

RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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Lineman Living Large... Senior Dylan Kornbrath – a 295-pound, 6'2 defensive lineman at Bacon Academy in Colchester – intercepted the ball and ran it back 19 yards during the Thanksgiving Day game against RHAM. Not too often is a lineman his size seen running the ball. Bacon won, 48-14.

Land Purchase 'Integral' Part of Belltown Plan

by Elizabeth Regan

After months of closed-door meetings, East Hampton officials are asking voters to approve the purchase of a half-acre parcel across from Center School – an acquisition that would be a key step in turning the school into town offices and a police station.

At a joint special meeting Monday, the Finance Board and Town Council each voted to authorize the purchase of 2 Bevin Blvd. for \$56,000.

After the finance board voted 7-0 in favor of the purchase, the council approved it 6-0 (councilor James "Pete" Brown was absent) as part of a motion that also served to forward the question to voters.

Republican Town Council Chairwoman Patience Anderson said Tuesday the property would supplement parking needs in the village center. She also described the move as an "integral" component of the council's plan to turn the school building into a municipal hub that could include the town hall and police department.

But details about how Center School might be used are not yet public and, according to Anderson, won't be available until after the vote, scheduled to take place at a town meeting on Dec. 21.

Town Manager Michael Maniscalco said the price tag is based on two appraisals of approximately \$50,000 plus \$6,000 for estimated le-

gal fees.

The property, which is in foreclosure, includes a two-family home originally constructed in 1825, according to assessor's records. Anderson said it's possible that someone interested in historic preservation would want to move the home offsite.

According to Anderson, the council's vision for the property and a repurposed Center School is based on a new report from Friar Associates, a Farmington-based architectural, engineering and design firm. The group was hired in April for \$8,000 to assess the practicality and cost of using Center School as a municipal hub that could include any combination of a police station, Board of Education offices, Homeland Security-mandated space for the town's emergency headquarters, Chatham Health District offices and the probate court.

The consultants were also asked to assess the feasibility of moving the school's fourth and fifth grade students to Memorial School; to examine using property at 195 West High St. for the police department; and to look at the cost of keeping Center School running in its current capacity.

In 2006, the same firm released a 223-page evaluation of East Hampton's municipal buildings and schools.

Friar Associates Vice President Michael A. See **Land Purchase Page 2**

Details Revealed in Andover Murder Case

by Geeta Schrayter

Those who know the man accused of killing Andover resident Jason Marchand describe him as "angry at life" and "not right in the head," according to an arrest warrant affidavit unsealed Thursday.

Michael Fortin, 22, was charged with murder, first-degree reckless endangerment, risk of injury to a minor, carrying a handgun without a permit and carrying a dangerous weapon, all in connection with the July 3 shooting death of Marchand, 38, at Andover Lake.

According to the affidavit, police interviewed numerous witnesses who described what happened the night of the murder. One such witness told officers they were with Marchand when he headed toward Andover Lake with his 6-year-old son via a right of way located at the intersection of Lakeside Drive and Island Street, across the road from Marchand's home. It was there that they spotted a blue and white motorcycle parked in the middle of the road.

Both the witness and Marchand confronted the driver – later identified as Fortin – about the bike, which the witness said was blocking the fire department's access to water; the witness said Fortin didn't listen at first, causing Marchand to become "very irritated," accord-

ing to the affidavit.

Marchand and Fortin then "exchanged words" before Fortin got onto his motorcycle and took off, kicking up rocks as he went. According to the affidavit, Marchand chased Fortin up the right of way as he left.

At that point, the witness told police they went with Marchand and his son back to Marchand's home at 38 Lakeside Dr., where they drank beer, started a small campfire and roasted marshmallows with Marchand's son.

They were there for about an hour when Fortin came back down Island Street towards them, the witness told police. According to the affidavit, Marchand got up from his chair and headed toward the motorcycle driver. He was then shot multiple times and the witness called 911 before returning to Marchand to wait for police.

Upon arrival, police found Marchand on the ground, suffering from "at least two apparent gunshot wounds to the torso," according to the affidavit; his son was found hiding in a bedroom at their home.

Marchand was transported to Windham Hospital, where he was later pronounced dead. His cause of death was listed as "gunshot wounds

of torso with injuries of the liver and right kidney" and certified as a homicide.

Following the shooting, the Connecticut State Police Eastern District Major Crime Squad responded to the scene; numerous pieces of evidence were obtained, including a 9mm shell casing and two other shell casings marked "R-P 9mm LUGER +P."

Through further investigation, various witnesses described the bike seen that night as being blue and white and "similar to an off-road bike rather than a Harley Davidson." The driver was described as a white male in his 20s, tall and thin with dark hair, who had a dark-colored helmet.

According to the affidavit, the following day another witness called police to say one of their friends knew who did the shooting and had posted on their Facebook page, "It's funny how we know before the cops do."

On July 6, Fortin was arrested on charges of second-degree reckless endangerment, third-degree assault and sixth-degree larceny – all stemming from a February incident where he shot his girlfriend in the right eye with a stolen flare gun; his girlfriend lost her eye as a result.

During an interview for the above arrest, po-

lice asked Fortin where he was on July 3 and if he knew anything about the shooting. Fortin said he worked until 5 p.m. and was then at home.

He then told police he did not want to "answer any questions about anything to do with a murder case," the affidavit said.

Further investigations showed contradictions to the statements made by Fortin and later by his girlfriend, who told police she was with Fortin July 3 and that they went to bed around 9 p.m. She said at around 11:30 p.m. she woke up and asked Fortin to get her something to eat and he left in her car. According to the affidavit, Fortin's girlfriend refused to provide a written statement, saying Fortin's parents had advised her not to talk to police, and to ask for an attorney if they showed up.

After obtaining a search warrant for cell phone records, police discovered a 10-second call made between Fortin and his girlfriend on July 3 – during the time she told officers they were together.

Police also found text messages between the two where she confronts him after learning about the shooting, saying "Im having a panic

See **Andover Murder Page 2**

Holiday Shopping Guide Inside

Land Purchase cont. from Front Page

Sorano said the new Friar report is complete. Maniscalco said the firm has made a presentation to the Town Council on the contents of the report but councilors “did not accept or receive” a copy of the document.

The state’s Freedom of Information law allows officials to keep residents in the dark about “real estate appraisals, engineering or feasibility estimates and evaluations” up to the point that the property “has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions have been terminated or abandoned, provided the law of eminent domain shall not be affected by this provision.”

The so-called sunshine law also permits closed-door meetings when publicity about a potential sale “would cause a likelihood of increased price until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions concerning same have been terminated or abandoned.”

Anderson described the information in the updated Friar report as directly related to the property purchase.

“That report depends on us having that piece of property. That piece of property is part of the plan,” Anderson said. “Without that piece of property, the plan the way it’s been crafted so far couldn’t go forward.”

She said the Friar report “cannot be presented” until the property purchase is approved by voters. She acknowledged the inherent contradiction in asking people to vote without all the relevant information when she said “we have to put the cart before the horse.”

Chatham Historical Society President Sandy Doran was caught unaware by the town’s proposal to purchase the Bevin Boulevard property when asked about it Wednesday. But she’s familiar with the property, as it’s adjacent to the CHS museum. While the property isn’t in an historic district, Doran described the house as “very old.” She said she would bring the issue to the historical society’s board of directors.

While the acquisition is key to the Center School repurposing, Anderson said there’s no set timetable for the project if voters approve the purchase: “Once that is done, we’re going to continue to work on this Center School project,” she said. “There’s details that have to be formulated. It’s pretty complicated.”

A Town Council subcommittee – which now includes every member of the council – was tasked in February with looking at different options for the Center School property. The work builds on the 2006 Friar report as well as a Board of Education recommendation made last year to re-purpose Center School to include town facilities like the town hall, police station and public works offices.

Also last year, the town’s Facilities Evaluation Committee ranked the police department as the number one priority when it comes to solving the town’s infrastructure problems; the town hall was ranked second.

“Whether or not this Center School plan goes forward, that piece of property has merit in and of itself,” Anderson said. “It’s a nice, contiguous piece of property. I really hope the residents understand how valuable this really is to the future development in the village center.”

Former Town Council Chairwoman Barbara Moore, a Democrat who did not win re-election in November, said her administration helped lay the groundwork for the property purchase and the larger plan.

“We realized before we moved too far along we did need that property for parking,” Moore said.

Cost is a key factor in what comes next for

any sort of municipal hub, according to Moore: “I know there are a lot of details to be worked out to make it affordable to the voters.”

While the upcoming town meeting presents a “dilemma” for voters who do not fully understand the whole plan because of the lack of available information, Moore said she’s not sure the current council had any other choice. “In a municipality, there’s a lot of rules. We have to try to satisfy 13,000 people – not just a few. One thing at a time, I would say.”

Board of Education Chairman Kenneth Barber applauded the progress toward relocating the town’s municipal center to the village center.

“We’re keeping an entire building open to accommodate two grade levels,” he said. “It’s not efficient.”

Police Chief Sean Cox said that while he hasn’t seen a formal plan, he is open to all efforts to address the critical need for a larger, more modern police facility. He said the department would be very much in support of “any plan that would aid us in facilitating services [to those] we cannot currently facilitate services to, such as the handicapped, or a facility that would enable us to serve the community in a sufficient fashion.”

Cox said he is waiting, along with the Police Department Building Committee (PDBC), for the release of the updated Friar report. The committee was charged in March with working with the police department to determine the needs of a new building, selecting a site for the building, selecting an architect, identifying possible funding opportunities and presenting the package to the Town Council. However, it halted its meetings in September.

