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Jack Faski, owner of Skyview Realty, recently purchased the historic Hayward House in Colchester. He's shown here with wife Lori and sons Matthew and Dan.

Colchester Realtor Buys Hayward House

by Jim Salemi

Jack Faski, owner of Skyview Realty, has seen and shown more than his share of houses over his career. But that doesn't mean he's gotten jaded.

Faski displayed nothing but excitement and enthusiasm while giving a tour of the historic Hayward House in Colchester. Faski recently bought the circa-1767 home, located at 35 Hayward Ave., next door to NuNu's Bistro, to make it the future home of his realty office.

"The place is amazing," Faski said. "Every time I go through it I find something new or interesting. It's full of mysteries."

As an agent, Faski had been showing the house to several clients, hoping it would fit their needs. But, while the home appears to be in remarkable shape for its age, Faski said it languished over the last seven years and still needs quite a bit of work. This renovation project was too much for many of his clients to take on, so Faski decided to take it on himself. He estimates it will take him a decade to complete the renovations, which include putting in a new roof, a handicapped ramp, adding more support beams in the basement.

Faski appreciates the history of the home, and said he'll keep the home as original as possible, only modifying it if

codes require it. So preservationists can rest easy; Faski will not be tearing out walls for the sake of a contemporary, open, airy office.

The Hayward House is also known as the Dudley Wright Home. Wright was a merchant and a sea captain who built the home off of Main Street (Hayward Avenue was not yet built).

While the home was built by Wright, the house is more commonly associated with Nathaniel Hayward. Hayward bought the home three-quarters of a century after Wright built it, donated his front lawn to the town to provide a town green for the people and established the Hayward Rubber Company in town. He also provided the seed money for the town's first fire wagon and thereby establishing the town's volunteer fire department.

Faski recently offered a tour of the home for reporters, and touched upon several interesting facets of the historic building.

One mystery Faski pointed out during the tour is a name and two dates scrawled in the plaster near the attic steps. There are the initials 'M.D.,' and beneath those are the years '1776-1916,' then the name 'J.H. BREHANT.'

Faski said he doesn't know what to make of it, but theorized that it might be a

hoax (it's much too long to be someone's lifespan) or perhaps the name of a laborer, since one of the major renovations of the home happened in 1916.

Another mystery was a slightly-sunken room on the second floor, with a low ceiling and exposed ceiling beams. The room appears to be original, though out of character for colonial design.

Faski surmised that Wright built the room to resemble a ship's galley.

"It has that look and feel, and he was a sea captain," Faski said.

Other unique details in the 240-year-old home include a partition in a large room used as a social hall. The partition is suspended to the ceiling and swings down.

According to publications by the Connecticut Historical Society and the Colchester Historical Society, the home was used for social events in town, including Wooster Lodge of Masons beginning in 1782. The partition would be lowered when dances coincided with Masons meetings.

Wright also ran a tavern and inn out of the home.

Faski said he has not lowered the partition, the free end held to the ceiling by hooks and the swinging end with hinges,

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because of the age of the hardware. He said he will lower it at some point, when he can rig up a safety harness in case the door falls, or can enlist other people to hold it as it's lowered.

Also, the home sports two stone "wells," one in the basement and one in the kitchen. The one in the basement likely held water, Faski said, and the one in the kitchen was likely a meat smoker.

There also some Victorian styles that Hayward incorporated into the home after buying it in 1848. These include pocket doors at the entrance to the parlor and a bay window. While not original to the home, Faski said he still considers them part of its charm.

The house also boasts the town's first known "indoor outhouse." Faski said he was intrigued by a long hallway that ran along the back of a barn that had been constructed as an addition onto the home.

"I thought it was odd," he said. "Usually space wouldn't be wasted like that. After the Historical Society looked at it, they concluded it was an outhouse, complete with a cleanout in the back. ... I feel sorry for the slaves who were given that job," he said.

Faski isn't keeping his new acquisition all to himself. He plans to host a grand opening open house at an as-yet undetermined point in the future, after he moves his offices to the building. And later this month, he's transforming the home into a haunted mansion, and is inviting the public to take a tour of their own – if they dare.

Faski, also a member of the Colchester Lions Club, will open the home for the haunted tour on Saturday, Oct. 27 and will charge a small donation of around five dollars to raise funds for the club's SightFirst II campaign, designed to help the seeing-impaired.

RHAM Schools Get Visit from Chinese Officials

by Sarah McCoy

The RHAM high and middle schools had some distant visitors last week, as a group of 21 Chinese government officials came to learn about educational approach of the regional school district.

The visitors came as part of their six-month stint in America hosted by Central Connecticut State University. The aim is to help the Shandong province of China become more efficient in the public sector.

"They had a lot of questions about school governance and how the school makes decisions," RHAM High School Principal Scott Leslie said about the Chinese visitors. "They were fascinated that we have an elected body to make decisions."

They were particularly interested in the opinions of the youngest member of the RHAM Board of Education. Last year RHAM senior Ryan Allison began serving on the BOE. While he isn't a voting member, he does have the opportunity to voice his opinion. "I feel like my input does matter," Allison said. "I represent the student body and board members have been eager to hear what I have to say."

And, it seemed, so were the Chinese visitors. "They asked me a lot about what students do after high school," Allison said. "I told them that most pursue a bachelor's degree, some go to a community college, and others right into

the work force. It was a bizarre experience to go from walking down the hallway on the way to class to, all of a sudden, talking with the head officials of a section of China."

The group went onto the middle school where Principal Linda Crossman continued the tour. She learned that, in China, students spend many hours studying math and science but there is hardly any focus on applying these skills in other avenues.

"They were particularly interested, and amazed, at some of the fraction work done in our cooking class," Crossman said. "The notion of applied learning and not just concepts was new to them."

