

RIVEREAST

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Graduation Day... On July 28, Hebron resident Sean Connolly, who is also commissioner of the state Department of Veterans Affairs, graduated from the United States Army War College with a master's degree in strategic studies. At the graduation he was joined by his wife, Carol, and two sons Sean, 11 and Brendan, 8. See story on page 12.

'Tis the Season for Lake Algae

by Elizabeth Regan

Public areas of East Hampton's Lake Pocotopaug are under a swimming advisory due to potentially unsafe water conditions resulting from the return of the annual blue-green algae bloom.

"Here we go again," said Chatham Health Director Don Mitchell.

The advisory means it's up to swimmers at the Sears Park beach and Schoolhouse Bay to decide if they should risk exposure in the potentially toxic lake.

"Unprecedented" blue-green algae blooms first appeared in Lake Pocotopaug almost 30 years ago and have been showing up every summer since, according to consultant George Knoecklein of Northeast Aquatic Research.

Toxins in the algae bloom can be harmful to the skin and liver. Low levels of exposure can cause skin irritation or nausea and diarrhea in humans and animals, according to the Department of Public Health. The agency cautions that swallowing relatively large amounts of tainted water can cause liver damage and can affect the nervous system.

The public warning has been in effect since last Friday, Aug. 4. The Chatham Health District is awaiting the results of the latest round

of water testing, which are expected early next week, to determine if the advisory will continue or if the beach will be closed due to rising levels of toxic bacteria.

Blue-green algae can multiply fast in hot and bright conditions where certain nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorous, are concentrated.

For the past two years, the beach has been closed for three weeks in August due to blue-green algae levels. In 2014, the bloom arrived later in the season – just in time to close the beach for Labor Day weekend.

The current advisory only applies to the lake's public access points, according to Mitchell. He has said those who see algae formations similar to those present at the public beach can reasonably assume their area of the lake is also compromised.

Results came in at 97,000 blue-green algae cells per milliliter in a sample collected by the health district on Aug. 2. The state-recommended threshold for closing the public beaches is greater than 100,000 blue-green algae cells per milliliter, according to guidance published jointly by the state Department of Public Health and the Department of Energy and Environmen-

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How to Preserve Historic Homes?

by Elizabeth Regan

As a plan to revitalize the former Elmerest Hospital property moves forward, officials and concerned citizens are working to get a clearer understanding about how three historic homes will fit into the new development.

The 19th century Brainerd, Sage and Hart-Jarvis houses represent the storied past of Portland elite who built their faith and fortune on brownstone. The structures have been a rallying point for recent support of Danbury-based developer Dan Bertram's efforts to bring an apartment complex and neighborhood shopping center to town.

The Brainerd Place project – which earned the support of the Economic Development Commission and the Historical Society – has evolved over the past two years amid insistence that the developer retain the historic integrity of the site.

There was a public outcry when designs were released in late 2015 with only the 1852 Brainerd House still standing. Bertram has since pledged to restore the exterior of the 1884 Sage House and to donate land onto which the 1830 Hart-Jarvis House can be moved.

Getting the Hart-Jarvis House from its current location in the middle of the property to the southwest corner has become a key part of the preservation puzzle.

Elwin Guild, Economic Development Commission chairman and founding member of the grassroots Elmerest Campus Advisory Committee, said he is forming a nonprofit organization to relocate and restore the home.

Guild said the organization is in its early stages. He has not yet established a membership structure or applied for federal tax-exempt status.

The relocated Hart-Jarvis home would face out onto Main Street and be visible from the Arrigoni Bridge, according to Guild. Its front lawn would be town-owned property deeded to Portland as open space by former car dealer Charles Wiltsie.

The building in its current location is part of the federally-recognized Marlborough Street Historic District that includes about a dozen other homes and outbuildings along Route 66. The historic district represents Portland's bygone era of concentrated wealth built on the brownstone industry.

Consultant Jan Cunningham, of Historic Preservation Services of Cromwell, has been hired by the Historical Society to ensure the home retains its federally-protected status once it is moved.

She said she is working to secure approval for the Hart-Jarvis home to remain on the National Register of Historic Places even though the projected location is outside the historic district's boundaries.

Cunningham has prepared nominations for more than 150 state and federal historic districts and has evaluated more than 10,000 historic buildings since 1979, she said. She wrote the application that led to the federal recognition of the Marlborough Street Historic District in 2012.

Cunningham said the back half of the former Elmerest Hospital property was omitted from the historic district boundary in the original application because of the preponderance of modern institutional buildings on that portion of the property.

While she described herself as "fairly confident" federal approval to expand the boundary would ultimately be granted, she said the process is likely to take many months.

Portland Historical Society President Claire Frisbie said it's still unclear how the Hart-Jarvis house will be used if it is moved and who would operate it.

"We don't have a lot of news; we have a lot of questions," she said.

Both Guild and Frisbie said the house will not be moved until its federal status is secured.

Preservation Standards

Bertram's current plan for the large, Italianate villa that serves as the namesake for the Brainerd Place development is to turn it into a clubhouse for 240 small but well-appointed apartments in the complex. He indicated he will renovate the exterior of the Sage House to lure a tenant who can then customize the inside.

Wint Aldrich, a part-time Middle Haddam resident and the former deputy commissioner for historic preservation in New York, weighed in on the issue last year when he wrote to the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation to stress the importance of saving the Brainerd House and its attendant carriage house.

The carriage house is not among the structures Bertram has talked about saving.

Aldrich said it's vitally important for the town to ensure that restoration of the historic structures occurs before any residential or commercial development breaks ground. He also stressed the work should be done according to the Secretary of the Interior's standards for historic preservation.

"Otherwise, I can guarantee (based on innumerable sad experiences I have seen in New York state over 40 years) the historic preservation work will be deferred for years or ultimately abandoned as 'infeasible,'" Aldrich wrote at the time.

This week, Aldrich added that the developer should be "strongly encouraged" by the town to apply for federal historic preservation investment tax credits.

"Not only can the 20 percent of qualifying costs come right off the federal income tax bill, if for some reason it is not needed it can be sold to nearby property-owners," Aldrich said.

The tax credit requires any rehabilitation work to be done to the Secretary of the Interior's standards under the oversight of the State Historic Preservation Office.

In a Thursday morning email, Bertram said he is not currently pursuing federal tax credits. He added that he could not comment on whether or not the restoration work would conform to the Secretary of the Interior's historic rehabilitation standards "without doing a detailed

See Historic Homes page 2



Lake Pocotopaug is now home to a blue-green algae bloom – as it is every year at about this same time. A swimming advisory has been issued, meaning it’s up to swimmers at the Sears Park beach and Schoolhouse Bay to decide if they should risk exposure in the potentially toxic lake.