“Without [the report], we cannot complete our charge as a committee and we’ve suspended our meetings until that information’s been released,” Cox said.

The PDBC began visiting various municipal police departments late this spring to decide what the blueprint for an ideal facility would look like in East Hampton and was waiting on site feasibility details promised in the new Friar report.

Alternatives to Center School include the 195 West High St. property recommended by the Facilities Evaluation Committee last year based on the presence of an existing structure on the 1.2-acre lot, good street access and the potential to house fire and police facilities together.

PDBC Chairman Tom Burdick said he doesn’t personally support moving the police department to Center School.

He said the Town Council did not ask the committee for a report on the information collected and conclusions reached before the committee suspended its meetings. He said members would have supported a facility like what the Montville Police Department has and that they would have been able to recommend “four or five solid locations” for where to put it.

According to Burdick, the process so far lacks transparency and choice.

“Everything’s secret. They’re going to buy a piece of property without telling us why. We can assume it’s about Center School, but there’s been no leakage from the Town Council,” he said. “If they want it to pass and get their project to go forward, you can’t just give townspeople one option.”

But Anderson said the council is simply interested in acquiring the land at this point: “The people have to make that decision to help us with that. If they agree it’s a worthwhile endeavor, we’ll obviously proceed.”

“It does fit in nicely with a larger plan,” she added.

Andover Murder cont. from Front Page

attack please tell me it wasn’t u.”

Through the investigation, police learned the shell casings found at the scene were fired from the same 9mm handgun consistent with firearms marketed by a number of manufacturers including Smith and Wesson, Glock and Kahr Arms.

Although police determined no firearms were registered to Fortin’s home at 850 East St., a Kahr Arms pistol was reported stolen from a landscaping business in Bolton last May. In August, police went to the residence from where the pistol was stolen and obtained a shell casing, which was sent for processing.

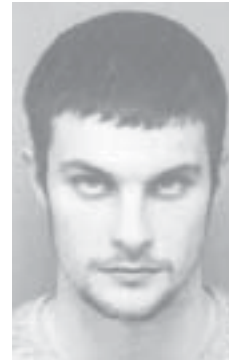
The next week, police interviewed a man who told them that in September 2014, he was walking his dogs on the Hop River State Park Trail near Long Hill Road when he was approached by a male riding a dirt bike. The individual said he shouted to the male rider that no motorized vehicles were allowed on the trail. The rider stopped, gave the man the middle finger and shouted an expletive, before firing a gun into the woods and leaving.

While the incident was reported to police at the time, no evidence was retrieved. However, after speaking to the man this past August, they returned to the area and found a partially-buried 9mm shell casing with the help of a metal detector. This casing was also sent for processing.

In addition, shell casings were retrieved from a campsite area where witnesses said Fortin used to hang out with friends and would occasionally shoot guns. According to the affidavit, one witness said they would bring their .22 caliber Ruger rifle to the area, while Fortin would bring a stolen Kahr Arms 9mm pistol he had said he’d stolen from a landscaping shop in a plaza by Bolton Pizza on Route 85.

According to the affidavit, the witness said the gun was “Mike’s baby,” and that Fortin always had it on him.

After lab analysis, police determined the casings from the residence where the gun had been stolen, the casing from the September 2014 inci-



Fortin

dent, casings from the campsite, and casings from the July 3 shooting were all fired from the same gun.

In September of this year, Fortin was arrested in connection with the September 2014 incident, and charged with first-degree reckless endangerment, first-degree threatening, second-degree breach of peace, fifth-degree larceny, carrying a pistol without a permit and carrying a dangerous weapon.

In October, according to the affidavit, another witness who has known Fortin since 2013 and is currently in jail for first-degree robbery and first-degree larceny stepped forward with information regarding the investigation. According to police, information the witness provided was not published in the media and was contained in search affidavits that had yet to be unsealed – meaning his information would have to had come from Fortin directly. Police also said the witness had provided accurate and detailed information to police in the past and that he voluntarily came forward.

The witness was recently reunited with Fortin after Fortin’s arrest, as they were both transferred to New Haven Correctional Center. He described Fortin as “not right in the head” and “not normal” – and said Fortin confided in him and eventually began talking about the murder.

According to the affidavit, Fortin told the witness he got into an argument on Andover Lake with two men and that they had “disrespected him.” The witness said Fortin told him he left the scene, “grabbed a pistol, came back 50 minutes later, and shot the man.”

According to the affidavit, the witness also stated Fortin had told him “there was a young little boy present at the time of the shooting.”

The witness added Fortin told him he’d put both the gun he used and the motorcycle he was riding that night in the Connecticut River.

According to the affidavit, the witness said Fortin told him he was thinking of taking off if he made bail, possibly heading to Puerto Rico or the Dominican Republic.

The witness told Fortin he was “done” and that he should try to get as much money from his girlfriend as he could to put in his inmate account “and live comfortably in prison for the next 60 years.”

* * *

Fortin is scheduled to appear in court Dec. 18.

Ladder Truck Purchase Heads to East Hampton Meeting

by Elizabeth Regan

Voters will have the opportunity to approve the purchase of a state-of-the-art ladder truck for the fire department at a Dec. 21 town meeting.

The Town Council voted along party lines at its meeting last week to buy the \$850,000 truck outright, despite a recommendation from the Board of Finance to spread the cost out over 10 years through a lease purchasing program.

Town Council Chairwoman Patience Anderson reminded the approximately 80 meeting attendees that the Board of Finance decision was made in October – before its membership changed over to a Republican majority in the November election.

Mary Ann Dostaler, a finance board member who lost re-election as a Chatham party candidate, said this week she was offended by the way the council disregarded what she characterized as the most cost-effective option with the least impact on the mill rate.

“It was insulting the way they dismissed the recommendation of the Board of Finance as if it were somehow less valid,” Dostaler said. “I also completely fault the prior Town Council and the Democrats for not voting on this on Oct. 27 when they had the opportunity.”

The leasing plan would add approximately \$88,000 in interest to the purchase price, according to Finance Director Jeff Jylkka. The town would pay approximately \$100,000 an-

nually for 10 years.

Paying for the ladder truck up front also means the town is eligible for a 5 percent discount, which would bring the price down to \$807,500, Jylkka said.

Republicans came up with the plan to take advantage of the discount by pulling from three different sources within the capital reserve fund to pay for the truck up front: a fire department vehicle repair account; a debt-sinking fund specifically for the fire department; and a broader debt-sinking fund administered at the discretion of the Town Council.

The debt-sinking fund is a \$1.35 million set-aside in the capital reserve fund to help offset future debt increases. Republicans voted to spend up to \$750,000 of that fund on the truck.

Jylkka said at the council meeting that the sinking fund was originally going to be used to soften the blow from a 1.34 increase in the mill rate resulting from the high school renovation project. Instead of letting the tax increase hit all at once in 2017, the town had been entertaining the idea of phasing it in over three years.

The finance director told councilors that’s why he is opposed to using debt-sinking money for the fire truck. “I don’t think it’s a good idea,” he said. “I think it should be financed for the reason of cash flow and because we sort of implied to the taxpayers that we were going to offset that mill rate increase with that debt sink-

ing.”

Jylkka also cited the “opportunity cost” of spending money instead of investing it. That is, if one expects the return on an investment to be higher than the interest rate on a debt, it might make sense to pay the low-interest rate debt and invest.

But Republican Councilor Ted Hintz Jr. said the 1.34 mill rate increase is less than the 3 mill increase taxpayers were told to expect when they voted for the \$51 million high school renovation project in 2013. “I doubt they’re going to be disappointed,” Hintz said. “Plus we have a fire truck that’s now paid for.”

Opposition to the motion to pay for the truck up front came from Democrats Kevin Reich and James “Pete” Brown.

Reich said he objected not only to using the sinking fund, but also to taking \$50,000 out of the fire department’s repair budget. “I’m a little suspect of the fact that we’re just taking it out of repair when we don’t know what’s going to happen over the next seven months with the fire department and their equipment,” he said.

The opportunity for voters to weigh in on the matter comes as Standard & Poor’s Rating Service announced the upgrade of East Hampton’s bond rating to AAA from AA+ based on the town’s record of general fund surpluses, according to a Dec. 2 press release. Standard & Poor’s

credit analyst Hilary Sutton said the upgrade – to the company’s highest bond rating – reflects “financial stability and supports our view of strong management.”

Analysts do not anticipate revising the rating within two years, the press release said. “However,” the release added, “if the town’s financial performance were to deteriorate, causing a drawdown on reserves, we could lower the rating.”

The fire truck, made by Pierce Manufacturing of Wisconsin, has a 107-foot ladder on a single-axle wheel base to better navigate tight spaces in town. The truck incorporates five new patents and has been designed specifically for small town fire departments, according to Fire Chief Greg Voelker.

It will replace a 30-year-old ladder truck that was reported last month to have earned the fire department an award at a parade – in the antique category.

Voelker said the truck is the only model that fits all the town’s needs – and it comes at a better price than those with less maneuverability and shorter reach.

He said failure to make the purchase before the end of the year could result in an increase in material cost.

“We’ve been told it could be as much as \$50,000,” he said.

Hebron Xtra Mart Robbed at Gunpoint

by Geeta Schrayter

State Police are on the lookout for a man they say robbed the Xtra Mart on Main Street at gunpoint last week, making off with an undisclosed amount of cash.

