

Walt ran the business for decades – during which time, Dolores recalled, you would never find a computer at his desk.

"What time does the Internet close?" Dolores joked. "That was Walt."

Working with family can be difficult at times, the Sawchuks said – "Most everyone in the family has been through here," John recalled – and the recession definitely hampered business, but Walt's Country Motors was able to soldier on.

"When dad passed, there were doubts" about continuing the business, John said. But the Sawchuks persevered and "how proud he would be today."

Walt tried retirement, but he was miserable and couldn't stay away from the shop. And when he passed away at the age of 75 in November 2006, he actually died at his desk; as the family puts it, he died doing what he loved.

Bill became the legal owner of the business in February 2007.

Walt "would be pleased Bill is sticking it out," Dolores said.

"We try and keep it as Walt had it," Teri Sawchuk, Bill's wife, said. "We have it now, but it's always Walt's."

As for the business turning 50, Bill nonchalantly said it's "just another day."

"It's a milestone, but I just keep going," he said.

Dolores and Teri had nothing but positive things to say about the way Bill has run the business.

"Bill feels loyal to the customers," Dolores said.



Bill Sawchuk, middle, owner of Walt's Country Motors, took time this week to reflect on the 50th anniversary of his father's business with his wife, Teri Sawchuk, left, and his mom, Dolores Sawchuk, right.

"He takes pride in his work," Teri added. "Come to Billy and it gets done right."

Bill works on cars of any make and model, from 1950 to 2016. He prides himself in fixing things rather than just replacing them. Teri said Bill is his "own worst critic," when it comes to being a perfectionist while working on the cars.

"A good garage is like a doctor," Teri said. "You trust them with your car."

And so it's with this outlook Bill continues to plug away in the family shop, carrying on his father's legacy. And now and then, he'll hear a familiar voice, offering him encouragement. "Every once in a while I'll hear his voice [in my head]," Bill said.

Walt's Country Motors is a full service, sales, towing and bodywork garage. It can be reached at 860-537-1178 or at waltscountrymotors.com.

Twenty-Nine Candidates Vying for 16 Seats in Colchester Next Week

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

When Colchester residents head to the polls next Tuesday, they'll be voting to elect not only their new first selectman, but members for a number of other town boards as well.

Twenty-nine candidates are running for 16 open seats this year, making all of the races contested.

With current First Selectman Stan Soby, a Republican, not running for re-election, the first selectman race is between current selectman Kurt Frantzen, a Democrat, and Republican Art Shilosky who is currently on the Board of Finance. This race was featured in last week's *Rivereast* along with the Board of Selectmen candidates, of which there are five people running for four positions.

Soby, along with incumbent Democrat Rosemary Coyle, incumbent Republican Denise Mizla, Democrat John Jones, and Colchester Independent Party's Tearice Peters are all hoping for a seat on the board; voters will be able to choose three on their ballot.

For the Board of Education, six candidates are looking to fill three available seats: incumbent Republican Brad Bernier, Republican Renie Besaw, Stefani Lowe and Carl Swanback with the Colchester Independent Party, incum-

bent Democrat Mary Tomasi, and Democrat Vincent Rose. This race was also featured in a previous *Rivereast*. Voters will be able to choose three on their ballot.

As for the Board of Finance, two seats are available with three candidates on the ballot, and voters will be able to choose two. The candidates include incumbent Republican and current Chairman Rob Tarlov as well as Democrat John Bogush and Republican Andreas Bisbikos. John Ringo, a Democrat, chose not to run for re-election to the finance board.

The town clerk position is heavily contested with three candidates running. Current clerk Gayle Furman, a Democrat, is running for re-election and is being challenged by Republican Tricia Dean and Linda Akerman from the Colchester Independent Party.

The tax collector position is also contested with current collector Michele Wyatt, a Democrat, challenged by Republican Ronald Niemczyk.

The town treasurer position is also up for grabs with Ringo against Republican Steven Schuster.

Meanwhile, three seats are open on the Board of Assessment Appeals with John Malsbenden

and Torri Buchwald not running for re-election. Voters will pick two on their ballot, choosing from incumbent Democrat Denise Turner, Democrat Andrew Cournoyer, Republicans Rick Konan and Karen Godbout, and Colchester Independent Party's Joyce Maine and Brian Currie.

Democratic Town Committee Chairman Don Kennedy said this week he was very proud of Frantzen and the entire Democratic slate.

"They have been working extremely hard running on an issues-based campaign with [an economic development] plan," Kennedy said. "They have the experience to execute the plan and propel Colchester forward in a positive way."

Republican Town Committee Chairman Brenden Healy said he hopes voters will elect Shilosky and the other Republican candidates.

"Our Republican candidates are some of the most experienced and talented people that have run for office," Healy said. "We have led a positive campaign, worked very hard and focused on the issues that affect Colchester."

Colchester Independent Party Chairwoman Deanna Bouchard also had positive things to

say about her party's campaign.

"The Colchester Independent Party has been out in the Colchester neighborhoods, knocking on doors and meeting with residents," Bouchard said. "The number one issue we hear is increasing taxes."

Bouchard explained that it is not just seniors, but families and renters that are struggling.

"The Colchester Independent Party is not politicians, we are regular folks who have gotten involved or stepped forward to serve the public," Bouchard said. "Every single one of our candidates loves this town and is committed to the residents. We don't answer to a political party, we answer to the people."

Bouchard stressed that every vote matters and said her party was committed to increasing voter participation.