Lake Algae cont. from Front Page

Levels over 20,000 blue-green algae cells per milliliter but under 100,000 may merit cautionary postings in public spaces around the affected area, the guidelines state.

Once water samples show levels in excess of 100,000 blue-green algae cells per milliliter, the state recommends a swimming ban remain in effect until at least two weeks of successive testing indicates levels below the danger threshold.

According to Mitchell, it often takes many cycles of weekly testing to get to the point where two tests in a row yield acceptable results.

The state guidelines were instituted in 2012 after a high-profile algae bloom in Bolton. They are recommendations only, as the state public health department has not codified a blue-green

algae response plan in its regulations.

The regularly-scheduled summer camp program operated by the town at Sears Park Beach ended today, according to the Parks and Recreation Department. That means the department offerings will not be affected if a beach closure becomes necessary.

Town Manager Michael Maniscalco said cautionary signs have been posted at public access points to the lake. Attendants at Sears Park Beach and Schoolhouse Bay are handing out information on blue-green algae and its effects.

The sign advises visitors to avoid discolored water that looks like spilled paint, has surface film or includes green globs floating beneath the surface. Those who come into contact with an algae bloom should rinse off exposed skin with clean water.

Historic Homes cont. from Front Page

analysis of those standards.”

He expressed a commitment to restoring the Brainerd and Sage houses in their current locations, but said he intends to update the interior “for modern use.” He referred to an elevator in the Brainerd House and energy improvements as examples of such updates.

“We NEED to be able to use these buildings in a new and vibrant way. Therefore, we will not be constraining ourselves unnecessarily on these two buildings for which we are directly responsible,” he wrote.

Among those with doubts that the three homes would ultimately be saved to the community’s standards is Planning and Zoning Commission alternate member Michael Woronoff. He said current language in zoning regulations and in a tax abatement agreement approved in March does not go far enough to protect the historic structures.

The commission last July approved a change to mixed-use zoning regulations to allow a developer to build more apartments than allowed previously - but only if the proposal incorporates “the preservation of significant historic resources identified in the town’s Plan of Conservation and Development.”

Woronoff said this week that there is no

definition for “preservation” in the regulations, which leaves a developer with wide discretion in carrying out the requirement.

“If we don’t define a term in zoning regulations, you go to the dictionary,” he said. “Preservation is just to keep from decay.”

Frisbie, for her part, expressed grudging optimism about the homes’ preservation prospects. She described Bertram’s plan as an improvement on an application from a previous developer that would have saved only the Sage House in its entirety. That idea was approved by the zoning commission in 2009 but tanked due to the recession.

“It’s only by the luck of economic downfalls that we’re actually to the point where the buildings may be preserved in hopefully not too horrendous a way,” she said.

Frisbie was also encouraged that Bertram recently hired local architect Alain Munkittrick to consult on the Brainerd House design, she said.

Munkittrick is a member of the grassroots Elmcrest Campus Advisory Committee. He was a vocal supporter of Bertram’s project earlier this year as the Board of Selectmen discussed and ultimately approved a tax abatement worth about \$4 million to the developer.

Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

While I am by no means a fan of his, I do follow Donald Trump on Twitter. I can’t really explain why. Is it for the entertainment value? I’m not sure.

Nevertheless, on Monday morning, I was mindlessly looking at Twitter on my phone when I saw The Donald’s latest tweet: “Never in U.S. history has anyone lied or defrauded voters like Senator Richard Blumenthal. He told stories about his Vietnam battles and....”

I had no idea of the context. I had no idea what came next. I just knew Blumenthal must’ve done something right, to draw Trump’s ire like that.

Trump followed up that Tweet with “....conquests, how brave he was, and it was all a lie. He cried like a baby and begged for forgiveness like a child. Now he judges collusion?”

I later learned that what had our esteemed president so cranky was that Blumenthal had appeared on CNN earlier that morning and, among other things, praised Justice Department special counsel Robert Mueller’s ongoing investigation into possible Russian interference in the 2016 election.

The attack by the Russians, Blumenthal had said, “was purposeful and relentless, and it involved propaganda and hacking into our voting machines or at least an attempt to do it and potential collusion by the Trump campaign and then obstruction of justice. That investigation must be pursued.”

That evidently sent Trump to his phone, furiously pounding away at his latest Twitter diatribe.

Like I said: Blumenthal did something right.

There are a few things to take away from that. The first is Trump’s tweet indicates he was watching CNN – something he has previously said he never does. Trump routinely slams the likes of CNN or MSNBC on Twitter, saying he never watches them – only to, days later (if that), attack one of their shows on Twitter, proving that he does indeed watch them.

Which brings me to the second takeaway: Even beyond the fact that “never in U.S. history has anyone lied or defrauded voters” is a fantastic piece of hyperbole – U.S. goes back a ways, Donald – Trump really is in no position for calling anyone out for lying. He’s a serial liar; has been for years. If lying were an Olympic sport, our president would have more gold medals than Michael Phelps.

But really, Donny’s Monday morning meltdown just drives home – yet again – that this man has amazingly thin skin. He can’t take any criticism at all; if somebody levies harsh words at him he’ll come back guns – make that Twitter thumbs – blazing.

It’s easy to guess why this is. Nearly his entire adult life, Trump has been a billionaire and then a reality TV star. He’s been a big celebrity for decades. He’s not used to people critiquing him because probably no one ever has. He’s used to his butt being kissed. Well, one thing about being president is, sure, a lot of people will continue to kiss your butt. But an awful lot of people won’t. (And Trump should know; look at his treatment of Obama.)

This is yet another place where Trump’s celebrated lack of any kind of political experience comes back to bite him. If people spend time in politics at any level – even being on their local school board – they usually have to develop that thick skin to simply survive. Because unpopular decisions will be made sometimes; not everyone will be happy, and they’ll let you hear it when they aren’t. Sometimes they’ll let you hear it quite loudly; take a look at the *Rivereast* letters to the editor in budget season or election time if you don’t believe me.

So by the time somebody gets to the White House, chances are they’re used to the criticism, and are adept at letting it roll off their backs and not taking it personally.

But, again, Trump isn’t seasoned in the slightest when it comes to politics. So when he gets criticized, he reverts to his baser instincts – of which he has many – and reverts to childish taunts and variations of “I know you are but what am I?”

This week, it was Blumenthal’s turn to get caught in the Twitter crosshairs. Congratulations, Senator, on a job well done.