At approximately 1:20 a.m. Friday, Nov. 27, police from Troop K in Colchester responded to the Xtra Mart at 70 Main St. for a reported armed robbery. According to police, the store clerk said a lone male entered the store, pointed a gun at her and demanded she empty the cash register.

Police said the clerk handed the suspect the cash and he fled the store; after reviewing video surveillance, police determined there was a second male in the doorway keeping watch.

According to police, the suspect with the gun is described as a Hispanic male approximately 5’2” tall. He was wearing a black jacket, black-colored pants, black gloves and black sneakers. Police said he was also wearing a black-colored baseball cap with a white or gray emblem on the front that was possibly the Chicago Bulls logo. Police said he also had a dark colored scarf wrapped around his face.

Police said the gun he wielded appeared to be semi-automatic, black in color, and was “possibly a facsimile firearm.”

The second suspect, police said, was wearing a black jacket with green colored sleeves that had an emblem on the front, possibly the



Police are looking for a man who allegedly robbed the XtraMart on Main Street at gunpoint last week.

Boston Celtics logo in white. He also wore black pants and black sneakers with white soles, and was described as “also shorter in stature.”

Anyone with information about the robbery or the suspects is asked to call Sgt. Karen Gabianelli at 860-625-5787 or text “tip711” with the information to 236748. All calls will be kept confidential.

Bacteria Found in Gilead Hill School Water

by Geeta Schrayter

Two and a half months after students and staff at Hebron Elementary School were told to steer clear of the school’s water after traces of bacteria were found in the well system, the same is now being asked of individuals at Gilead Hill School.

Superintendent of Schools Tim Van Tassel said in an update sent to parents and guardians Monday that water testing conducted the week before indicated traces of coliform bacteria were in the well system at GHS. A second water sample was taken Tuesday, Nov. 24, and results received the following afternoon confirmed the presence of the bacteria.

In response, use of the water at GHS for consumption ceased; Poland Springs coolers replaced school water fountains and students have been encouraged to come to school with a personal bottle of water.

Van Tassel explained the bathroom sinks and toilets are still functioning for students and staff. As for the school kitchen, he said there’s a backup plan being followed until further notice.

“We have alternate water that we’re utilizing for the food,” the superintendent said Wednesday, “and we’ve also been in contact with the local health district, Chatham Health, and they’re going to come and take a look at our dishwashing system because the water may be warm enough to where it may kill the bacteria.”

He added, “We suspended use until we get confirmation they’re safe to use – which they should be. So that’s really the back-up plan.”

Van Tassel stressed, “We’ve discontinued the use of water for anything that would have to do with consumption. The water being utilized during our cafeteria is not from our water source here at Gilead Hill School.”

He added there was a “minimal impact on the cafeteria” since disposable dishes and silverware are used and water is only needed for certain meals.

“Obviously on days with pasta, that’s something where we would be utilizing a different water source,” he stated.

To remedy the situation, Van Tassel shared the school’s licensed water contractor, Hungerfords Water, filed the appropriate paperwork with the Department of Public Health to begin treating the system. Formal approval has already been received and the chlorination process began Tuesday, Dec. 1.

After sitting in the system for several days to treat the bacteria, the process of purging the chlorine from the lines will take place.

A follow-up water sample will then be taken and sent for further testing.

“It is likely that the initial water treatment process will take close to one week; however, it is very possible that we may have to complete multiple rounds of treatment to fully clear the system of coliform,” Van Tassel said in the update. “Let’s hope that the water will be cleared after the initial round.”

In September, students and staff at Hebron Elementary were on bottled water for close to a month after coliform was also found in the well system there.

Marlborough Selectmen Approve AHM Change

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

The Board of Selectmen approved a change to the AHM budget agreement Tuesday, changing the distribution of the total amount the town pays toward AHM Youth and Family Services.

The three towns involved in the regional youth service bureau – Andover, Hebron and Marlborough – have been working to revise their agreement, as it has expired. A panel of six – in Marlborough’s case, the Board of Finance chairman and the first selectman – looks over the agreement. However, it is each town’s selectmen board that votes on the agreement.

The approved change does not affect the percentage of the overall AHM budget the towns are responsible for. Instead, the change affects how that amount is divvied up within each town. For instance, of Marlborough’s portion, approximately 60 percent of the cost comes from the town operations budget, approximately 12 percent from the local school board’s budget, and the remainder paid for by Marlborough’s portion of the RHAM budget.

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

“It makes things easier to calculate the budget and for people to understand,” selectwoman Evelyn Godbout told the board Tuesday. Godbout previously worked on the agreement as the chair of the Board of Finance for Marlborough. “Andover has approved [the agreement], Hebron has approved and the Marlborough Board of Finance has voted to

support it.”

The change came about after a discussion within the panel to try and change the formula to lessen the growing burden on Marlborough. The amount each of the three towns pays for AHM is determined by how many students from each town are at the RHAM middle and high schools. Although the number of students Marlborough has at RHAM is declining, enrollments from Hebron and Andover are dropping at a quicker rate, meaning the percentage of Marlborough students in the two schools is actually increasing.

For the 2016-17 school year, Marlborough’s levy is expected to be 30.51 percent. This means that Marlborough would be responsible for \$148,455 of AHM’s operating budget (using this year’s AHM budget as an example). Of that, 50 percent, or \$74,228, would come from the town while 25 percent, or \$37,114, would come from the local school budget and another \$37,114 would come from the RHAM budget.

Although selectman Dick Shea said he does not understand why the towns have to agree on how to split up the cost, he does not want the issue to become a roadblock and will support the change.

“It lowers the town operations budget, but for the [local] Board of Education, it raises the cost without the benefit of gaining services,” Shea said.

Godbout said the point of agreeing to how the money is divvied up is consistency in the budget.

“I appreciate Hebron agreeing since [the new

arrangement] is not as beneficial to them” as it could be, Godbout added, pointing out that the panel could have gone with a new formula altogether, one not based on the RHAM levy, that may have potentially resulted in Hebron’s cost lowering, and Marlborough’s rising.

The motion to approve the change to the agreement passed unanimously. The agreement will now go before First Selectwoman Amy Traversa, Andover First Selectman Bob Burbank and Hebron Town Manager Andrew Tierney to sign.

* * *

The board also voted unanimously to go forward with the submission of two projects for Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program grants.

At the previous Board of Selectmen meeting, Director of Planning and Development Peter Hughes presented the Blackledge River Greenway project and a road reconstruction project on South Main Street. Towns are allowed to submit two projects for LOTCIP grants. The trail project and road project are evaluated in separate categories for the grant.

The LOTCIP grant covers 80 percent of the total cost with the town responsible for 20 percent. If the town is awarded the LOTCIP grant, it is not obligated to do the project, and may turn it down and forfeit the money. The town has up to three years after the grant award to perform the work.

The proposed Blackledge River Greenway project would develop and add to the current

trail off of West Road. The project would make the trail an established gravel trail. The gravel trail would make it easier for residents to enjoy the trail rather than the hiking “spur” trail there now. Part of the project also brings the trail north to connect to state-owned land.

The trail project would have a total cost of approximately \$350,000 depending on the use of contingency and incidentals.

Hughes said the town currently has \$30,000 in open space acquisition funds and another \$50,000 in the same account that the selectmen previously borrowed and did not use. Therefore, a total of \$80,000 could potentially go toward the town portion for the trail project.

The other project the town is applying for is the continuation of the South Main Street reconstruction project. The town was awarded a LOTCIP grant for phase one a few weeks ago which runs down South Main Street to South Street. Hughes explained the town portion of that project is \$183,000 and has not been put into the town budget yet.

Phase two of the project would go an additional three quarters of a mile down the road and include reconstruction of the road and changing the lane width to allow for larger shoulders. The project has a total cost of \$916,000 with the town responsible for \$183,000.

The grant award notices come out around June, Hughes said.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., at Town Hall.

Marlborough Girl Performing in *A Christmas Carol*

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

The bright lights of Hartford Stage are shining on a Marlborough Elementary School fifth-grader, as she’s playing Belinda Cratchit in the theater’s production of *A Christmas Carol*.

Emma Kindl, 10, began performing at 6 years old, when she got her start in *Nowhere to Hide*, Colchester Community Theater’s summer children’s production. Although Emma only had one line – “me three” – she was hooked.

“It’s thrilling,” Emma said of performing. “Everyone’s eyes are on you. It’s both scary and exciting.”

Her mother, Liane Kindl, supported her daughter’s love of theater since Emma wasn’t into sports. Liane said people she knew questioned putting Emma into theater rather than sports, but Liane said theater teaches some of the same things.

“She has to learn her lines and be part of a team,” Liane said. “She’s learning a lot of life skills.”

After *Nowhere to Hide*, Emma played Flounder in *The Little Mermaid*. It was another Colchester Community Theater production for children, and Emma said she enjoyed playing the mischievous, loyal fish.

Despite her love of the stage, Emma hadn’t even considered performing in a professional play until last year, when she saw a friend perform in *A Christmas Carol* at the Hartford Stage. The show is now in its 18th year in Hartford.

When Emma told her mom she wanted to audition for the play the following year, Liane told her she wasn’t sure and that it was very ambitious. Emma was persistent though and this past October, she went to the Hartford Stage auditions armed with the monologue *Help!* by Shel Silverstein and the song, “O Come All Ye

Faithful.” Sure enough Emma got a callback to read lines.

During auditions, Liane and Emma got a chance to see Kevin Bacon go by, as he was performing in *Rear Window* at the Hartford Stage. Liane was excited – although Emma didn’t much care, since she had no idea who Bacon was.