Election Day is next Tuesday, Nov. 3. Polling locations in Colchester are separated by district. District 1 can vote at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave.; Districts 2 and 4 can vote at Abundant Life of the Assemblies of God Church, 85 Skinner Rd., and District 3 can vote at Bacon Academy, 611 Norwich Ave. Voting takes place from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

Longtime East Hampton Resident Turns 100

by GERALYN YOCHER

Longtime East Hampton resident Gerald Llewellyn Cole turned 100 years old Wednesday, Oct. 26.

Born in North New Portland, Maine, at home, he is the second-born of twin boys Gerald and Garnold Cole to Clyde and Pharasallow (Knowles) Cole. The twins would be joined in the future by one more brother and three sisters.

Cole attended a one-room schoolhouse, graduating high school in a class of seven. He worked in the forests and sawmills and played on a local baseball team for several years after high school. His twin received a scholarship to Colby College, being their team pitcher. Not to be left behind, Cote enrolled in Hinckley Preparatory School and went on to Colby College as well, graduating with a chemistry degree. He worked at Monsanto Chemical Co. in Massachusetts as a chemist, being granted a draft deferment for his contributions in the industry during war time. He later came to Connecticut as an insurance executive and lastly settled at Fafnir Bearing Co. in New Britain as their safety engineer, retiring at age 82.

When he moved his family to Connecticut with two sons, Clyde and Wayne, and newborn daughter GERALYN, he and his wife, Adelaide, rented a home in Middle Haddam from Jim Coughlin. They also purchased a parcel of land from Phoebe Nichols on North Cone Road. Within three years, he began building the fam-

ily home with Grossman's Building kit and home construction loan of \$10,000.

As children, we all have memories of cinderblocks, plywood, sheetrock piles, plumbing supplies and electrical wires running through studs. Barely owning a hammer, he bought a ban saw at Sears and Roebuck, read his blueprints extensively and proceeded to build. Without extended family and being fairly new to the community, Gerald did most of the work himself. Very little was subcontracted; only that which he could not legally do himself.

When the Greatest Generation says they built their home, they mean they hammered nearly every nail that was sunk, and waited for the next paycheck from their day job to buy the next needed building supplies.

The house was built enough to inhabit after three years. The oldest son, at age 7, celebrated his birthday with school chums on tables stacked of sheetrock. A third son, Calvin, would be born into the family four years later. A two-story Colonial four-bedroom, two-bath home was years in the finishing and remains the home of Adelaide and Jerry to this day. The mortgage was paid off in 10 years and money was sent home to Maine to cover that mortgage. When the youngest son came home from the hospital, Adelaide began a daycare service from the home. Her monthly income was \$70. My dad immediately bought a new car for \$63 per

monthly payment. When I asked him as a young adult why he planned on her money that way, he told me that she got to ride in the car too! We were in heaven; a new Ford Galaxy that we all six packed into on the first two weeks of August every summer and went like 60 for eight hours to Maine with all the windows down.

It was always comical to my mom and dad if we ever said we lacked financially. The stock answer was that they gave us the gift of poverty, so go figure it out. First off, they said you know you are old enough now to know you don't get everything you want when you want it. Secondly, you will have to change either your circumstances or your mind. Maybe you just need to learn how to work hard and be patient. Finally, you need somehow to reckon your expectations with your reality. We are your competition and we are winning until you get over your pity party. Yankees all the way!

In retirement years, Jerry and Adelaide returned to Maine to completely renovate that property. Dad was very industrious and his wife made every penny count. She kept everything clean and organized, never wasting anything. He was the man and he had a great woman behind him. Being 100 years old, he fully expects to live forever! Sadly, he has no memory of building his home. The mail being his lifeline from home for years, he would appreciate a birthday card sent to him in the mail if you are



Gerald Cote and his daughter GERALYN in the first Christmas in her new home, in 1952.

so inclined. His home address is 1 North Cone Rd., East Hampton, CT 06424. As he would say, these are the good years now; enjoy them!

East Hampton Voters Prepare to Head to the Polls

by John Tyczkowski

With less than a week to go, a three-way political face-off is heading toward a showdown in East Hampton.

Voting will take place Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at East Hampton Middle School, located at 19 Childs Rd.

And with the Town Council alone, voters will have 14 candidates to choose from, profiled in last week's *Rivereast*. People can vote for any five of the 14, and seven will get elected.

Democrats include incumbents Barbara Moore, Kevin Reich, Phil Visintainer, George Pfaffenbach, and Pete Brown. Republicans are running incumbents Ted Hintz, Jr., Mark Philhower and Patience Anderson, as well as Melissa Engel and Josh Piteo. Finally, Chatham Party candidates are Kyle Dostaler, Sue Weintraub, Bill Marshall and Tania Sones.

Two weeks ago, the *Rivereast* previewed the eight Board of Education candidates running.

These include Democrats Ken Barber and Joanne Barmasse, incumbents, as well as Deb Battit and Ray Krupa. Republican candidates are Erika Bonaccorso, Jarod Bushey and Mike Rose. The Chatham Party fields a single candidate, incumbent Scott Minnick.

Of the eight, people can vote for any four, and four will get elected.

There are also nine candidates running for the Board of Finance: Democrats Ted Turner, an incumbent, as well as Adam Dawidowicz and Linda May. Republicans are Alison Tokarz, Janine Jiantonio and Steve Ritchie. The Chatham Party is running incumbent Mary Ann Dostaler, Scott Sanicki and Paul Hoffman.

Of these nine, people can vote for any three, and three will get elected.

Lastly, for the Zoning Board of Appeals race, Republican Vinnie Jacobson, Democrat David May and Chatham Party member Cindy Abraham are running for one five-year term that starts in 2015. Republican Maria Peplau and Democrat Matthew Walton are also running against each other for a five-year term on the ZBA that will start in 2016.