As summer starts to wind down – sad but true – thoughts are turning to fall activities. Specifically, coach Tony DeLorenzo is putting together a new fall softball team. It’ll be a travel team for kids 10 and under; the team is named Connecticut Freedom.

Kids from throughout the *Rivereast* area are welcome to try out for the team. Tryouts will be held at the Sports on 66 complex in East Hampton this Sunday, Aug. 13, from 2-4 p.m.

If interested, contact DeLorenzo at 860-377-8979 or tonyde100@aol.com, or Maggie Shea at 813-951-1557 or maggiemshea@yahoo.com.

The end of summer also means the new school year is just around the corner. There’ve been commercials for back-to-school supplies abounding on TV these days, and Gilead Congregational Church in Hebron is looking to collect some of those supplies, to benefit less fortunate children.

The Board of Missions of the church is collecting for the Hebron Interfaith Human Services food bank. Supplies needed include: heavy-duty, zip-up three-ring binders (large); sturdy backpacks for teens; earbuds; flash drives; scientific calculators (with sin, cos, tan buttons); graphing calculators (TI-84 Plus CE); 24-pack crayons; 12-pack colored pencils; 12-pack colored markers (fine-tip); pens (red, black, blue); dry-erase markers; pencil cap erasers;

pack of glue sticks; highlighters (varied colors); sturdy plastic folders with pockets; three-ring binder (one-inch); three-ring binder (D-ring three inches); dividers for three-ring binders; zipper pouches to hold pens, pencils, etc.; spiral, single-subject notebooks; wide-ruled composition books; lined notebook paper; graph paper; contained pencil sharpeners; 3x5 index cards; ruler; and agenda books.

The Board of Missions is also collecting healthy non-perishable snacks, such as: snack-size fruit cups, raisins, pretzels, microwave popcorn, trail mix, granola bars and whole-grain crackers.

Donations can be placed in collection bins outside the sanctuary of the church, which is located at 672 Gilead St. Items can be placed in the designated bins outside the sanctuary through this Sunday, Aug. 13.

Monetary donations are also welcome. A \$25 donation would allow a young person to go back to school with a fully-stocked backpack. Make checks payable to Gilead Congregational Church, with “Blessing of the Backpacks” in the memo, and either drop them in the collection plate during Sunday worship or mail them to the church.

On Sunday, Aug. 27, the church will have its annual “Blessing of the Backpacks” during the 9 a.m. service. Parishioners will offer their prayers as they send off students, teachers and school professionals for the new school year ahead. All are invited.

For more information, call the church at 860-228-3077.

See you next week.



The skate park at Veterans Memorial Park in Hebron has reopened. It was closed for nearly a year after it was vandalized – and set on fire – by teens. The incident caused \$25,000 worth of damage.



Hebron Skate Park Back in Business

by Lauren Yandow

After being closed for about a year, the skate park at Veterans Memorial Park in Hebron is back in business.

The skate park officially reopened in early June, nearly a year after it was shut down due to a June 2016 vandalism incident that led to one of the ramps catching fire. The blaze caused “quite a bit of damage,” Town Manager Andrew Tierney said at the time.

Repairs cost \$25,000, according to Parks and Recreation Director Richard Calarco.

Initially, the Hebron Parks and Recreation Commission was unsure if they’d rebuild the damaged skate park. But a group of parents and kids wrote letters to the commission, stating the park was a popular place to go in town, and pushed to have it rebuilt.

So, last fall Calarco held a meeting to officially gauge the community’s interest.

At the meeting, the commission was pre-

sented with a petition signed by 173 town residents urging for the rebuild.

Armed with copies of the petition – along with residents’ verbal and written comments fresh in their heads – commissioners voted in favor of repairing the skate park.

But it wasn’t as simple as that. After the town fire marshal and resident state trooper investigated the fire, Calarco said, the incident was handed over to the town’s insurance company, and the town needed to wait to receive the insurance money to complete the repair.

“It was a long involved process ... and by the time it was done it was winter, so we couldn’t do the work,” Calarco said.

Repair work on the project finally began this past spring.

The town’s recreation manager, Richard Gadoury, credited Calarco and his crew for their dedication in getting the skate park reopened

in a timely fashion.

“As soon as they could, they got to work on it,” he said.

The Parks and Recreation Commission worked on the skate park rebuild in-house.

“Using our own forces we were able to maximize the dollar we could put in,” said Calarco.

“Right now we have everything that was really, really damaged repaired and there’s still some other work we have to do that we’ll get to,” he added.

Calarco said fixing the fire damage involved removing one skate ramp in order to make the area more accessible for maintenance.

He said the Parks and Recreation Commission plans to “continue working to add another ramp or so within the skate park.” The area will also receive additional enhancements – including surface work to smooth over some of the wear inside the skate park.

At this point, there’s no set start date for the additional ramp and enhancements.

Calarco said he’s glad the community can once again use the skate park. “To have that pleasure in seeing parents come and bring their younger child down – it’s really good and a positive thing for the whole community,” he added.

The skate park area really pertains to a specific group, said Gadoury. Now that the area is reopened, he said, “I think it’s huge, especially for our teenagers. To see them out using the facility is great.”

Tierney noted he’s “very happy” the skate park is back open again, calling it “another attraction that kids can go and use.”

And luckily, he added, there are still some days of summer left so kids can go out and skate some more before the cold weather sets in.

Hebron VA Commissioner Graduates from Army War School

by Lauren Yandow

Last month, Hebron resident Sean Connolly added another feather in his cap.

Connolly, 43, who is the commissioner for the state Department of Veterans Affairs, graduated July 28 from The United States Army War College with a master’s degree in strategic studies.

Connolly said he was selected to participate in the “competitive program” in order to further his military education.

A lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, Connolly began his service with the state Department of Veterans Affairs in 2015. Serving over 200,000 Connecticut veterans has been a “privilege,” he said.

“There’s some amazing people out there – men and women who wore the uniform and continued to serve when they came home in their community,” Connolly said.

As an Army War College student, Connolly continued to serve full-time as the VA department’s commissioner, and spent weekends serving with the Reserves.

Connolly’s education in the Army War College began in May 2015, when he traveled to the Carlisle Barracks in Pennsylvania for orientation.

After orientation, he immediately jumped into the intense distance program – participating from his home in Hebron and traveling back to Pennsylvania for a couple of weeks at a time on two different occasions.

“Each course involved reading, writing a paper and participating in forums with your classmates,” said Connolly.

Another piece of his studies involved working with and learning from his peers while discussing ideas after listening to seminars given by strategic leaders.

Overall the program was “great,” he said.