After the audition, producers cast Emma as Belinda Cratchit, one of Tiny Tim’s sisters, for the play’s Green Team. (The children’s cast for the play is split in two teams, green and red, so that not everyone has to do all of the performances.)

The play is based on the Charles Dickens classic about a miserly man named Ebenezer Scrooge, whose life is redeemed after encounters with the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future one fateful Dec. 24. The Hartford Stage production runs through the end of the month.

Emma didn’t have a lot of time for rehearsals. After auditions in October, she began rehearsing and the show opened Nov. 27. One of the challenges of being in the play, Emma said, was learning an English accent.

“I’ve never had to do it before,” Emma said of learning an accent at all. “I’ve heard English accents on TV, but doing it is harder.”

Another challenge has been for Liane, learning to French braid Emma’s hair exactly as the directors want it.

“I’m working hard. I think it’s going okay,” Liane said of her French braiding. “They haven’t said I had to redo it!”

Working on the professional play has been quite the experience, Emma said.

“There are lots of gorgeous costumes,” she said. “Community theater costumes aren’t as elaborate. We also have a secret snowflake [gift

exchange] for the kids’ cast.”

The kids’ cast also has parties and is known to play the card game UNO backstage.

Liane said it isn’t the special effects with the snow, smoke and ghosts that are the most exciting thing about performing on a major stage. Rather, it’s going through the “vom.”

“It’s a hallway where people come in and sneak around under the stage,” Emma explained, adding that she thinks it’s fun to run through it.

And like all performances, not everything is perfect.

“During one of the performances Scrooge tripped and fell on his face,” Emma said. “[The kids are] supposed to be scared of him so we didn’t know if we should help. [But] he was like a spring – went down and came back up.”

In another performance, Emma recalled, Tiana Bailey, the actress who plays Belinda on the Red Team, got artificial snow in her mouth – and was sufficiently grossed out.

Even though she had a “lot of butterflies” for the first performance, Emma said it got easier and easier with each show.

“It was scary at first, then exciting,” she said. The process is “very tiring and almost every night is a show,” Emma said, noting, “I’ll miss five days of school.”

The experience has been worth, it though. “It’s the experience of a lifetime for her to be in a professional show,” Liane said. “I’m really proud of her.”

And Emma has still more acting on deck. After *A Christmas Carol* closes, she’ll be in the ensemble for another Colchester Community Theatre production of *The Little Mermaid* in February. This one will be a production by the full CCT – not just the children’s camp.



Emma Kindl, 10, plays Belinda Cratchit in the Hartford Stage rendition of *A Christmas Carol* this month.

What does the long-term future hold for the 10-year-old?

“Broadway....maybe,” Emma said. “But I want to be a candy scientist.”

Tickets for *A Christmas Carol* can be purchased at hartfordstage.org or by calling 860-527-5151. The show runs from now until Dec. 27 at the theater on Trumbull Street in Hartford.

Dispatch Center On the Way Out?

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

Colchester Emergency Communications LLC, which handles emergency dispatch services for three *Rivereast* towns, is in dire straits, as member towns are notifying the company they plan to pull out.

The company, commonly known as KX, has been on shaky financial ground after its expected consolidation with Montville fell through in June. Under the towns' current contracts which end June 30, 2016, KX has to be notified by Dec. 31 if a town will not continue with the dispatch service.

Currently, KX is stationed in a small room at the Troop K headquarters on Old Hartford Road. It is governed by a board of directors and handles fire and ambulance dispatch services for Colchester, Marlborough, East Hampton, Haddam Neck, Bozrah, East Haddam and Salem. KX also handles East Hampton's police dispatch, and provides dispatch services for Middlesex Memorial Hospital paramedics within the northern portion of Middlesex County and its northern service area.

Hebron had also been a member town, but in 2013 departed for Tolland County Emergency Communications. When Hebron left, KX lost \$100,000 in annual revenue.

However, officials in the remaining KX member towns did not want to have a large budget increase to make up for that lost revenue, and the organization began using its capital reserves to balance the budget. The KX Board of Directors also sought out another dis-

patch center to consolidate with, to save money. Montville, which has a new public safety and dispatch facility, expressed interest. This would solve many of KX's problems, as infrastructure improvements would no longer be needed.

Plans for a consolidation, however, began to fall apart this past April, when dispatch workers voted to be represented by a union and negotiations began. Montville officially called off the consolidation in June.

After the loss of the state-of-the-art facility Montville would have meant, KX would need a 28.25 percent budget increase to cover operating costs and begin replenishing the capital reserve, KX Board of Directors member Doug Knowlton said.

KX has an overall 2015-16 budget of \$899,500. Among the towns covered by the *Rivereast*, East Hampton was responsible for the largest portion, at \$135,461, followed by Colchester at \$108,732, and Marlborough at \$54,889.

Knowlton, who worked on the consolidation with Montville, said nothing is definite yet about KX dissolving; however, towns have begun leaving.

Bozrah and Salem, Knowlton said, have told KX they will depart at the end of the contract next June and join Montville on their own. Haddam Neck has also announced it is leaving, and joining Valley Shore Emergency Communications out of Westbrook, which also services Haddam.

Lebanon had been part of KX, but departed in July, paying an early termination fee to get out of the contract. Knowlton acknowledged this particularly hurt, since the 2015-16 budget had already been approved.

"We couldn't charge the towns anymore for this year," Knowlton said. "We had to dip further into the capital reserves."

Fewer towns doesn't mean KX saves money. Knowlton explained that, regardless of how many towns KX services, the costs are the same since the organization needs two dispatchers on each shift. He explained fewer towns in KX means fewer people to divide the cost by.

The towns left still needing to notify KX of their intentions are Colchester, East Haddam, Marlborough and East Hampton. It is also unknown what Middlesex Hospital will do for its paramedics.

Marlborough First Selectwoman Amy Traversa said Marlborough and East Hampton are considering joining with Glastonbury for their dispatch. However, nothing has become official yet.

"The options are limited because of the timeframe," Traversa said. "It's a complex decision that impacts public safety and is of the highest priority."

East Hampton Town Manager Mike Maniscalco was hopeful about changing the town's dispatch services for police, fire, and EMS to Glastonbury.

"It's been something we've been talking about and working on for a while," Maniscalco said. "Every other town has been looking at options. We are left in a scenario with not much of a choice."

With the town's proximity to Glastonbury along with Marlborough also being a neighbor, Maniscalco said it made sense for Marlborough to join them.

Maniscalco said East Hampton looked at a variety of dispatch options, including Montville, Middletown and Tolland County Emergency Communications. However, East Hampton's location geographically made selecting a dispatch center a difficult fit – as did the fact East Hampton requires police dispatch as well as fire and EMS.

The East Hampton Town Council, Maniscalco said, passed a resolution last week to apply for a grant to offset capital costs needed for equipment. He explained equipment currently in East Hampton belongs to KX and the town would need to replace that equipment if it was to move its services to Glastonbury.

Colchester First Selectman Art Shilosky said his town's Board of Selectmen is looking at the options, but has "not decided what is most favorable for us."

The KX Board of Directors will next meet Dec. 15, and begin reviewing a potential dissolution plan to have in case the remaining towns do indeed pull out.

Chatham Health District Under Fire

by Elizabeth Regan

Connecticut Department of Public Health Commissioner Jewel Mullen is withholding funding to the Chatham Health District based on alleged misconduct by longtime Director of Health Thad King.

A hearing to determine if King gets to keep his job is scheduled for Dec. 22, according to public health department spokesman William Gerrish. It has been rescheduled twice, with the most recent postponement coming at the request of both parties, Gerrish said.

The Chatham Health District is a non-profit governmental organization that serves the *Rivereast* towns of Colchester, East Hampton, Hebron, Marlborough and Portland, as well as East Haddam and Haddam.

A letter from Mullen to King dated Oct. 7 cited a litany of violations hinging on King's alleged failure to comply with state law requiring district health directors to devote their "entire time" to the job. King's salary is \$101,154.

The letter alleges King has worked as a certified water operator while serving as the district director of health, which creates the potential for a conflict of interest. It also alleges he engaged in the "improper and/or fraudulent" use of the state health department laboratory for matters not related to his job as the district health director. Finally, the letter alleges he used Chatham Health District employees as well as "stationary, e-mail and other property" for "non-Chatham and/or personal business purposes."

King could not be reached for comment.

Even though Chatham Health District Board of Health minutes from September indicate King has "resigned from all certified water operator designations," the state is seeking assurance from the board that this problem won't happen again. In addition to holding a hearing on King's employment status, the state is withholding funding until the health district revises its public health plan to include more stringent job requirements for its director.

The Chatham Health District 2015-16 budget includes \$133,398 in expected state funding. The funding amounts to \$1.85 for each person in the district.

The state contribution comprises more than 10 percent of the health district's \$1 million budget, which is administered by the town of East Hampton. The rest of the budget is composed of municipal contributions, department revenue, federal funds and grant funds.

East Hampton Town Manager Michael Maniscalco said the lack of state dollars makes an already-tight budget – with no cash reserves – even tighter.

"We've met all our financial obligations, including payroll; it's just been very close," he said. "A lot closer than I am personally comfortable with."

The health district can continue to get by without the state funding until sometime around March, according to Maniscalco. He said he

hopes consistency in the Chatham Health District Board of Health will facilitate a resolution to the matter.

The Board of Health is the health district's governing body.

"There's been some changeover on the board; that's been a little bit of a challenging scenario," Maniscalco said. "It's added additional complexity to the issue. Now we've made it through elections and we've got a little bit more consistency."