Throughout the past ten years, voter turnout for municipal elections peaked at 47 percent in 2005, declined in 2007 to 38 percent, and has stayed relatively consistent, between 37 and 41 percent, in the elections since.

There are approximately 8,300 registered voters of all affiliations in town.

East Hampton Man Charged in Fatal Crash

A local resident was arrested Tuesday in connection with a May car crash that resulted in the death of his fiancée.

Darin Hurne, 47 of 180 Tartia Rd., turned himself in on charges of negligent homicide with a motor vehicle, misconduct with a motor vehicle and reckless driving.

The charges were related to a May 30 one-car crash, which occurred in the area of 156 Tartia Rd. at around 5:30 p.m. According to police, Hurne was travelling north when he lost control of his car and hit a tree.

Jeanne Urban, 47, also of 180 Tartia Rd., was riding in the back seat at the time. She was seriously injured in the crash, and was taken by Lifestar to St. Francis Hospital, where she died.

Another passenger in the car, Al Souppa of East Hampton, was severely injured, police said. Hurne was injured as well.

Hurne was released after posting a \$50,000 surety bond, police said, and is scheduled to appear before the Middletown Superior Court Tuesday, Nov. 10.

East Hampton Driver Seriously Injured in Crash

A local woman was seriously injured in a crash on Route 66 last week, East Hampton Police said.

On Oct. 24 at about 9:51 a.m., police were dispatched to the area of 244 East High St. (Route 66), for a report of a one-car accident. Police said a preliminary investigation found that the vehicle was traveling west on East High Street, crossed left of center and struck a large tree on the eastbound shoulder of the road.

Police said the car's driver and lone occupant, Karla Nelson, 48, of East Hampton, was

trapped inside the vehicle as a result of the collision. Members of the fire department, East Hampton Ambulance and Middlesex Hospital Paramedic responded to the scene and extricated her from the vehicle.

Nelson sustained serious injuries in the crash, police said, and was flown by LifeStar to Hartford Hospital.

The crash is still under investigation, police said. Anyone who may have witnessed it is asked to call East Hampton Police at 860-267-9922.

Board of Education Against AHM Formula Change

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

The local Board of Education reached a consensus at its meeting last Thursday that it does not want to change the AHM formula.

At the board's September meeting, Board of Finance Chairwoman Evelyn Godbout and Hebron selectman Jeff Watt explained to the education board the proposed changes to the AHM budget formula. Those changes were discussed previously with the six-person panel that contains a selectman and board of finance representative from each of the three towns AHM represents.

The proposed change does not affect the percent of the overall AHM budget the towns are responsible for. Instead the changes would affect how that amount is divvied up within each town. For instance, Marlborough's portion is currently paid for with approximately 60 percent of the cost coming from the town operations budget, approximately 12 percent out of the local education board's budget, and the remainder paid for by RHAM.

The proposed changes would alter those percentages so that 50 percent is paid for out of the town operations budget, 25 percent by the local education board for the elementary school portion, and 25 percent by RHAM.

The proposed changes came about after a discussion within the panel to try and change the formula to lessen the growing burden on Marlborough; the RHAM census formula is used to determine the amount each town is responsible for, or each town's levy. Although the amount of students Marlborough has in RHAM is declining, the levy is still increasing in the town because enrollments in Hebron and Andover are also declining, but at a quicker rate.

Next year, applying an estimated RHAM census formula for that year, Marlborough's levy is expected to be 30.51 percent or

\$148,455. Of that, 50 percent or \$74,228 will come from the town while 25 percent or \$37,114 will come from the school budget and another \$37,114 will come from RHAM.

But at last Thursday's meeting, the local education board expressed dissatisfaction with the proposed changes.

Board member Louise Concodello asked why the entire cost for AHM cannot all go into the town operations budget, while board member Betty O'Brien wondered why the three towns have to agree on how the amount is divvied up.

"I checked with Evelyn after she said we would get ECS [Education Cost Sharing] money back because we would be contributing [more] to AHM," Concodello said. "I asked how much. We don't get anything back."

Superintendent David Sklarz said his issue with the change is the amount doubles for the school district, but the amount of services the school receives does not increase.

The school currently pays approximately \$16,000 for the AHM overall budget then an additional \$45,000 for the social worker it contracts for with AHM.

"It all comes down to Marlborough's pot," board member Mimi LaPoint said, referring to money from taxpayers. LaPoint said the conversation on which pot funding for AHM comes out of is unending.

"If the Board of Education agrees, the Board of Finance will forgive us for a year," she said, referring to Godbout's promise that if the education board says 'yes' to the proposed changes, the finance board will not cut that amount from the education budget for 2016-17, forcing them to find the reduction elsewhere in the budget.

"[The Board of Finance] always picks on us

for being a big spender," LaPoint said. "Stay with what we have."

O'Brien said she was not clear on the long-term effect on the school budget and board member Theresa Brysgel agreed.

If the increase is put in the budget, Brysgel said it was likely the Board of Finance would eventually make the board reduce elsewhere.

"Why pick up more if we're not utilizing more services?" she asked.

With the uncertainty of why the change was necessary, and worry over the long-term effect on the school budget, the board reached a consensus that they did not support the changes.

During public comments, selectman Dick Shea agreed with the board, saying he is not sure why all of the three towns have to agree on how to divvy up the money.

"Based on the board's reaction, I'm not alone," Shea said.

Board of Finance member Cliff Denniss also spoke and corrected the board to say the forgiveness of the increase from the finance board would be continuous.