“The war college is there to prepare officers, lieutenant colonels and colonels to first be good advisors to various senior leaders including general officers; and then to prepare lieutenant colonels and colonels for becoming senior leaders themselves,” Connolly said.

Throughout the program, the topics ad-

ressed were directly related to national security.

“We focused on different challenges,” said Connolly. “Those challenges can be actual military challenges that may come up in the South China Sea or North Korea with Russia... but [we] also looked at other areas that can affect national security like the growth of mega-cities and aging populations around the world.”

The program also addressed how things one doesn’t normally associate with the military, such as climate, actually affect or can affect national security.

Connolly was among more than 300 people from all over the country who participated – and he noted that, while the program is called Army War College, it isn’t specific to those in the Army.

“Our class included mainly Army officers,” he said, “but it also included officers from the Navy, from the Marine Corps, from the Air Force [and] civilian employees from different agencies like the U.S. Department of State.”

“It really brings together a variety of the services as well as employees from U.S. Government,” he added.

Connolly completed the master’s program in a little over two years.

His wife, Carol, and their two boys, Sean and Brendan, traveled to Pennsylvania to attend graduation.

Reflecting on the overall experience, Carol Connolly said her husband “studied late at night into the early hours of the morning and still managed to find time to be a great husband and father.”

But, she said, “Nobody can do it alone.”

She credits community members such as parents, coaches and members of American Legion Post 95 for all they did to help while her husband was away.

“I’m extremely grateful to the Hebron community for all of their support,” she said.

While Connolly’s most recent achievement is graduating from the Army War College, he also holds an undergraduate degree from Bryant University and a Juris Doctor from The Colum-

bus School of Law of The Catholic University of America.

During his junior year at Bryant University, Connolly was awarded an Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps Scholarship, which would eventually lead to a career in the armed forces.

According to a press release, Connolly served for more than seven years on active duty in a variety of positions. A veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, he was a prosecutor and brigade legal advisor with the 101st Airborne Division Air Assault at Fort Campbell in Kentucky – as well as in Kuwait and Iraq.

He also served as assistant legal advisor and executive officer for the appointing authority for military commissions in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Connolly has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Iraqi Campaign Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

He’s also entitled to wear the Air Assault Badge and the Office of the Secretary of Defense Identification Badge.

Connolly was a senior associate at Greenberg Traurig, LLP in Washington, D.C. – as a member of the government contracts and Homeland Security practice groups.

Connolly is a member of the 101st Airborne Division Association, the Association of the United States Army, and the Army Aviation Association of America. He also served as a member of the national board of directors of the Federal Bar Association and is a past president of the Pentagon Chapter of the Federal Bar Association.

An East Hartford native, Connolly returned home to Connecticut in 2010 to join Pratt & Whitney as assistant counsel, supporting the military engines division. While there, he also served as a global ethics and compliance officer.

Upon returning to Connecticut, Connolly said Hebron is the only town he and his family looked at to settle into; they’ve lived in town ever since. Connolly also joined the town’s

American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts.

A love for his country was first instilled in Connolly at a young age by his father, Michael, who came to America from Ireland in 1966. “He didn’t serve in the U.S. military,” said Connolly, “but just him coming to America for a better life and always talking about getting educated and the greatness of what our nation is instilled a love for America in me.”

Today, Connolly’s parents and siblings still live close by. His parents – Kathleen and Michael – reside in Hebron; his sister and brother-in-law live in town as well. He has a sister who lives in Colchester and a brother who resides in Glastonbury.

When Connolly isn’t working, he enjoys spending time with his wife, two boys and rescue pup named Lucky.

Connolly said his military experiences have helped shape him as a parent. He said the values he hopes to instill in his two sons include the “understanding that we’re blessed with the education that we have and the material things we have” and the concept that “we should give back and serve where we can.”

When it comes to balancing work and family life, he admits it can at times be difficult. “It’s a challenge sometimes because you sacrifice and you’re missing games and practices... you want to be there more,” he said.

His wife Carol said, “We are thankful to our boys for sacrificing time with their dad over the past two years – including a birthday, Father’s Day, soccer and baseball games, and school events knowing he is serving his state and country.”

Connolly said his wife “has been a great partner to support me along the way.”

“Having her take the brunt of home duties while I was working on this program is hugely important,” he said. “I couldn’t have done it without the support of her and the boys.”

As a family, Carol said, “We know there are many other military families that sacrifice much more than us for the freedoms we all enjoy – that keeps us going.”



Winemaker Gary Crump and his wife Caroline, opened the doors to Château Le Gari, a winery located on 303 S. Main St. in Marlborough, two weeks ago. Guests can choose from a variety of five wines, including one rosé, two whites, and two reds – named ‘Mardi Gras’ for Crump’s Louisiana roots and ‘Fawnbrook’ after the Fawnbrook River in the back of the property.

Château Le Gari Winery Opens Its Doors in Marlborough

by Julianna Roche

The long-awaited opening of Marlborough’s first winery – Château Le Gari – arrived just over two weeks ago when award-winning winemaker Gary Crump and his wife Caroline welcomed guests through the vineyard’s rustic barn doors and into its sun-drenched tasting rooms for the first time.

The couple agreed the opening was very successful, with Crump jokingly explaining this week that it also felt “a lot like taking the lid off a pressure cooker.”

“It’s a really nice feeling [to open],” Crump, who is originally from Louisiana, said. “It’s like putting all the pieces of the puzzle together.”

Since their original purchase of the property at 303 S. Main St. in November 2015 – which was once home to the disbanded Marlborough Moose Lodge – the couple has been hard at work with construction, renovations, and planting a variety of grapevines across the front side of the 19.5-acre property. The vines are now one summer out from being ready to use for winemaking.

In the meantime, Crump explained he and his wife have been growing vines on a separate eight acres of land they own out of town, which has given them the ability to serve up their own wines since the winery’s opening.

Crump, who has declared himself “the grandfather of wine,” is a self-taught winemaker and previously co-owned Priam Vineyards in Colchester, which he opened with his then-wife Gloria Priam in 1998. His wines have also won over 100 international medals.

The former Moose Lodge – whose building interior was once dark and smoky with steel doors – is now completely unrecognizable, as Château Le Gari radiates a warm and welcom-

ing Tuscan glow that’s speckled with hints of Crump’s southern roots, such as Mardi Gras beads delicately strewn across wine bottles and pops of bright color beaming from artwork hung in the space.

Caroline Crump explained that seeing guests walk through the winery’s front doors and standing in the tasting rooms over the last couple weeks has served as a reassuring reminder the couple’s two years of careful planning and efforts were not fruitless.