The Board of Health is made up of nine representatives from seven member towns. Availability is based on population, which gives Colchester and East Hampton two spots on the board while the rest of the towns have one.

Former Board of Health chairwoman, Melissa Schlag, resigned her position on the board after she lost re-election in the race for Haddam first selectman. Marlborough Town Planner Peter Hughes is serving as interim chairman.

Hughes did not return multiple calls for comment.

Maniscalco said a new chairman is likely to be elected in January.

An Oct. 9 letter from Ellen Blaschinski, state health department branch chief for the regulatory services division, told Schlag that funding was withheld because the district health district's grant application did not show King will comply with the statutory "entire time" requirement.

"As previously discussed with Chatham, the statutory 'entire time' requirement for a district health director goes beyond the availability requirements for a 'full-time' municipal health director, which is governed by a different statute," Blaschinski wrote. "Under said statute, a district director of health may not, among other things, engage in any other employment or work."

Blaschinski said the health district must provide documentation, such as employment agreements, to prove that compliance with the entire time statute will be explicitly required.

She also recommended that the health district send the state health department drafts of "any proposed contracts, agreements or other documents regarding the employment of a suitable health director before they are executed or become effective."

Blaschinski said the funding will be released once the state resolves its issues with King and the Chatham Health District Board of Directors submits a public health plan that ensures future compliance by the director of health.

Board of Health member and Portland First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield said she appreciates the need for the state Department of Public Health to oversee local health districts. She is also confident in the health district's ability to address state concerns.

"I fully anticipate we will receive the per capita grant," she said.

From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

I am starting to grow weary of the Donald Trump sideshow.

I call it a “sideshow” because I still don’t think he has a shot at the presidency. I’ve been saying that for a while now, and while I did think The Donald would be an afterthought by the holidays, I’m still holding to the belief that he can’t win. Even if he secures the Republican nomination – which I can’t see happening either – I just don’t see the majority of Americans seriously deciding that, yes, this is the man I want to lead this country for the next four years.

I’m amazed Trump has lasted as long as he has. From the moment he ascended down that shopping mall escalator to announce his candidacy, he’s said one racist, sexist, ill-informed, idiotic, deceitful and childish thing after another. And yet he has continued to lead the polls. He’s also inspired his Republican opponents, even previously almost-normal guys like Jeb Bush, to go increasingly off the rails, in an attempt to appeal to Trump’s bizarre-world fanbase.

While that part of it – the chaos he’s causing in the Republican Party – continues to be entertaining, for the most part Trump is ceasing to be the source of amusement he previously was. I’m starting to just want him to bow out.

These past few weeks – perhaps feeling invincible – Trump’s behavior has been particularly revolting. After a black protestor got beaten up by supporters at a Trump rally in Alabama, Trump – whose campaign had previously said physical violence should not be condoned – told Fox News, “Maybe he should’ve been roughed up.”

Last weekend, at another campaign speech, he openly mocked a physically-handicapped *New York Times* reporter. (For the record, he denied intentionally mocking him – a denial I don’t think anyone bought.)

Trump also recently made the ridiculous claim – which he continues to stand by – that on Sept. 11, 2001, thousands of Muslims in New Jersey stood and cheered as the World Trade Center fell. He said all this despite not one shred of video existing to back him up. Come on, this is 2015. If this really happened, as Trump claimed, don’t you think there’d be video of this somewhere on the Internet?

Trump is saying that, if people dig hard enough, they can find video of this. Well,

he’s the one making this assertion. Shouldn’t the burden of proof be on him to find it?

This week, Trump said that he’s thinking of charging CNN – which he said doesn’t treat him fairly – \$5 million to appear in the next debate. (He said he’d give that fee to veterans’ groups, because The Donald knows how to pander to people – well, as long as they’re not Mexican. Or black. Or women.)

As the calendar turns to December, as the Iowa and New Hampshire caucuses grow ever closer, what was a quick laugh in the summer is just ceasing to be funny. Maybe the fact that Trump actually has serious supporters has something to do with it. “He’s the true definition of a leader in every sense,” a supporter named Ryan Farmer told NBC News at a Trump speech on Monday. That people actually feel this way is.....well, a little scary.

Of course, Trump won’t bow out of the race; indeed, he’d be kind of a fool to do so, given his place in the standings. And I admit I am rather enjoying the effect he’s having on his fellow Republican presidential candidates, as they scramble to prove they can be as nutty as the big guy. For example: Jeb Bush said after the Paris attacks the United States should only allow in Syrian refugees if they are Christian. It was an incredibly un-American sentiment, and Bush looked even worse when asked how he’d make sure only Christians got in. “You can prove you’re a Christian” was, amazingly, his response. People can lie, Bush.

Then there’s the fact many Republicans don’t want Trump to come anywhere close to the nomination – it’s their worst nightmare, as they feel it would basically gift-wrap the presidency for Hillary Clinton. (And they’re probably right.) So they’ve spent months trying to tear him down – particularly the “fair and balanced” folks on Fox News. You can’t get much more Republican than Fox News, so if they’re going after The Donald, well, you can be sure things are pretty fractured.

And the longer said fracturing goes on, the tougher it might be for the Republican Party to put itself back together again by next November.

That would indeed be the silver lining to the dark cloud (a dark cloud full of hot air) that is Donald Trump.

* * *

See you next week..

Colchester Teen Shot While on Quad

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

A teen was injured after he was shot in the foot while riding a quad in the Larson Lot pheasant hunting area at the Salmon River State Forest last week.

Colchester Police and Troop K responded to Middletown Road and to the hunting area for what police called a “hunting-related shooting” at 3:40 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25. Police said the 14-year-old male sustained minor injuries after being shot while on an all-terrain vehicle. The juvenile was transported to the Marlborough Clinic.

State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection’s Environmental Conservation Police responded and are investigating the incident. Police said they have not been able to develop any suspects.

Anyone with information is asked to call DEEP at 860-424-3333.

Portland Police News

11/28: Carly Chabot, 30, of 604 Main St., was charged with DUI, operating a motor vehicle without a license and failure to drive in an established lane, Portland Police said.

Four Injured in Marlborough Crash

Four people were injured in a two-car crash on Route 2 last week, State Police said.

The crash occurred at around 10:45 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24, near Exit 15, police said. According to police, a Chevy Suburban driven by Scott DeLaura, 20, of 50 Prospect Ave., Niantic, swerved right, then left, overturned, and rolled to a stop in the middle of the highway.

A Toyota Corolla, driven by Frank Reyes, 56, of 60 Chambers St., Manchester, was be-

Human Remains Found in State Park

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

Human remains were discovered in a remote section of Colchester last weekend, and state police had yet to identify the victim as of press time Thursday.

Detectives from the Eastern District Major Crime Unit and Troop K responded to the state forest near Flat Brook Road at 3:20 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 28.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner responded to the scene and will conduct a post-mortem examination to determine cause and manner of death along with identity, police said.

State police reported identification is withheld pending confirmation of identity and to notify next of kin. Police said there is no threat to the public.

East Hampton Police News

11/21: Ryan Anderson, 28, of 17 Colchester Ave., was arrested and charged with driving under the influence, failure to drive right and failure to renew license, East Hampton Police said.

hind DeLaura, could not stop and hit his car, police said.

DeLaura and his passenger, James Lyon III, 22, of 335 Boston Post Rd., East Lyme, and Reyes and his passenger, Catherine Cooney, 58, also of 60 Chambers St., Manchester, were all transported to the Marlborough Clinic with minor injuries after the accident, police said.

Police said DeLaura was issued an infraction for distracted driving and failure to drive in the proper lane.

Hebron Police News

11/24: State Police said they are investigating after an overnight burglary at Hebron Family Chiropractic on Liberty Drive. Police said someone broke in between 6:45 p.m. Nov. 23 and 8:20 a.m. Nov. 24 using tools and took undisclosed items. Anyone with information can call Trooper Dan Greenwood at 860-465-5455 x 4022.

11/26: State Police said Jeremy Ingle, 39, of 162 Wall St., was arrested and charged with third-degree assault, criminal mischief and disorderly conduct.

11/27: State Police said Alan Russell, 61, of 244 Main St., was arrested and charged with violation of a protective order.

Marlborough Police News

11/28: State Police said Celso Arcadio-Perez, 35, of 165 Greenwood St., New Britain, was

arrested and charged with disobeying an officer, evading responsibility, DUI, failure to drive in the proper lane, and risk of injury to a child.

Obituaries

Marlborough

Carl W. Zirkenbach

Carl William Zirkenbach, 91, of Marlborough, husband of Clara Keith Bolles, passed away peacefully on Sunday, November 29. Born in Hartford on July 10, 1924 to the late Carl H and Caroline Neuschler Zirkenbach, he grew up in Glastonbury and was a graduate of Glastonbury High School, Class of 1942. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theater as a quartermaster aboard the USS *Tern*, homeported out of Pearl Harbor. After the war, he returned to Glastonbury and married his high school classmate, Peggy Thienes.

He went to work as a salesman for the Fuller Brush Company and was widely known in the region, long after he left the company, as "the Fuller Brush man." In 1960 he followed his dream and purchased the Hall Farm in Marlborough. With a unique vision and great determination, he transformed the old cow barn on the property into what eventually became the Marlborough Country Barn, New England's premier home furnishings shopping destination. Carl was also a founding partner in the Saybrook Country Barn in Old Saybrook.