* * *

Also during the meeting, Principal Dan White mentioned the school received \$52,000 this past week in a federal REAP (Rural Education Achievement Program) grant and that the school wanted to use it to buy more Chromebooks, iPads, Epson projectors, and extend the afterschool program; but the board balked at the fact the spending would not come before it for approval.

This is the third year the school has received the grant, White explained. Last year's grant went to technology and to fund the afterschool program. When that grant was awarded, the board held a discussion about whether or not

to implement the afterschool program which it approved for a trial period last spring.

Board member Betty O'Brien was the first to speak up, questioning if the board has the final word on approving the purchases for the grant.

"It's a number of [purchases] we don't have to put in the [2016-17] budget," White said. To O'Brien's question, White explained there are a number of grants that don't go before the board such as Title I and Title II grants. Those grants are used for resources to aid disadvantaged students.

Brysgel said when it comes to changes in policy or programming, it should definitely come to the board. However she was not so sure about technology purchases.

When asked who the grant is written out to, Sklarz said that was a "technicality" and that the money comes to the school, not the board. He clarified White only found out this week the school received the grant and has not spent any of the money. He suggested if there is any doubt about the grant spending, it should be put as an item on the board's agenda.

"I would love to hear that and open the communication [about] what's administrator responsibilities or not," board member Sue Rapelye said.

Shea, during public comments, questioned whether the REAP grant and other grants should become regular revenue items on the budget so that the public knows how the money is spent.

The board agreed to put a full discussion on grants on the November agenda.

* * *

The next regular board meeting is Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Marlborough Elementary School media center.

Marlborough Residents Upset Over Proposed Care Facility

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

Residents on Jones Hollow Road are upset about a 10-person elderly home proposed for the area, saying it's the wrong building for the neighborhood.

The application by Frank and Corinne Dibacco, of Jones Hollow Associates, calls for a private residential care home to be completed by Dec. 31, 2017 at the corner of Jones Hollow Road and Standish Road.

The proposed building is described as providing a "supportive, caring, and compassionate living experience" for people 55 and older. It would not be a group home or boarding facility and is licensed by the state Department of Public Health.

The Dibaccos are proposing four parking spaces with five additional spots that could be installed if needed. The proposal states the Dibaccos anticipate the residents will not have cars since most people that seek out this type of facility cannot drive. Also regarding the approval of residents for the facility, the Dibaccos said they will go through a thorough review and applicants cannot have dementia, Alzheimer's, or be mentally incapacitated.

Facility operations would be overseen by Corinne Dibacco, who has 23 years of geriatric nursing experience. The facility would have an on-site caretaker 24 hours a day with a day shift, evening shift and a night shift. A housekeeper would come one day a week. Other traffic to the building would include any friends or family who stop by during visiting hours from 9-11 a.m., 2-4 p.m., and 6-8 p.m.

The applicants are not proposing any signage or outdoor lighting other than the usual resi-

dential fixtures.

(The Dibaccos could not be reached for further comment on the proposal.)

Director of Planning and Development Peter Hughes explained the proposal is not a typical model and isn't a traditional convalescent home.

"It's intermediate, independent living before going into a facility," Hughes said. "It's a unique model and the residents said at the meeting it does have some merit and understand it."

The proposal went in front of the Zoning Commission because the Dibaccos need a special use permit to allow 10 unrelated people to live in the same building. State statute does allow this type of facility to be in a residential zone. A public hearing on the proposal took place Oct. 1 and was continued to Nov. 5, after residents stood up in protest of the facility.

"It looks like a house, but it's high-end senior living," Zoning Commission Chairman Kevin Asklar said. Asklar said he could not discuss too many details about the proposal since the public hearing is still open; however, he did say the commission is speaking with the town attorney about some of the issues residents raised.

Residents who spoke against the proposal include Richard and Susan Granatek who live at 364 Jones Hollow Rd.

"We feel this is not the appropriate spot," Richard said. "We are concerned about property values and what the future might be."

Richard said part of their worry was what could potentially happen to the property if the

Dibaccos ever sold it.

"We have maintained a nice house in this neighborhood and it would destroy the neighborhood," Richard said of the facility. "It's not fair to anyone down here."

He also said there are no facilities for seniors in the area like sidewalks or access to shopping or the library.

"This is going to change the whole atmosphere of our neighborhood," Susan said. "To me, this is a commercial property. They may make it look like a colonial [home], but it will stick out like a sore thumb."

Susan said she is worried about the added traffic with ambulances coming and going and the round-the-clock providers needed to take care of the residents.

"I don't see this whole thing working out," she said. She also doubted the fact that the Dibaccos can limit who lives at the home. "The state can come in, empty one or two beds, and can put mentally ill or dementia patients in. There's no controlling what's going to happen."

Peter Horne, who lives at 367 Jones Hollow Rd., said it is not only the wrong property for the area, but he is also worried about his well and the water table.

"My home is 205 years old and I have a very shallow well," Horne explained. "It only goes down about 10-12 feet. At that 10-12 feet, that's about two feet below the land they're going to be building on."

Horne said he is worried the building will affect the quality of his water which has always been excellent. He said if they build the build-

ing, he will be testing his water and if it becomes polluted, he may have to take legal action.

Regarding the water table, Horne explained the land in the area is all gravel soil.

"After heavy rain or a wet rainfall season, my property in the back is under water," Horne said. "When the water table rises, it comes through the gravel and is like a swimming pool."

He explained that with the proposed building, they have to build on a slab instead of a foundation because of the water issues.

"Everyone in the neighborhood is saying this is not the spot or the land to build this facility on," Horne said.