“You could plan and do all the things you’re supposed to do, but then you could open and nobody could necessarily show up. You don’t really know what’s going to happen,” she said. “So when we had those first couple of [busy] weekends, it was very nice.”

The winery currently boasts two large tasting rooms – one of which doubles as a “jazz lounge” for live music and has a bar and handmade communal tables stacked atop wine barrels that can be used for dining and drinking.

Crump explained he and his wife are also in the process of finishing the front patio – which sits light pink and blue striped umbrella-covered picnic tables – as well as a large Spanish courtyard on the side of the building.

As for wine tastings – Caroline Crump explained that for \$5, guests can taste five wines and two flavors of wine slushies which vary depending on the weekend, while glasses of wine run \$7 apiece and bottles range from \$18-\$22.

The five wines currently being served include one rosé, as well as two whites and two reds – one of each dubbed as the “Mardi Gras” or “Fawnbrook” variety – which Crump explained

is named after the Fawnbrook River which sits in the back of the property.

Caroline explained she’s also working on a list of “non-alcoholic, fun drinks” for non-drinkers.

“They can come into a place and not feel uncomfortable because they don’t have a drink in their hand,” Crump added. “Now they can have some sort of drink. ... We want to be accommodating.”

As for food, the couple explained they are hoping to eventually rent out the kitchen and serve gourmet pizzas, paninis and other food to-go style, so guests can purchase food and then dine and drink at the same time in one of the tasting rooms or outside.

In the meantime, Caroline Crump explained guests are encouraged to bring their own picnics or they can purchase small items such as cheese and crackers or chocolate from the winery.

Down a grassy slope behind the winery also sits a 2,000-square foot rustic barn ornamented with French doors and a tall ceiling hoisted up by wooden beams. The barn was formerly an under-utilized and slightly rundown pavilion.

The barn’s back doors lead to a picturesque view of Fawnbrook River and a grassy knoll, which Crump explained would eventually be turned into an outdoor patio and could be used for anything from weddings and baby showers to events for fundraisers.

“We want to make sure we get the word out that there is so much space here,” he said. “And it’s newly renovated space, not old space.”

Crump furthered that once all the construction is done, the winery will total approximately

17,000 square feet, including the indoor space and outdoor patios, as well as the barn and a barrel room.

“We’re a self-contained facility, so if someone wants to do a wedding here, they could have the ceremony down by the [former] pavilion and the reception up here,” Crump said. “It flows nicely, so if someone doesn’t want to sit listening to music or whatever, they can come to the lounge and sit.”

Moving forward, Crump said the couple is “happy” with the progress they’ve made so far, but there’s “still work to do.”

In the meantime, he said, “I hope all of our old friends come here and see us, just come in and enjoy themselves.”

Caroline Crump agreed

“It’s also my hope that with [Château Le Gari], it’ll be established that this place is different than all the other wineries,” she said. “That I know of, nobody has done a New Orleans theme in New England.”

“You don’t really know where you’re at [when you’re here],” Crump furthered. “That’s the whole point. You walk into a place and it transports you somewhere else, and that’s what it should do. It’s not the old smoke-filled lodge it used to be.”

Château Le Gari is located at 303 S. Main St. and is open Friday and Saturday, 11 to 6 p.m., and Sunday 12 to 6 p.m. On Saturday, Aug. 19, the winery will hold its first live performance by country/Americana singer Vince Thompson, who will play between 3-6:30 p.m. While it typically closes by 6 p.m., Crump said it will stay open until 8 p.m. that night.

Colchester School Board Eyes Language Lab Software Purchase

by Julianna Roche

Using “savings realized” from the 2016-17 fiscal year, Bacon Academy Principal Matthew Peel announced at Tuesday’s Board of Education meeting that the school plans to purchase new software for the world language lab, which will cost approximately \$60,900.

And while both the town and school are currently under a spending freeze in regards to expenditures for 2017-18 year, Board of Education Chairman Ron Goldstein explained that “even if the freeze was lifted,” the purchase would be considered admissible since it is being purchased with leftover funds from last year.

Peel furthered that the reserves were a result of savings made on furniture and other technology items.

Karen Loiselle Goodwin – a former Colchester schools superintendent who was appointed in May to temporarily lead the district following the retirement of superintendent Jeff Mathieu – commended Peel Tuesday night for “putting student learning front and center.”

“With our current status [of] the state budget and the unknowns ... we are only buying what is absolutely necessary for student learning,” she added. “We’re trying to preserve as much money as possible not knowing what’s going to happen [and we’re] trying to be smart about it and just buy the essentials.”

Loiselle Goodwin expressed support of the software purchase, as Peel had said “it’s too important” to students’ education to forgo.

The language lab technology was originally

slated as an item in the approved 2017-18 education budget to be purchased using \$97,000 of the \$367,900 worth of Norwich student tuition money; however, Peel explained he negotiated that price of the “very sophisticated software” down to \$60,900, which also includes five years of upgrades.

“[That] is one reason we were able to move forward” with the project, he added.

Board of Education Vice Chairman Brad Bernier explained that the “commitment to maintain [the Norwich] tuition revenue to offset the 2017-18 budget is still in place,” however – meaning the \$97,000 originally set aside for the world language lab software would remain set aside, but be reprioritized for another use.

The world language lab is currently used by Bacon students to learn and practice clear and concise communication in various languages in different formats using writing and oral language skills. Students also use the language lab to read and analyze information, and improve their use of applications of technology.

During the meeting this week, both Loiselle Goodwin and Board of Education members discussed new plans to be implemented for the 2017-18 school year pertaining to the district-wide theme of *Innovation Nation*, which focuses on personalized student learning in a highly technology focused 21st century.

During this year’s administrative retreat,

Loiselle Goodwin said educators agreed that this upcoming school year, every teacher in the district will be charged with selecting at least one new teaching strategy from the *Innovation Nation* toolkit to implement in their classrooms and “then begin to become an expert in that one strategy.”

She furthered that each teacher will also be responsible with choosing one “artifact” or piece of student work that “shows innovation” – which will be collected at the end of the year.

“Learning in the classroom can’t be what is given to the students and regurgitated back,” Loiselle Goodwin continued. “At some point in the process, the students need to have some choices, some ownership. That’s where higher level thinking comes in, when they have the choice to explore.”

The interim superintendent furthered that while that doesn’t mean there shouldn’t be standard courses, it does mean students should have the ability “to go further” and “have a chance to create their own learning [with] something they’re passionate about.”

Goldstein agreed.

“It’s a change in practice... it’s [about] what folks are doing in the classroom and what [students] are learning, a change of who owns the learning,” he said.