In addition to his wife, Carl leaves a sister, Marion Zirkenbach Hallas of Glastonbury; a daughter, Debbie Zirkenbach Leonard of Colorado, formerly of Middle Haddam; son, Carl D. Zirkenbach and his partner, Karen Goguen of Colchester, with whom he made his home for the last four years; grandchildren, Kevin MacGranor and wife Michele of Marlborough, Sarah MacGranor Bangert and husband Mark of Colorado, and Karly Zirkenbach of Colchester; and great grandchildren, Madelyn and Scott Bangert. Carl's stepchildren and their families include Richard Bolles Jr. of Dennis MA, Susan Petell of East Hampton, Kathy Bolles of Glastonbury, Keith Bolles of Essex and James Bolles of Old Lyme.

A memorial service will be held at the Congregational Church of Marlborough, 35 South Main St., on Saturday, Dec. 5 at 10 a.m. Burial will be at the convenience of the family at Neipsic Cemetery in East Glastonbury. There are no calling hours.

Carl had been an active member of the community and his church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his honor to the Congregational Church of Marlborough, PO Box 57, Marlborough, CT 06447.

Colchester

Susan Gail Lockhart

Susan Gail Lockhart, 55, formerly of Colchester, passed away peacefully at her residence Monday, Nov. 23, after a courageous 17-year fight against breast cancer. Susan was born March 2, 1960, in Phoenix, Ariz., to the late Samuel Grant Leabo and the late Mary Cooper Leabo. She will be remembered as a beloved wife, mother, sister and friend.

She is survived by her husband of 37 years, Donald Everett Lockhart; three daughters, Ashley, Callie and Bailee Lockhart; a son, Donald Everett Lockhart III; a grandson, Xander Lockhart, all of Aiken, S.C.; and two brothers, Larry Leabo (Diane) and Gary Leabo (Mary), both of Phoenix, Ariz.

Funeral services in Aiken have already taken place. Visitation and a funeral were also held Monday, Nov. 30, at Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, CT 06415. Interment was also Monday, in Linwood Cemetery in Colchester. The family will receive friends from 12:00 until 1:00 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Breast Cancer Research via the American Cancer Society, 128 Stonemark Lane, Columbia, SC 29210.

Colchester

Hollis S. Block

Hollis S. Block, 61, of Colchester, passed away suddenly Saturday, Nov. 28, at her home. Born April 17, 1954, she spent most of her youth growing up in New York City. Hollis was the daughter of the late Sol and Helen (Pincus) Block. She married Dominic Cavallari July 15, 1992.

Hollis attained a master's degree in social work and worked as a retiree staff representative for the Connecticut State Employees Union.

She was predeceased by her beloved son Hayden on May 21st of this year. She grieved deeply for his loss and missed him dearly.

She is survived by her husband of 23 years, Dominic and several extended family and friends.

Calling hours were held Wednesday, Dec. 2, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. A memorial service was held later that morning, at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Rd., Waterbury Center, VT 05677.

For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton

Frederick S. Robley Jr.

Frederick S. Robley Jr., 82, of East Hampton, beloved husband of Phyllis (Hartig) Robley, died Tuesday, Nov. 24, at Marlborough Health Care. Born May 4, 1933, in Burlington, Vt., he was the son of the late Frederick and Hilda (Giroux) Robley.

Fred had retired from Jarvis Airfoil Inc. of Portland where he had worked as a machinist. Fred enjoyed bowling, NASCAR races and the Boston Red Sox.

Besides his loving wife of 63 years, Phyllis, he is survived by his sons Wallace P. Robley and his wife Brenda of Portland, Richard S. Robley and his fiancé Cheri Duff of East Hampton; a brother, James A. Robley of California; sisters, Vadia Cangey of California, Charlotte Ashline of California; four grandchildren, Erin Ortega and husband Robert, Ryan Robley, Lauren Robley and fiancé Jason Owen, Alexander Robley; great-grandchildren, Briella Ortega, Robert J. "RJ" Ortega and Kapri Robley; also several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by a brother, Wallace Robley, and a sister, Barbara Umstead.

A graveside service was held Wednesday, Dec. 2, in St. John Cemetery in Middletown. Friends called at Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 1.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

East Hampton

Gregory Michael Visinski

Gregory Michael Visinski, 55, of East Hampton, died Friday, Nov. 27, at Cobalt Lodge and Health Care. Born May 5, 1960, in Middletown, he was the son of the late Joseph and Zenia (Baginski) Visinski.

He is survived by his three brothers, Joseph R. and Karen Visinski, Jeffrey J. and Kathy Visinski, Richard B. and Shelley Visinski; two sisters, Barbara Owens and Janice Visinski.

A funeral liturgy was celebrated Thursday, Dec. 3, in St. Patrick Church East Hampton. Burial followed in St. Patrick Cemetery.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Colchester

Clarence Ross Transue Jr.

Clarence Ross Transue Jr., 74, of Colchester, passed away Thursday, Nov. 26, after a brief illness, at Middlesex Hospital Hospice. Born Oct. 12, 1941 in Stroudsburg, Pa., he was the son of the late Clarence and Charlotte (Grumm) Transue.

He married his beloved wife, Geraldine Lyons, in 1968. The couple moved to Colchester where they made their home and raised their family.

Clarence attended school in Pennsylvania and graduated from East Stroudsburg State University. He later went on to earn a master's degree in chemistry from the University of New Hampshire. Clarence retired several years ago after a varied career in teaching. He taught Science at Rocky Hill High School, served as an adjunct professor for UConn - Hartford campus, Three Rivers Community College and Tunxis Community College. Over his career, he was the recipient of four awards from the National Science Foundation.

Clarence filled his free time with family. He loved the outdoors, especially hiking, fishing and camping. He traveled throughout the United States with his wife and children as they explored the parks and less traveled paths, creating memories to last their lifetime.

He will be sadly missed but always remembered by his wife of 47 years, Geraldine; five children and their spouses, Geraldine and husband Thomas Kowolenko of Brooklyn, Kristen Transue and husband Walter Kozak of Andover, Wanda Lanham of Coventry, Erin and husband Michael Joffe of Washington, DC, C. Ross Transue III of New Britain; a former son-in-law, Scott Dexter of Franklin; a sister, Cheryl Lawshe and husband John of Milford, De.; eight grandchildren, Jocelyn and Jacob Dexter, Orianna and Christopher Kozak, Joseph and Joshua Lanham, Aidan and Gwenyth Joffre; and numerous extended family and friends.

Calling hours were held Thursday, Dec. 3, with the Panahyda service that evening, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. Celebration of The Divine Liturgy will be at 10:30 a.m. today, Dec. 4, directly at St. Mary Church, 178 Linwood Ave. (Route 16), Colchester. Interment will follow in the New St. Mary Cemetery.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Church or to the Craigin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., Colchester, CT 06415.

For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton

Carmela A. Lashenka

Carmela A. Lashenka, 93, of North Palm Beach, Fla., formerly of East Hampton, passed away peacefully Nov. 23 at Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center Hospice. Carmela was born in New Britain to Alexander and Corradina (Franzo) Falconeri in 1922.

She attended St. Mary School in New Britain up to ninth grade and graduated from New Britain High School in 1940. After graduation, Carmela worked as a bookkeeper for a Radcliffe Oil company where she met Boris Lashenka. Soon after Boris enlisted and they were married on June 9, 1945, in Boca Raton, Fla., where Boris was stationed at the time during World War II.

Carmela continued to work as a bookkeeper for Christy Oil (where Boris was a part owner), until the early 1950s. At that time she became a stay-at-home mother devoted to raising her three children, Peter, Paulette and Mary. In 1969, they built their "dream home" in East Hampton, where they remained enjoying the country life until Boris' passing in 2012. At that time, not able to take the New England winters any longer, Carmela moved to North Palm Beach, Fla., to live with her son Peter and daughter-in-law Jean.

She has always been known as a loving and caring person with a contagious smile. Her love for children, animals and lest we forget....*Wheel, Jeopardy!* and crossword puzzles was legendary. In years past, she was an avid knitter, knitting various items for charity. She also loved collecting cups and saucers, pitchers and tiny china animals growing this love into quite a collection!

A loving and devoted mother, grandmother, great grandmother and aunt, she is survived by her son Peter and wife Jean of North Palm Beach, Fla.; her daughter, Paulette Reed of East Hampton; grandchildren Peter F. Lashenka of Palm City, Fla., James M. Leask and wife Pamela of Concord, N.H., Jessica (Cullen) Hamm and husband Christopher of Middletown, and Amy (Cullen) Grendzinski and her husband James of East Hampton. Additionally, she leaves four great-grandchildren, Peter, Nadia, Owen and Dylan James and many loving nieces and nephews.

Carmela is predeceased by her husband of 66 years, Boris; her daughter, Mary (Cullen) Gordon of Southbury; and her brothers and sisters, Nicholas, Charles, Virginia (Jean), Angelina, Joseph and Angelo.

A celebration of her life will be held at a later date.

Carmela's favorite charity was St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1893 Memphis, TN 38101-9950; stjude.org/donate.

Marlborough

Richard E. Saunders

Richard E. Saunders, 52, of Marlborough, formerly of Stamford, husband of Cathy (Dufresne) Saunders, died Saturday, Nov. 28, at his home, with his loving family at his side. Born Feb. 5, 1963, in Stamford, he was the son of the late Lester and Esperanza Saunders.

Rick graduated from Stamford public schools and was a 30-year veteran of the Stamford Fire Department. Rick had received two Unit Citations during his career and spent most of his career assigned to the Southend Station. Rick was also a mechanic and was a MOPAR enthusiast. Rick rebuilt several Chrysler cars including a Dodge Dart, Plymouth Duster, a Barracuda and a Road Runner and Plymouth Fury. He enjoyed drag racing with the cars that he rebuilt.