But he added he's also worried residents are fighting a losing battle.

"The town has their minds already made up," Horne said. "People are so discouraged. There's nothing we can do about it."

Hughes said if the commission chooses to act favorably on Nov. 5, it could stipulate the current use as the only one allowed and require any change in the use or license to come back to the commission for a new permit.

"The commission has asked for more information and revised plans," Hughes said. "They're waiting for materials which we haven't seen yet."

The Zoning Commission's meeting, including the public hearing, will be held Thursday, Nov. 5, at 7 p.m. at Town Hall. Hughes explained the commission could close the public hearing on Nov. 5 or choose to continue it to another meeting.

Marlborough Republican Signs Driven Over, Spraypainted

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

Republican campaign signs in town were heavily vandalized Monday evening, as some were driven over and others were spraypainted with such things as “hell” and “666.”

Republican Town Committee chairman Ken Hjulstrom said since the signs first went up Oct. 3, 30-40 signs have been taken, but things got worse this week. A sign was spraypainted with “666” as recently as Tuesday night.

While signs endorsing various Republican candidates have been knocked over, only the ones jointly supporting First Selectwoman Cathi Gaudinski and selectman Dick Shea have been spraypainted; both are running for re-election.

“We have had issues in past years, but this year’s issues exceed anything I have seen in the last decade or more,” Hjulstrom said.

Until this past week, damage had mostly been stolen lawn signs. However this week began the spraypainting and destruction of two, large 4x8 signs.

“The signs are supported by substantial steel posts, which were badly twisted,” Hjulstrom said. “It is obvious that someone drove into the posts, which you would think would have done some significant damage to their vehicle.”

Hjulstrom said those larger signs are in good enough condition to be reinstalled, but not the posts.

The damage was reported to the resident trooper on Monday evening, but Hjulstrom said he’s not optimistic the person responsible will be found.

Police reported that the spraypainted signs occurred at the corner of High Meadow Road and South Main Street, and at the corner of

Jones Hollow and West roads. The larger signs that were run down by a car were on the corner of North Main Street and Lake Road, and on South Main Street.

“I am surprised that the perpetrator was so brazen as to run the signs down in the early evening,” he said. “You would have thought they would have run a high risk of being observed.”

Hjulstrom said the last major issue with signs he remembers is several years ago, when there was a mass collection of signs that were dumped in a pile off of Flood Road.

“That incident included signs from both parties, and I suspect it was a prank by teenagers,” he said. “But this year’s vandalism seems confined to Republican signs, and more specifically, those for Cathi Gaudinski and Dick Shea.”

Mike O’Neil, who is managing the Democratic campaigns, said the DTC has had some signs go missing, but nothing extensive.

“Where it happened was a place where both parties have lost signs,” O’Neil said of the damage and lost signs.

O’Neil said to his knowledge no one from either party is involved in the vandalism.

In response to the damage, the RTC has to purchase 50 new signs to replace the ones taken and to go on additional lawns, Hjulstrom said. The small signs cost \$7 each while the large signs are \$85 each.

“Our members work very hard during the year to raise funds for the election and it is frustrating that the signs, purchased from the fruits of their labor, are vandalized or stolen,” Hjulstrom said. “In general, our members have expressed frustration and disappointment that either an individual or two – which we suspect



Signs endorsing Republican candidates Cathi Gaudinski and Dick Shea – such as the one seen here – were vandalized with such things as “666” and “hell” recently.

is the case – have decided to deprive others of their right to express their support for the candidates.”

Anyone with information can call Officer Julius Ransom at 860-295-9098 x 4095.

Both Parties Ready for Election Day

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

The Republican and Democratic parties both said this week they’re ready to go for Election Day next Tuesday.

There are a total of 28 candidates running, with contested races for first selectwoman, Board of Selectmen, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the RHAM Board of Education.

Republican First Selectwoman Cathi Gaudinski is being challenged by Democrat Amy Traversa. Gaudinski has held the office since 2011, while Traversa is a newcomer to the political scene.

For the Board of Selectmen, voters can choose between current Republican incumbent Dick Shea and his Democrat challenger, current Board of Finance chair Evelyn Godbout. Shea has served since 2011 on the board. Per Marlborough’s charter, if the losing candidate for first selectman receives more votes than a person running for the Board of Selectmen, the losing first selectman candidate can take that select board seat. Both the first selectwoman and Board of Selectmen race was previewed in last week’s *Rivereast*.

The Zoning Board of Appeals race is contested, with two seats available. Current Republican incumbents Alan Miller and Robert Jackson are running for re-election. They are being challenged by current alternate member Democrat Matthew Wilson. Voters will choose two on their ballot.

For the RHAM education board, there are three candidates running for two seats. Voters will pick two. Current member Republican Carole Shea is running for a full-term, after she took over for Dieter Zimmer last December. Republican Sue Rapelye is also running for a seat. Rapelye is currently a member of the local board and said she would serve on both boards if elected to RHAM. A newcomer to town, Democrat Lestie Gonzalez is also running for a seat.

Town clerk Nancy Dickson is running for another term unopposed, as is tax collector Barbara Murray and town treasurer Mike O’Neil.

For the finance board race, there are four vacancies, but actually only three candidates running. All are incumbents: Democrat Erik Young, Republican Ken Hjulstrom and Republican Doug Knowlton. The empty seat, which Godbout is vacating to run for selectmen, would need to be filled by the Board of Selectmen after Election Day.