Peel shared similar sentiments, adding that “it doesn’t matter if they’re kids or high schoolers... they’re not equipped to be passive learners as we were. Kid’s today – that’s just

not the world they live in.”

Also Tuesday, board members introduced a proposed school system consolidation and shared services committee to investigate the short and long term costs and benefits of potentially consolidating the Colchester Public Schools district with one or more smaller, contiguous school districts, such as Lebanon, Bozrah or Salem.

Bernier explained that earlier in the year, a resident had proposed the concept to the board, though he said it was “not a new thought” to the board, crediting board member Renie Besaw with “pushing” the idea.

“We’ve had success consolidating [other services] in town over the years,” he said. “Maybe we have some services we provide very well [that] we can share with communities, and maybe communities can share things we have challenges with.”

Besaw agreed, noting that “with budget constraints both in town and statewide, any type of shared costs” were worth looking into.

“Kudos to the board for determining this needed to move forward,” Loiselle Goodwin agreed, adding she felt it “appropriate” for the town of Colchester “to be taking a lead to do this with other school systems.”

The next Board of Education meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 12, at the Bacon Academy Media Center at 7 p.m.

Bacon Grad to Help Clean Up Ocean Oil Spills

by Julianna Roche

Growing up, Laura Sokoloski of Colchester remembers spending much of her time outdoors camping and hiking – and it’s what she attributes her interest in protecting and conserving the environment to.

This week, Sokoloski explained that throughout high school, she also spent time volunteering with the school garden, teaching Jack Jackter Intermediate School students about sustainability, and partaking in the environmental club. And in the fall, the recent Bacon Academy graduate will bring her passion for the environment to Colby College in Waterville, Maine as a freshman, with plans to study environmental studies and biology, while minoring in creative writing.

However, before she takes off on Aug. 29, Sokoloski said she has one more service project left to finish – a “Cut-A-Thon,” scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 19. Despite the name, this won’t be a hair-cutting event. Rather, Sokoloski will collect donated hair and fur from local hairdressers and groomers to donate to Clean Wave, an organization that uses hair and fibers to soak up oil from ocean oil spills.

According to Sokoloski, every year there are over 2,600 oil spills – whether accidental or intentional – into the ocean, which can be detrimental to both the water, as well as birds and

other mammals, who can become severely sick or die from ingesting the toxic substance.

How can hair help with this?

“Your hair gets greasy because it soaks up the oil from your scalp [and] the oil latches onto all the cracks in your hair,” Sokoloski said, adding that Clean Wave uses hair, fur, and plant fibers to felt into mats or stuff into nylons to create “booms” to soak up oil spills.

“There are always going to be oil spills, so I thought I might as well help with that,” Sokoloski added about her inspiration for the project, also explaining that while the Cut-A-Thon was originally scheduled to be a one-day event, local businesses have been providing her with hair weekly all summer and so far, she has nearly four large containers full of it.

Among the participating businesses are A Perfect Image, Cuts Unlimited, Escapes Hair Salon & Spa, Hair Magic, Joanne’s Hair Connection, Joe’s Maine Street Barber Shop, Samantha’s Groom Room, Shattered Endz Hair Salon, Special Effects Hair Salon, and Sugar & Spice Dog Grooming and Bakery.

“Everybody’s been so nice,” Sokoloski said, adding jthat while she was on vacation, she even had some neighbors and close friends collect hair for her.

“You know that they’re really good friends when they go pick up hair for you,” she laughed.

Sokoloski added that the motivation for the project also derived from an experience she had earlier this summer while attending the 2017 Advanced Leadership Academy (ALA) at Loyola University in Chicago, along with 60 other students from across the country.

The ALA acts as a branch of the Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) Conference, which helps students develop their leadership skills and then design a service project to implement in their own communities.

Over the course of five days, the students worked closely with project coaches to craft plans and saw guest speakers including Nick “Sunshine” Tokman from the television series *Deadliest Catch* and MIT instructor Laurie Stach on subjects such as social entrepreneurship and perseverance.

“I love HOBY,” Sokoloski said. “[The ALA] was such an amazing experience [and] it’s what motivated me to do this project.”

This Sunday, Aug. 13, Sokoloski will hold two demonstrations of how the hair booms work at the Colchester Farmers Market on the Town Green at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. For more information on the ALA or Sokoloski’s project, email lasoko2017@gmail.com or visit her Go Fund Me page at gofundme.com/cutathon-for-clean-wave.



Bacon graduate Laura Sokoloski is collecting hair and fur on Aug. 19 to donate to Clean Wave, an organization which uses the hair to soak up oil from ocean oil spills.

New Consignment Shop in Portland Offers Clothes, Antiques, More

by Elizabeth Regan

An eclectic new consignment boutique on Main Street showcases its owner's passion for clothing, accessories, eye-catching antiques – and even pet gear.

Liz Rogers of Portland opened Beautiful Again Boutique about one month ago near the intersection of Route 66. She showcases different items in an attractive display at the front of her shop every couple of days to entice passers-by.

"I have the benefit of people being stuck at a traffic light and looking at my window," she said.

Already, visitors have come in to ask about dresses they'd seen through the glass, only to find out the pieces had already sold.

When it comes to consignment shops, inventory is always changing.

"Get it while it's hot," Rogers advised.

She carries women's clothes, jewelry, handbags, crafts and housewares.

The former healthcare finance professional decided to combine her interests into one small shop in Portland after she realized she didn't want to work in corporate America anymore. It

took her four months to navigate state and local regulations, gather inventory and lay it out in the bright, cozy space.

"I have a passion for consignment shops because you always find a treasure," she said. "And then it's a bargain."

Rogers said she has an affinity for clothes and crafting. The daughter of an antique dealer, she also appreciates delicate Noritake China, Depression-era glassware and vintage hurricane lamps displayed on walls and tables in the boutique.

She loves fashion accessories, too. In addition to carrying consigned jewelry and handbags, she has a vendor who brings back jewelry from New York.

Rogers' penchant for accessorizing extends to four-legged customers as well. That's why she carries gently-used pet supplies, in addition to giving out pet treats and bandanas to dogs that come into the shop.

She recounted her own experience buying gear for her five-pound dog, which quickly tripled its weight and outgrew all of it.

"Why not bring the items in, repurpose them, make some money or buy something that costs

less?" she said.

Glassware in the pet-friendly space is kept up high in case of wagging tails, she added.

A small room at the back of the space gives Rogers flexibility to be more creative with her inventory. While the clothes and accessories up front are geared toward women, she has plans to change up the back room at different points throughout the year.

Next month, the back room will be decked out with a Halloween theme as she sells used costumes for both adults and children.