Besides his wife Cathy, he is survived by his stepchildren Michael Cioe of Marlborough and Kelly Cioe of East Hampton; two sisters, Hope Elliot of Florida, Jacqueline Burkett of Connecticut and several nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Friends called at Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, Thursday, Dec. 3. Funeral services will be held today, Dec. 4, at 10 a.m., with services beginning at 10:30 a.m., in the Spencer Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Lake View Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Sandy Peszynski Breast Cancer Fund, 93 East High St., East Hampton, CT 06424.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Portland

Robert Francis McGinn

Robert (Bobby) Francis McGinn, 58, of Portland, passed away in his sleep Saturday, Nov. 28. Bobby battled many health problems through the years – most notably chronic traumatic brain encephalopathy and congestive heart failure. This was besides his living with constant pain.



He was born Aug. 24, 1957, in Middletown, the son of Frances (Mozdierz) Sprague of Portland and the late Robert J. McGinn. Bob attended Portland schools and graduated from Portland High School in 1975. He then continued his studies at Middlesex Community College and earned an Associate in Science degree.

While in high school he worked as a driver for the *Middletown Press* (a job he really loved and mentioned often). Right after that while attending college, he worked for a company that reconstructed 18th century homes. He later became a machinist for several local companies. He joined Contromatics Inc. in East Hartford as an inspector and quality control specialist and worked there for several years until the company was taken over by Watts Industries, Contromatics Division located in Milford, N.H. He moved to New Hampshire and continued with the company for several more years. He was the sole inspector for machine inspecting responsibilities and the final inspector of all military products.

In his youth, Bob played in many sports and later played Portland softball. He loved to fish and followed NASCAR racing, the Boston Red Sox, and UConn basketball. He had many interests – he read many books on American history, and was especially interested in the Civil War and military history. He visited many Civil War battlefields. He could top almost anyone with his knowledge on these topics. He had a garden every year and was very proud of his tomatoes. His interests continued through the years with current events, politics, and climate change. In his free time, he liked to complete jigsaw puzzles.

Bobby is survived by his sister, Sheila McGinn (Alfred Noetzel) of Middletown; two brothers, Daniel L. McGinn of Portland and Thomas M. McGinn (Karen) of East Hampton. He was predeceased by his sister, Claire M. McGinn in 1982.

He leaves his aunt, Barbara Chayer of Cleburne, Texas, and Mary McGinn of Woburn, Mass. He also leaves five nieces, Kersti, Shannon, and Kerry Noetzel of Middletown and Katie and Erin McGinn of East Hampton, plus many cousins, including a very special one, Mary Ann Jansak of Middletown. He also leaves his dear friend, Susan Marston of Portland, who shared many happy moments with him, and supported him through thick and thin.

He loved all the pets he had through the years, especially Angel and Lefty, his red one-eyed cat. He leaves his pit bull, Bella, a shelter dog, who he adored, and this love was reciprocated. She will miss their daily walks and rides.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Dec. 3, with a Mass at the Church of St. Mary, 51 Free-stone Ave., Portland. Burial was in St. Mary Cemetery, Portland. Relatives and friends called Thursday at Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Robert's name may be made to the Meriden Humane Society, 311 Murdock Ave., Meriden, CT 06450.

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

Colchester

Nicolette M. Korman

Nicolette M. Korman of Colchester died peacefully Wednesday, Nov. 25, at Yale New Haven Hospital, surrounded by family. Nickie, daughter of Edith Anne Nicola of Colchester and the late Walter Nicola, was born April 28, 1957.

She is survived by her daughters, Nancy Korman of Colchester and Julie (Nathan) Lindsey of Lawrenceville, Ga.; her granddaughters, Ivy Lindsey and Lily Lindsey; her mother, Edith Anne Nicola of Colchester; her brothers Rusty Nicola of Colchester and Sandy (Eve) Nicola of Westbrook.

A memorial service was held Thursday, Dec. 3, at Saint Andrews Church in Colchester.

East Hampton

Gary Lee Corliss

Gary Lee Corliss died suddenly at his home on Lake Pocotopaug in East Hampton Monday, Nov. 30, 2015. Although he lived in Connecticut for the past 50 years, he still thought of himself as a Vermonter. He maintained ties with his hometown of Windsor, Vt., where he was born Aug. 14, 1943, the second son of the late Leslie and Hazel Corliss. Gary had one brother, Robert Corliss, who died earlier this year.



As a brand-new University of Vermont graduate in 1954, Gary (FSA, MAAA, CSA) moved to Hartford to begin a lifelong career in the insurance industry. Aetna was his first professional home, where, in 1985 he championed the company's entry into long term care insurance, overseeing the development of individual long term care insurance products that set industry standards and served as the impetus for subsequent NAIC Model Regulations. He subsequently served as president for Group Management Services, Duncanson & Holt Administration Services, AUL Long Term Care Solutions, and ERC LTC Solutions.

In 2002, he founded Avon Long Term Care Leaders, through which he built the largest LTC reinsurance facility in the US and globally. He was "mostly retired" for the past 10 years, although kept his hand in the industry as a mentor to previous colleagues, and as founding CEO of Avon Long Term Care Consultants, an underwriting business.

Throughout his career, Gary authored numerous articles, and addressed public and private seminars on long term care insurance throughout the US, Canada, Europe, and Asia. For over 20 years, he chaired the Society of Actuaries Long-Term Care Experience Committee and the Long Term Care Intercompany Study that has published five of the largest (and only) public data sources on insured lives for long term care insurance.

Gary followed the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as he pledged to be of service in all areas of his life. He coached youth basketball, swimming, softball and soccer, leading the girls' 1988 Connecticut State Soccer Champions to victory. He served as a soccer referee in Avon for many years, donating all his ref fees to charity. For three decades he made yearly trips to an Appalachian mission of The Sisters of St. Joseph, driving truckloads of clothing, toys and household goods. He was a catalyst in the Social Action Committee at the Church of St. Ann in Avon. He served on the Pro-Life Committee at St. Patrick's Church in East Hampton and devoted innumerable hours to the Knights of Columbus Belltown Council, where he was the Grand Knight for the past 18 months.

Gary was an avid swimmer who, for many years, made a practice of waterskiing once a year on his birthday. He enjoyed ballroom dancing with his wife for the past 14 years. Several years ago he began training for triathlons and running, taking first place in his age category in many of the races he entered. In September, he attained his long term goal of completing a half-marathon, alongside his two proud daughters. He enjoyed frequent travel to all parts of the world, but was also happy chopping wood and tending to evening fires in the fireplace at home. He was a coupon clipper who took delight in reporting on how much he had saved during any given shopping trip. His "pasta with sauce" was legendary.

Gary was a man devoted to his family. Carol, his wife of 18 years, will deeply miss being his partner in all the big and little things of life. His children Cindy (Corliss) Godwin, Greg Corliss and Jaime Corliss are eternally grateful for his love, support, wise guidance, unbending optimism, goofy sense of fun, deep faith, and spirituality. His stepson Jim McDonnell cherishes the man who helped guide him through his teen years and early adulthood. His grandchildren, Ben and Ella, adored their "Pa" and will always hold him in their hearts.

Gary is also mourned by his first wife, Mary Corliss; his mother- and father-in-law, Velma and Ralph Bodensteiner; his daughters-in-law Beth Corliss and Ashley McDonnell; his son-in-law Kevin Godwin; many brothers- and sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews; several cousins; and countless friends.

Friends may call at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, today, Dec. 4, from 5-8 p.m. A funeral liturgy will be celebrated Saturday, Dec. 5, at 11 a.m., in St. Patrick Church, East Hampton. Burial will be in the family plot in Windsor, Vt.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery Development Office, 27 Park Rd., West Hartford, CT 06119.

To leave online condolences, visit spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Andover

Roberta Cooney

Roberta Cooney, 97, of Andover, widow of Donald F. Cooney since 1970, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Nov. 25, at Manchester Manor, after a brief illness. Roberta was born Feb. 5, 1918, in Lowell, Mass., a daughter of the late Robert and Mary (Tucker) Collins, and previously resided in Lowell, Mass., and Moosup, before settling in East Hartford. She graduated and attended Lowell High School.

Roberta was employed by Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, retiring in 1980. She was a parishioner of St. John's Episcopal Church of East Hartford and a member of the Pratt & Whitney Retiree's Club and the Andover Seniors.

Roberta will be dearly missed by her daughter, Pamela Cooney of Manchester; cherished grandson, Brian Piccarello of Bolton; special nieces and nephews, Irene Gendreau and family, Alberta Wendt and family, Susan McNeal and family, Robert Cooney and family, Hedlund, Hartley and Mitchell families; cousin William Tucker and family; her dear friends from Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, Hop River Homes, Andover, CT, and Andover Seniors.

She was predeceased by her sisters, Irene McKean, Muriel Jelley and Genevieve Gardner.

Calling hours were held Wednesday, Dec. 2, at Newkirk & Whitney Funeral Home, 318 Burnside Ave., East Hartford. A funeral service followed at St. John Episcopal Church, 12 Rector St., East Hartford. Burial was Thursday, Dec. 3, in Westlawn Cemetery, Lowell, Mass.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to Home, Inc., P.O. Box 10, Orland, ME., 04472.

To leave an online condolence, visit newkirkandwhitney.com.