The local education board’s race is uncon-

tested, with four incumbents and one newcomer seeking election. The incumbents include Democrats Betty O’Brien and Judith Kaplan and Republicans Ruth Kelly and Louise Concodello. Republican newcomer Patrick Pabouet will also gain a seat after Republican Bob Clarke chose not to run for re-election. The education board candidates were previewed in a previous *Rivereast*. Voters will pick three on their ballot.

For the Planning Commission, both the full member race and alternate race are uncontested. Republican Mark Stankiewicz, currently an alternate, is running for a full seat along with Republican newcomer Eric Kelly. Republican newcomer Laurence Pryor is running for the alternate seat.

Board of Assessment Appeals chair, Democrat Ned Hickey, is running for re-election unopposed. For the Zoning Commission, incumbents Richard Banbury, Democrat, and Kevin Asklar, Republican, are running uncontested. Republican Eric Colantonio, currently an alternate, is running to keep his alternate seat unopposed as well.

O’Neil, who is also campaign manager for the Democratic Town Committee, said the campaigning has been going well.

“We are really focused now on getting our message out and reaching out to voters in particular for the big races, Amy and Evelyn,” O’Neil said. “We are working hard to get out and meeting voters, lots of door to door.”

Hjulstrom, who is also chairman of the Republican Town Committee, said his party has also been doing well.

“We’re working cohesively, working through our platform, and supporting our candidates,” Hjulstrom said. “We’re looking forward to the results and I’m thinking we will do well.”

Hjulstrom said what makes the Republican slate special this year is that it is heavy on incumbents with experience, and also features a few energetic newcomers.

“Cathi and Dick have a lot of experience and have accomplished a lot in the last four years,” Hjulstrom said. “It would be beneficial to the town to continue their work.”

O’Neil and Hjulstrom both said they are hoping for a good turnout, despite only a few contested races.

Election Day is Nov. 3 from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voting will take place in the community room at Marlborough Elementary School at 25 School Dr.

East Hampton Police News

10/13: Kevin J. Owens, 33, of 13 Goslee Dr., Manchester, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence and failure to drive right, East Hampton Police said.

10/15: Michael F. Sullivan, 43, of 94 East High St., was issued a summons for operating under the influence and failure to carry operator license, police said.

10/16: Domingo A. Mendez, 27, of 181 Longvue Dr., Wethersfield was arrested and charged with driving under the influence, police said.

10/19: Michael Keith McGowan, 46, of 29 Pierce Lane, Colchester turned himself in pursuant to an outstanding warrant for his arrest in the result of an investigation into an incident that occurred Dec. 12, 2014. McGowan was charged with illegal sale of narcotics, police said.

Colchester Police News

10/19: State Police said Robert Radomski, 33, of 31 Woodland St., Hartford, was arrested and charged with failure to appear.

10/22: State Police said they are investigating after a watch worth \$79.95 was stolen from one of the dispatch rooms at Troop K between Oct. 14 and 15. Anyone with information can call Trooper Lukas Kowalczyk at 860-465-5400 x 4052.

10/22: Colchester Police said they are investigating after a business-related check in the amount of \$975 was stolen from a home on Stanavage Road. Anyone with information can call Officer Robert LaBonte at 860-537-7270.

10/24: State Police said Eric Hunter, 29, of 42 Bass Lake Rd., Hebron, was arrested and charged with four counts of failure to appear.

Marlborough Police News

10/21: State Police said Rafael Sanchez, 33, of 113 Hillcrest Ave., West Hartford, was arrested and charged with DUI and reckless driving.

10/26: State Police said Corey Turner, 20, of 92 Newton St., Hartford, was arrested and charged with speeding, failure to keep plates visible, operating under suspension, possession of less than half an ounce of marijuana and criminal impersonation (police said Turner gave them a fake license).

One Injured After Car Rolls

State Police reported John Zarillo, 75, of 52 Hebron Hill Rd., Amston, was transported to St. Francis Hospital with minor injuries after he failed to put his car in park and it rolled backward out of his driveway Oct. 20.

Police said Zarillo attempted to get back into the car while it was rolling, but he was struck by the door and knocked to the ground. The car hit another parked vehicle after it rolled, police reported.

Tractor Trailer Crash Ties Up Traffic

Traffic on Route 2 east was tied up Monday night after a tractor trailer went down an embankment near exit 12. There were no injuries.

Police reported the tractor trailer, driven by Steven Ceraso, 22, of York, Pa., had a trailer attached to it when it swerved, striking a wire rope guardrail and rolled over down an embankment, shortly before 4:30 p.m.

After striking the guardrail, police said, a piece from the trailer went into the roadway and struck another car. That car sustained damage, but was able to be driven away from the scene, police said.

Ceraso, a passenger in the tractor trailer, and the driver of the other car were okay, police said. Ceraso was issued an infraction for failure to drive in the proper lane.

Obituaries

East Hampton

Amelia Anna Cavanaugh

Amelia Anna Cavanaugh, 24, of East Hampton, beloved daughter of Timothy and Holly (Stevens) Cavanaugh, died Tuesday, Oct. 20, at Marlborough Medical Center. Born Sept. 12, 1991, in Middletown, she was a lifelong resident of East Hampton, and graduate of East Hampton High School.



Amelia was a great student and was furthering her education. She loved animals, she never met an animal she wouldn't try to rescue. Amelia had a happy and bubbly personality that would light up a room. Every spring she would have a contest with her father to see who would find the most four-leaf clovers.