She is also considering testing out a "man cave" to meet the demand of those who have come in asking for men's clothes.

Rogers credits the Portland community for making her feel welcome as a new business owner. That includes Kerianne Heil, the owner of Savvy Swap Consignment on Main Street.

"We're moreso supporting each other than competing. I've sent people to her, she sends people to me," Rogers said. "That way, people will have two stores to go to in Portland instead of one. And hopefully they'll stay for lunch and support the other businesses."



Liz Rogers of Portland left her job in corporate America to open a consignment boutique with an eclectic inventory that reflects her passion for clothes, crafts, jewelry, handbags, shoes and pets.

Portland PZC, Elmcrest Team to Meet

by Elizabeth Regan

The Planning and Zoning Commission will soon meet with the development team behind a plan to resurrect the former Elmcrest Hospital property as an apartment complex and neighborhood shopping center.

In what is described in local zoning regulations as a "preliminary development plan workshop," the workshop will give Danbury-based developer Dan Bertram and his representatives a chance to receive input, comments and suggestions from the commission before a special permit application and site plan is submitted.

Those comments and suggestions are described in regulations as "tentative only" and by Economic Development Consultant Mary Dickerson as "nonbinding."

That means opinions expressed by commission members during the meeting "shall not hinder or preclude such members from making an independent judgment" on any site plan that comes after, according to the regulations.

It also means the special meeting, unlike a public hearing on a pending zoning application, does not require an opportunity for public com-

ment.

"It's a conversation between the developer and the commission," Dickerson said.

The state Freedom of Information Act gives members of the public the right to attend public meetings, but it does not afford them the right to speak.

Staff members in the land use department are working to coordinate a date for the meeting that works for the Planning and Zoning Commission as well as Bertram's team, according to Land Use Administrator Ashley Majorowski. It's likely to happen in early September, she said.

Bertram has touted his Brainerd Place project as a \$30 million venture that includes 240 apartments and 89,400 square feet of commercial space while preserving two 19th century homes and allocating land to relocate a third.

The effort brings together Bertram, of BRT General Corporation, and the Rochester, N.Y.-based DiMarco Group through a limited liability corporation called BRT DiMarco PTP.

Land use department staff and town engineer

Geoffrey Jacobson met Tuesday with representatives from Bertram's team to help guide them through the initial stages of the process, according to Dickerson.

Representatives for the Brainerd Place project included Steven Sullivan of the Brookfield architecture firm CCA and Joe Balskus of the transportation and engineering firm VHB, according to Dickerson.

The meeting was part of the town's economic development strategy, which gives prospective business owners and representatives the chance to meet with town staff members who will be overseeing the building and zoning process.

"This is a common thing we do, from the smallest application to the largest," Dickerson said.

She said the group discussed the project's history going back to the 2009 approval of a special permit for a mixed-use development with 149,127 square feet of commercial space and 82 housing units. The project was proposed by a different developer at the time; it stalled

due to the economic downturn.

The group also went over regulations that have changed since then and talked about priorities outlined in the town's Plan of Conservation and Development as well as a 2015 report describing the community's vision for the former hospital property.

Dickerson identified traffic flow as the highest priority for Bertram's team.

Bertram, in a Thursday morning email, described Tuesday's meeting and the upcoming workshop with the Planning and Zoning Commission as opportunities "to keep everyone on the same page."

He said there have been "no showstoppers" in discussions with the town so far, but declined to go into specifics about what topics have been covered.

He said he will be submitting a full zoning application after the workshop.

"I don't have a lot to report other than 'making good progress and the project is moving forward,'" he wrote.

East Hampton Police News

7/27: Tracy Adinolfi, 57, of 19 W. High St., was issued a summons for illegal burning, East Hampton Police said.

8/1: Joel Costanzo, 21, of 13 Pecauset Tr., was charged with operating under the influence, reckless driving, driving too fast for conditions and illegal passing in connection with a motor vehicle accident that occurred March 11, police said.

Also, from July 24-30, officers responded to 13 medical calls, three motor vehicle accidents and six alarms, and made 16 traffic stops.

Colchester Police News

7/30: State Police said Julie A. Desiata, 34, and Jean Maheu, 30, both of 48 Harbor Rd., were each arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance.

8/4: State Police said Ernesto Perez-Jimenez, 32, of 277 Brick Top Rd., Apt. G4, Windham, was arrested and charged with second-degree failure to appear.

8/6: Colchester Police said at approximately 5:21 p.m., they received a report that an unknown person had stolen shaving razors from the Stop and Shop store on Linwood Ave. on Aug. 5. Stop and Shop Loss Prevention provided police with a video of the incident and the case remains under investigat

Andover Resident Injured in Motorcycle Crash

by Lauren Yandow

An Andover man was injured last weekend when his motorcycle crashed on Route 6, state police said.

Just before 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, police said Kevin Pearl Jr., 28, of 560 Route 6 in Andover, was riding his motorcycle westbound near Bunker Hill Road when he lost control, hit a wire support on a utilities pole and proceeded to flip over. The bike came to a final stop in the westbound travel lane on Route 6.

Pearl was ejected from the motorcycle, landing a little over 100 feet from it, police

said.

Police said Pearl sustained injuries and was taken to Hartford Hospital. As of Thursday, Pearl remained in the hospital, where he was reported to be in "fair condition."

According to police, the motorcycle was extremely damaged and towed from the scene.

Police said the crash remains under investigation and no additional information has been released at this time.

Any witnesses are asked to call Trooper Patrick Kokoszka at Troop K in Colchester at 860-465-5400.

Obituaries

Colchester

John W. Stone

John W. Stone, 56, of Colchester, beloved husband of Kathleen (Murphy) Stone, passed away peacefully Friday, Aug. 4, at home, surrounded by his loving family, after a courageous battle with cancer. Born Aug. 12, 1960, in Middletown, he was the son of the late Ralph and Angelina (Saraceno) Stone.



John worked alongside his father in metal fabrication, but truth be told, he could design, build and fix just about anything. He was an automobile enthusiast and mechanic, loved to build (and rebuild) stone walls and spend time in nature, especially in his "own backyard" of Salmon River.

In addition to his loving wife of 23 years, he leaves two brothers, Ralph Jr. of East Hampton and James of Glastonbury; a special niece and nephew, Jenny Stone and her husband, Nick McMahon; and Jimmy Stone; his great niece, Molly McMahon; his dear friend, Gary Ross along with the rest of the "Standish Road Gang" for always being there for John and Kathy; as well as numerous extended family members and friends.