Colchester

Malcolm Jonah

Malcolm Jonah, 93, longtime resident of Glastonbury, passed peacefully at home Sunday, Nov. 29. Born Sept. 3, 1922 in Walpole, Mass., he was raised on a farm in Colchester. He was a graduate of Bacon Academy.

At age 19, Mac joined the Marine Corps, and served as a corporal machine-gunner in the Pacific during World War II. He twice was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in action. Returning home, he built a house on Tower Hill in Glastonbury, and subsequently became a general contractor. He built and created a beautiful neighborhood called Apple Hill as well as the Buckboard Restaurant and Blacksmith Tavern. He especially will be remembered for his passion for golf. He served on the founding board of directors of Glastonbury Hills Country Club. At one point a scratch golfer, he played until age 92.

He is deeply missed and survived by his wife of 67 years, Lucille Jonah; daughters Kimberly Jonah of East Haddam and Kathleen Lenane of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; grandson Zachary Lenane of New Orleans, La.; sister-in-law Joan Lennon of Rocky Hill; nieces Susan Lennon of Rocky Hill, Debra Lennon of Glastonbury and Dena Bochain of Middletown; nephews Mark Bochain of Spring, Texas; Rusty Bochain of East Haddam and Craig Bochain of Uncasville.

He was predeceased by a daughter, Kristin Jonah.

A private celebration of his life is planned by his family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Malcolm Jonah's name to the Wounded Warrior Project at woundedwarriorproject.org.

Hebron

Pamela Dee Maturano

Pamela Dee (Pettis) Maturano, 57, of Hebron, passed away Sunday, Nov. 22, after a hard battle with cancer. She was born Feb. 23, 1958, at Hartford Hospital to Horace and Gloria (Smith) Pettis. Pamela graduated from RHAM High School in 1976. She worked as a CNA and then ended her work career as a medical receptionist at Colchester Internal Medicine.

Pamela was a loving wife, devoted mother and wonderful grandmother. She leaves behind her husband, Sebastian C. Maturano; her son, Sebastian A. Maturano and his wife Sarah; her two daughters, Stephanie and Christine Maturano; her three siblings, Kneeland Pettis, Peter Pettis, Modena Kasper; her six grandchildren, Sierra, Logan, Mykenzie, Sebastian, Cheyenne, Finn; and many family and friends she loved dearly.

Funeral services will be Saturday, Dec. 5, at 10 a.m., at St. Bernard's Church in Rockville with a burial after at St. Bernard's cemetery.

Donations can be accepted at <http://m.gofund.me/r89vz8q4>.

Colchester

Mimi Rita Murphy

Mimi Rita Murphy of Norwich, formerly of Colchester, passed on Friday, Nov. 27. She was born to Joseph Grenache and Emma Poussant on July 17, 1932, in Detroit, Mich.

Mimi married the love of her life, Houston Clyde Murphy Jr., in January 1953. They had five children, Arthur Murphy and wife, Stacy; Margaret Beglinger and husband, Walt; Christine Nugent and husband, Ed; Houston Murphy III and wife, Andrea; and Mimi Sisco and husband, Michael. She was the loving grandmother of Erin Sesko, Jenn Beglinger, Julie Stegall Flynn and husband, Brian, Michelle Sesko, Tom Beglinger and wife, Rebecca Foss, Mia Sisco, and Houston Murphy IV. She is the great-grandmother of Sean Sesko, Calvin and Elliott Flynn, and Kenzie Beglinger. She is also survived by two sisters, Claire Guerella and Lucille Grenier.

She was predeceased by her husband, Houston Murphy Jr., in August 1963; and also by her sister, Marguerite McPartlin.

Mimi moved to Colchester in 1989, to be closer to some of her family. While in Connecticut, Mimi worked at Whole Life, a non-profit agency, and at St. Patrick School in Norwich in the afterschool program, as well as the Salem Elementary School as a lunch aide. She was very involved in her church, Norwich Assembly of God. For the last three years, she lived at the Eliza Huntington Home. She was greatly loved by her friends and family and will be missed by all. She loved people and had a great faith.

Her funeral service was held Thursday, Dec. 3, at the Woyasz and Son Funeral Home, 141 Central Ave., Norwich. A visiting hour preceded the service. Burial followed the service at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Norwich.

Flowers may be sent to Woyasz and Son Funeral Service.

Hebron

Priscilla Allen

Priscilla (Singleton) Allen, 80, beloved wife of the late David C. Allen, died peacefully Friday, Nov. 27, after a long illness, at The Suffield House, Suffield. She was born in Calais, Vt., Dec. 5, 1934.

She was a longtime resident of Hebron. She loved her family, homemaking and her cats. She worked at Pratt & Whitney, Kaman Aircraft and Diamond Police Equipment. She was a member of the First Church of Christ Scientists in Manchester.

She is survived by a son, William D. Allen; three daughters, Lois A. Golebiowski, Lynn A. Swirzewski, Nancy A. Tordonato; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Private services and burial will be at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 200 Executive Blvd., Southington, CT 06489-1058.

To leave a message of condolence, visit holmes-watkinsfuneralhomes.com.

Haddam Neck

Donald Lee Hill Sr.

Donald Lee Hill Sr., 73, of Haddam Neck, husband of Maria Delmar (Lemus) Hill, died Monday, Nov. 23, at Yale New Haven Hospital. He was born in Stamford, Texas, the son of the late Claude W. and Henrietta E. (Campbell) Hill. Don was a 30-year member of the U.S. Navy, achieving the rank of command master chief.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his son, Donald Lee Hill Jr., and his wife Shannon of Oklahoma; daughter, Elizabeth M. Hill-Samson and her fiancée Ronald Kudla of Higganum; brother, Roy Hill of Texas; sisters, Linda Neely and Barbara Fought, both of Texas; a sister-in-law, Roseanne Hill; a brother-in-law, Bill Neely; three grandchildren, Teal Samson, Alyssa Courtney Hill, Lane Thomas Hill; also several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by a brother, Michael Hill, and a sister, Betty Schooler.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Nov. 28, at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown. Burial will be at the convenience of his family. Friends called at Biega Funeral Home Saturday, prior to the service.

Those who wish may send memorial contributions to Wounded Warriors P.O. Box 758517 Topeka, KS 66675.

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

Marlborough

Geneva Arel Day

Geneva Arel Day, 85, of Marlborough, died Wednesday, Nov. 25, at St. Mary's Home, West Hartford. Born in North Hartland, Vt., she was the daughter of the late Horace and Lindal Sawyer. She worked for Stanadyne for many years.

She is survived by her sons, David Arel, Michael Arel and his wife Cindy, Steven Arel, Mark Arel, and Christopher Arel and his significant other Nina; her son-in-law, John Frazier; 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews from New Hampshire.

She was predeceased by her daughter, Linda Frazier, and her daughter-in-law, Linda Arel.

Calling hours were held at John F. Tierney Funeral Home, 219 West Center St., Manchester, Monday, Nov. 30. A graveside service was held at Silver Lane Cemetery, East Hartford, Tuesday, Dec. 1.

For online condolences, visit tierneyfuneralhome.com.

Portland

Wanda Sinski Gocłowski

Wanda Sinski Gocłowski, 94, of East Haven, died Friday, Nov. 27, at her home, surrounded by her family. She was the wife of the late Edward Gocłowski.

Wanda was born in Portland Sept. 27, 1921, a daughter of the late John and Helen Czerwinska Sinski, and was employed as an Inspector with Turbine Components for many years until retiring. Wanda had been an avid boxer and a professional baseball player.

She is survived by her daughters, Wanda Gocłowski, Paula (George) McCarroll and Brenda (Kevin) Felten. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Ryan (Nicole), George, Jocelyn and Jillian, and five great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her brothers and sisters.

Family and friends attended a Mass of Christian Burial in Saint Clare Church, East Haven, Wednesday, Dec. 2. Burial will be private. There were no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Connecticut Hospice, 100 Double Beach Road, Branford, CT 06405.

The Lupinski Funeral Home Inc., 821 State St., New Haven, is in care of arrangements. Sign the guest book for Wanda online at lupinskifuneralhome.com.

Portland

Patricia A. Kukor

Patricia A. Kukor, 58, of Portland, died Tuesday, Nov. 24, at the UConn Health Center. She was born Oct. 20, 1957, in New Brunswick, N.J., the daughter of Jessie (Filoramo) Kukor and the late William J. Kukor.

Patty was an exceptionally loving daughter, sister, aunt and cousin. She was warm and passionate about life, with a truly contagious laugh. Patty was a special person who touched everyone she encountered. At her work as a school social worker, she was fiercely dedicated to her 'kids'; she was endeared and highly respected by her colleagues and friends. She earned her bachelor's degree from Boston College and her MSW from UConn. She was a member of the National Association of School Social Workers and Connecticut Association of School Workers.

In addition to her mother, Patricia is survived by her loving family - brother John and sister-in-law Nancy of Long Island, N.Y., sister Rosanne and brother-in-law Greg Poorten of Leland, N.C., nephews Christopher, Thomas, Emery, and niece Annalise and cousin Jackie.

The funeral Mass was held Saturday, Nov. 28, in Holy Family Parish (St. Ladislaus), 215 Somersset St., New Brunswick, N. J. Burial was in Franklin Memorial Cemetery, 1800 Route 27, North Brunswick, N.J. Friends called at the Coughlin-Lastrina Funeral Home 491 High St., Middletown, on Friday, Nov. 27. A prayer service was conducted at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be sent to The Academy of Mount Saint John School, 135 Kirtland St., Deep River, CT 06417.