Besides her parents, she is survived by her beloved son, Gabriel Cavanaugh of East Hampton; her brother, Caleb Cavanaugh of East Hampton; her boyfriend and best friend, Jonathan Hunter Luoma of East Hampton; her aunts and uncles, Thomas Cavanaugh and Kathleen, Catherine Cavanaugh and Thomas, Janice Cavanaugh, Heather Mokoski and Christopher, Michael Stevens and Zoitsa, John Hall Jr. and Megan, Joshua Hall and Lauren; cousins, Marty, Haylie, Randy, Michael, Johnny, Jason, Meghan, Hannah, Zachery, Jason, Aidan, Keegan, Colton and Swayze.

She was predeceased by her maternal grandparents, John M. Hall Sr. and Beverly A. Hall; her paternal grandparents, Robert and Dorothy Cavanaugh; great-grandparents Edward and Phyllis Guilford and Isaac and Dorothea Leydens.

Friends called at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, Tuesday, Oct. 27. A funeral liturgy was celebrated Wednesday, Oct. 28, in St. Patrick Church, East Hampton. Burial followed in the family plot in Rock Landing Cemetery, Haddam Neck.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Colchester

Elizabeth (Brewer) Hageman

Elizabeth (Brewer) Hageman, 98, of Colchester, passed away peacefully Friday afternoon, Oct. 23, surrounded by her loving family. She was the widow of the late Theodore H. Hageman Sr. (he predeceased her July 19, 2002) and re-joined him in Heaven one day after what would have been their 77th wedding anniversary.



Born Dec. 7, 1916 in Passaic, N.J., she was a daughter of the late Leonard and Emily (Anderson) Brewer.

Elizabeth was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and sister, who enjoyed gardening, baking, reading, painting and antiquing in her spare time. Birds found a welcome feeder year round outside her kitchen window because she loved to watch them and often incorporated them into her artwork.

She worked in New London at Hartford National Bank to put both sons through college. In addition, she was the other half of the family business, Hageman Ironworks, and always had coffee and home baked treats to offer customers and friends who came to "the shop" which was in their backyard on South Main Street.

She was a longtime member of the Colchester Federated Church involved in the Women's Fellowship and the church choir. She was a deaconess and a Sunday school teacher as well. Over the years, she was active in the Colchester Grange No. 78 and the Colchester Historical Society. She and Ted, Sr. sang in the annual Hartford Chorale "Messiah" performances for a time.

She leaves two sons and daughters-in-law, Theodore Jr. and wife Barbara, David and wife Joan, all of Colchester. In addition, she leaves four grandsons and their wives; three great granddaughters and three great grandsons; a sister, Emilie Grundy of Colchester; and numerous nieces and nephews and their families in Connecticut, Texas and Florida.

A memorial service will be observed at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1, directly at Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St. (on the Green), Colchester. Burial will be private in the Westchester Center Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Cragin Memorial Library, the Colchester Land Trust, the Colchester Historical Society or the Colchester Federated Church.

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

Colchester

Barry J. Lessard

Barry J. Lessard, 59, of Plainfield, beloved husband of Susan (Tomlinson) Lessard, passed away Friday, Oct. 23. He was born Oct. 2, 1956, in Hartford, a son of Omer and Dorothy (Quint) Lessard of Colchester.

Barry had resided in Plainfield since 1991. He was a Vietnam-era veteran of the U.S. Army. He was self-employed as an electrical contractor. Barry was an active volunteer with the American Cancer Society and was a longtime Boy Scout leader in Plainfield.

Besides his wife and parents he leaves a son, Geoffrey Lessard of Plainfield; two daughters, Carolyn Pohronezny of Griswold and Melinda Lessard of Plainfield; a brother, Brad Lessard of Lebanon; a sister, Mindy Lessard of Florida; four grandchildren, Ricky, Casey, Emily and Riley; also several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was predeceased by a brother Blaine Lessard.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, Oct. 28, at Bolton Congregational Church, 228 Bolton Center Rd., Bolton.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Portland

James Kavanaugh

James "Barry" Kavanaugh, 82, of Portland, formerly of Orleans, Mass., beloved husband of Barbara (Negrelli) Kavanaugh, passed away peacefully Monday, Oct. 26, with his family by his side. Barry was born in New Haven March 2, 1933, the son of the late Martin and Monica (McGoldrick) Kavanaugh.

Besides his wife Barbara, Barry is survived by two daughters, Kathy Ward and her husband Michael of Wellington Florida, Joanne Woynar of East Hampton, a son, Kevin and his wife Teresa Kavanaugh of Southampton, Mass.; five granddaughters, Jennifer and Jackie Woynar, Brittany, Erika and Brooke Kavanaugh.

Barry attended Our Lady of LaSalette Seminary in Hartford. Barry was a witty, gentle, compassionate man who made many friends. He always enjoyed meeting new people and loved his years of retirement at his home on Cape Cod. During the summer you could find him at the beach with his granddaughters or at an Orleans Cardinals baseball game. He enjoyed the baseball team, yard work and attending his granddaughters many sporting events. Prior to his retirement, he worked for Northeast Utilities for 36 years.

A funeral liturgy will be held today, Oct. 30, at 10 a.m., at St. Mary's Church in Portland. Burial will be held at Pine Grove Cemetery. Calling hours were held Thursday, Oct. 29, at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St. Middletown.

Those who wish may make memorial contributions to Alzheimer's Association of Connecticut, 200 Executive Blvd. Suite 4B, Southington, CT 06489.

To share memories or express condolences online, visit biegafuneralhome.com.

Portland

Angela M. Nagle

Mrs. Angela M. Nagle, 87, passed away Wednesday, Oct. 21, at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford. She was born in Portland June 18, 1928, daughter of the late Joseph and Eleanor (Salemi) Milardo. On Oct. 15, 1964, she married John "Jack" Nagle Jr.