A memorial service celebrating his life will be observed on what would have been his 57th birthday (Saturday, Aug. 12), at 2 p.m., at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. The family will receive guests starting at 12:30 p.m. until the time of the service. Burial will be private in the Ponemah Cemetery, North Westchester.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Prostate Cancer Research Institute, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 800, Los Angeles, CA 90045 (pcri.org).

For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Paul Einar Scheibelein Sr.

Paul Einar Scheibelein Sr., 75, of Colchester, beloved husband of Pamela, passed away at home Saturday, Aug. 5, surrounded by his loving family. Born Sept. 11, 1941, in Ozone Park, N.Y., he was the son of the late Einar and Marie (Lusardi) Scheibelein.



On May 12, 1962, he wed the former Pamela A. Pracht in So. Ozone Park, N.Y. Mr. Scheibelein served as an Officer with the Nassau County (Long Island, N.Y.) Police Department for many years. After retiring to Colchester in 1996, Paul worked as a security sergeant for Electric Boat and also managed "Golf Day" in Norwich. Paul also enjoyed working and playing golf at Chantclair Golf Course where he was a member of the Men's League.

He had a passion for all that he did – from being a police officer, to driving his John Deere, or hosting wonderful gatherings at the log home that he built; but his greatest love was for his family, to whom he was ever devoted.

In addition to his loving wife of 55 years, he leaves two sons, Paul of Colchester and Peter and his wife, LeeAnn of Knoxville, Tenn.; six grandchildren, Samantha and Bryan of Colchester, Daniel of Utah, and Jack, Abigale and Cole, all of Knoxville; a sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Michael DeMeo of New York; and numerous extended family and friends.

The family received guests Wednesday, Aug. 9, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. The funeral liturgy was celebrated Thursday, Aug. 10, directly at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester. Burial was private.

In lieu of flowers, donation in his memory may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, 26 Broadway, FL 14, New York, NY 10004 (jdrf.org) or to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 417005, Boston, MA 02241-7005 (heart.org).

For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Andover

Robert David Tootell

Robert David Tootell of Andover died Friday, July 21, at the age of 87. Born March 24, 1930, in Providence, R.I., he was the son of Arthur and Marion Rathbun Tootell. Robert served in the United States Army, Indianhead Division, Korea, 1952-53. On Aug. 6, 1956, he married Mary Ann Charbonneau and they made their home in Andover.



Bob enjoyed sailing as a young man and was very knowledgeable about the rigging of large sailing vessels. He was a good mechanic, working on the many vehicles he acquired throughout the years and liked watching NASCAR. He was also a skilled crane operator, retiring as owner of Marion Crane Service, Inc. based in Andover. Bob and Mary Ann were big fans of the UConn woman's basketball team.

Traveling to Maine frequently for 60 years, he enjoyed working on his house in Pemaquid Harbor. He will be greatly missed by so many!

Bob is survived by his beloved wife of 60 years, Mary Ann; daughter, Patricia Marie Boynton of Bristol, Maine; daughter, Debra Tootell Furman and husband Robert Furman of Waldoboro, Maine; sister, Virginia Ann Reilly of Lantana, Fla.; and niece, Robin Marie Reilly of West Palm Beach, Fla.; grandchildren, David Wesley Boynton of Newport, N.H., Elizabeth Michelle Boynton of Fort Myers, Fla., Andrew Ross Furman and wife Brenda Boucher Furman of Windham, Maine, Matthew Robert Furman of Portland, Maine; great-grandchildren, Broderick William Boynton and Kathryn Patricia Boynton; nephew, Arthur Prentice of Shelburne N.H. and son; niece, Annette Cash of Vinalhaven, Maine, and her children and grandchildren.

Bob was predeceased by his parents, Arthur and Marion Tootell; sister, Joan Elizabeth Bunker and husband Woodrow Bunker of Vinalhaven, Maine; son-in-law Dwayne Lee Boynton of Bristol, Maine; mother- and father-in-law, Alice and Arthur Charbonneau of Centerdale, R.I., and brother-in-law Emil David Charbonneau of Centerdale, RI.

A private family service at Harrington Cemetery will be held at a later date.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to Andover Fire Department, Andover CT 06232.

Andover

Donald Smith

Donald Wilton Smith, Jr., "Bucky," born May 9, 1965, passed away peacefully Friday, Aug. 4, surrounded by loved ones after a long, courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.



He leaves his loving wife of 25 years, Kelly (Gardner) Smith; their three daughters, Kylee, Jenna (and her fiancé, Mathew Valenti) and Sarah (and her boyfriend, Michael Cook); his parents; mother, Kathleen (Grimes) Smith; father, Donald W. Smith Sr. and stepmother, Brenda Smith; his brother, Darren Smith and his girlfriend, Melaine Ho; and numerous extended family and countless friends that he considered family.

He loved being in the garage, whether it was "on the clock" managing an auto body shop or at home. Bucky was active on the motocross circuit, traveling far and wide. He enjoyed being outdoors as well, especially fishing and target shooting. His greatest joy was found in spending time with family and friends or lending a helping hand to anyone in need.

The family will receive guests 5-8 p.m. today, Aug. 11, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. Graveside services will be observed at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, directly at Townsend Cemetery, Townsend Road, Andover.

For online condolences, visit auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton

Paul Martin Shanley

Paul Martin Shanley, 63, of East Hampton, died Wednesday, Aug. 9, surrounded by his loving family at Hartford Hospital. He was born Oct. 9, 1953, at Backus Hospital in Norwich.



Paul was a social worker who began his career as a child protection worker in Alaska. He later obtained his MSW at the University of Utah. He and his family moved to Connecticut where he dedicated 30 years to child welfare through his administrative position with the Department of Children and Families.

Paul was passionately committed to serving others, whether it was family, staff, community or anyone in need. He was an avid hiker, camper and lover of nature and wilderness. He welcomed challenges, sought out adventures and inspired others, including his family members, to pursue their full potential.

Paul was an environmentalist and was committed to protecting our Earth. He was focused on his spiritual path and was a long time member of the Sathya Sai Baba Center of Glastonbury. He practiced meditation and made several trips to India, including a trip last year.

Paul is survived by his wife, Cathy and two daughters, Prema and Sandhya; his parents, Mary Lou and Bernard Shanley; his two brothers, Scott and David Shanley; and his mother-in-law Cecilia Stoll; as well as his faithful dog Marty and cat Baxter.

He was predeceased by his father, Paul Burgess and a special great aunt, Helen Martin.

The family will receive guests today, Aug. 11, from 6-8 p.m., at Spencer Funeral Home in East Hampton. Contributions in his name can be made to the East Hampton Food Bank at 43 West High Street.

Paul lived his life by these words – "Love All, Serve All."