Angela is survived by her children, Brenda Damiata, and Deanna Breton and her husband Michael, Paul Nagle and his wife Frances, all of East Hartford, Sharon Dawiczky of Manchester, and John Nagle and his wife Nikki of Bradenton, Fla.; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; her sister, Jeannie Little, and her brother, Joseph Milardo, both of Portland.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Monday, Oct. 26, in Holy Angels Church in St. Albans, Vt. The family received condolences Monday in the Brady & Levesque Funeral Home, 86 South Main St., St. Albans, Vt., before the Mass. Interment followed in the Nagle family lot in Mount Calvary Cemetery.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Brady & Levesque Funeral Home and Commemorative Services. Online condolences may be sent to her family at the funeral home website, bradyandlevesque.com.

Portland

Ernest Sidney Smith Sr.

Ernest Sidney Smith Sr., "Buddy," 92, of Middletown, husband of the late Hattie Lee (Davis) Smith, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, Tuesday, Oct. 20. Born in Middletown, he was the son of the late Leonard "Lemon" and Ola Mae (Dixon) Smith.

Ernest lived in the Middletown-Portland area all of his life. He was employed by Phillips Brothers Chemical Company and later employed by the City of Middletown for over thirty years. He was a member of Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church, the church he truly loved. He was affectionately known to his family as "Buddy." He loved gardening, enjoyed drawing/sketching, and cooking. Most of all, Buddy loved children and being around his family and friends.

Buddy is also predeceased by his sisters, Sophronia Smith and Emma Smith.

He is survived by his son, Ernest Smith Jr.; four daughters, Sophronia Smith of Middletown, Dorothy Smith-Taylor of Euless, Texas, Vanessa Burks of Middletown, and Nancy Smith of New Britain; a beloved brother and sister, Leonard "Sonny" Smith and Grace Larry, both of Portland; four grandchildren, Henry Burks, Ashlee Burks, Jessica Smith, Desiree McLean; and a host of nieces, nephews and family.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Oct. 24, at Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church. Interment followed at Pine Grove Cemetery. Family and friends called Saturday morning at the church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ernest's memory to Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church Building Fund, 440 West St., Middletown, CT 06457.

Doolittle Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. To share memories or send condolences to the Smith family, visit doolittlefuneral.com.

Portland

Peter Sanborn Wilson

Peter Sanborn Wilson of Wesley Chapel, N.C., formerly of Portland, beloved husband of Kathy (Shrader) Wilson, passed to be with our Lord Thursday, Oct. 22. The prior evening, Pete was celebrating his 61st birthday with his wife of nearly 40 years and their much-loved son, Matthew James Wilson.

Born Oct. 21, 1954, in Middletown, to a large and loving family, Pete was the son of the late Herbert and Rosemary (Sanborn) Wilson. Pete attended Portland school systems, and was a 1972 graduate of Portland High School. A devout and patriotic man, Pete enlisted in the United States Marine Corps directly out of school and served honorably for four years, attaining the rank of Sergeant. It was while he was in service to his country that Pete met his soul mate and love, Kathy. They married in Hawaii Feb. 18, 1976, where Pete was stationed.

Prior to moving to N.C. three years ago, Pete and Kathy lived in Glastonbury for over 32 years, making many strong and lasting friendships. Above all, Pete loved spending time with family and friends. Those who were graced to have met Pete, whether a neighbor, or through work, or were simply fortunate to have called him a friend, will forever remember his smile, the twinkle in his eye, his generosity of spirit and his love of his fellow man.

Pete always searched for and usually found the good in people. He gave of himself without question or consequence, arranging annual motorcycle trips with friends and family to places such as historic Gettysburg, Nova Scotia and upstate New York. He relished ocean cruises with his wife and son, trips to Cancun and Disney World, playing golf and annual outings to Gatlinburg with the Shrader clan. Throughout his career, Pete held positions in the high tech precision optics industry, working on such notable projects as the lenses of the Hubble Telescope. As an entrepreneur, he was the owner of Connecticut River Valley Optical LLC.

Pete was predeceased by his precious infant daughter, Jennifer Margaret Wilson; his parents, Herb and Rosemary Wilson of Portland; father-in-law, Gene Shrader of Pocahontas, Va., and brother-in-law James "Red" Shrader of Pocahontas, Va.

Pete truly loved his family and was much beloved by them.

In addition to his wife Kathy and their son Matt, Pete leaves behind his loving mother-in-law Margaret Shrader of Pocahontas, Va., and many brothers and sisters both through blood and through marriage: John and Amy Wilson of Waxhaw, N.C., Albert and Delores Shrader of Yadkinville, N.C., Joe and Tammy Shrader of Abbs Valley, Va., Bruce and Laura Olson of Portland, Dave and Rae Wilson of Enfield, Tom and Christine Wilson of Portland and Curt Wilson of Portland. Pete's family includes many amazing nieces and nephews, great nieces and great nephews, whom he loved deeply, as well as an extended family of Wilson, Sanborn, Shrader and Honakers cousins.

Pete's loss extends to his devoted Shelties - Sammy, Allie and Lexie - who have already sensed that there is a void in their home.

Funeral services with military honors were held Wednesday, Oct. 28, at Rodriguez Funeral Home in Bluefield, Va., led by Pete's brother, Dave Wilson. Friends and family called that afternoon, before the services.

Pete was laid to eternal rest with his father-in-law Gene and brother-in-law Red at Grandview Memory Gardens in Bluefield, Va. Pall bearers were Pete's son Matt, brothers John Wilson, Albert Shrader, Joe Shrader and Tom Wilson, and cousin Skip Berggren.