Leslie called the visit "a success for everyone involved," adding that the Chinese officials even inquired about RHAM's policies regarding foreign exchange students from China.

The partnership between this small Connecticut district and the Shandong province will continue as RHAM Superintendent of Schools Robert Siminski, Marlborough Superintendent of Schools Sal Menzo and Hebron Superintendent of Schools Ellie Cruz travel to China next month. The trip, which is part of an ongoing Connecticut Department of Education sister school initiative, will give the three administrative heads an opportunity to learn and share with Chinese education officials.

State Kills Proposed East Hampton Water System Documents

by Michael McCoy

The Town Council learned last week that the state has killed materials a public relations firm had prepared to inform voters about the proposed town water system.

Sebastian Amenta of the town engineers The Maguire Group told the council that the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) vetoed some of the materials prepared by Baldwin Media Marketing for the Nov. 6 vote on the proposed \$28.5 million water system.

In August, the Town Council authorized The Maguire Group to spend \$48,500 to search for public relations firms to educate citizens on the proposed system. Last month, the engineers hired Baldwin Media.

Town Attorney Jean D'Aquila explained at a special Town Council meeting last Tuesday, Oct. 2, that drafted materials go through the Maguire Group after being created by Baldwin. D'Aquila and the bond attorney then look over them, before sending the materials to the SEEC. Only after that commission deems them appropriate for public viewing can they be included in an informational session.

Amenta said that the SEEC simply accepts or rejects submitted materials, and does not offer explanations. If a prepared material gets rejected, Baldwin must submit another draft and hope it made adequate changes. However, Amenta said, the commission did reveal it wouldn't allow the word "contamination" on the informational materials.

"So, basically, you can't use adjectives," Town Council member Kyle Dostaler cracked.

According to state law, public money cannot be used to influence a vote either for or against a referendum question. The SEEC says

explanatory text can be prepared about a question, provided it does not advocate either a yes or no vote.

Amenta said the plan still is to inform the public about the system – and informational sessions are tentatively scheduled for Oct. 20, 22 and 27 – but changes will have to be made.

"We can get it done," he said. "It's going to be a little different than we originally thought."

Councilwoman Melissa Engel said, "It makes complete sense to me that the SEEC doesn't want us to spend town dollars to influence a vote."

Town Manager Alan Bergren said promotion of the water system is only inappropriate when funded with public money. "Council members are free to give their opinion face to face, or to the media," he said. "That is not restricted."

D'Aquila also said that it was only print materials that are held to the most stringent standards.

But, Engel said, "I'm still telling you not to get hung up on the explanatory text and just talk to people."

Councilman Scott Minnick seemed content with the strict objectivity. "[Citizens] want the facts," he said. "They don't need opinions from any of us."

None of the council members admitted to having seen the draft documents, but they discussed a letter to the editor in the Sept. 28 *Riverast* in which Jim Morris wrote, "I've seen the proposed ads. They are strong and professional, and aimed to tug at our heart strings. 'How can we deny good water to the East Hampton baby who will drink it...etc?'"

During the meeting, Dostaler said, "If these

documents are a draft, how could someone from the public see them? If someone from the public could see them, I'd like to see them myself."

"I just find this a very disturbing incident," Dostaler said. "What happened here is egregious."

Morris provided the *Riverast* with copies of the drafts that he had seen – although he wouldn't reveal how he got the copies. One of the drafted documents shows a young woman drinking a glass of water and reads, "If you think East Hampton's water problem is hard to swallow...try explaining why we didn't fix it to your grandchildren."

Another shows an infant with a bottle in its mouth. It reads, "In her lifetime she will drink 224,840 glasses of water. The East Hampton water project will determine the quality of that water." A third document shows a glass of water and the words, "Let's Make Something Perfectly Clear."

All three of the prepared documents say, "Make an informed choice on Nov. 6th."

The documents "were very professional," Morris said, and added, "They were without a doubt a sales pitch for approval to the water system. ... The fact is that the Chatham Party Town Council was giving its blessing to a public relations campaign that was going to take a proposition."

The Town Council "did not exercise due diligence," Morris said. "They should have known there were limitations," said Morris. He also worried that the money the town spent on a professional information campaign would now be squandered on "plain manila envelope" presen-

tation.

Morris said he didn't believe no one on the Town Council had seen the drafted documents. "That's a way of passing the blame," he said, and added, "If they didn't see it, it was their responsibility to have seen it."

Morris stressed that he was "emphatically in favor of the water system, no doubt about that," and said the drafted documents "are not obscene or nasty in any way." But, he emphasized, "they're definitely pro-water system."

Engel was among the council members who voted in favor of the November referendum, and then to enlist the outside firm, but after the meeting appeared to be having second thoughts on both.

"In retrospect, [hiring the outside firm] is not a good idea," Engel said. "If the water system is so good, why do we need a paraprofessional to sell it?"

As for the referendum itself, she said, "I think the timing is really bad." She said this would be the first time the town has included a referendum on an election ballot and on top of that has the new voting machines to deal with.

Also, Engel said, "Four weeks isn't enough to educate one way or another."

But, Dostaler said when informed of this comment, "You're either for the water system, or you're not for the water system." He added that "The Maguire Group has every confidence that they can get this information to the public."

Dostaler also praised the efforts of this council, saying, "Melissa Engel and the Democrats and the Republicans had six years. We did it in two."

Adult Businesses Discussed at Portland Selectmen's Meeting

by Michael McCoy

About 20 people attended a public hearing held Wednesday, just before the Board of Selectmen's meeting, to talk about adult-oriented businesses and their distances from schools and other places that may attract youth.

According to First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield, Town Planner Deanna Rhodes recently suggested that, given the ongoing zoning regulations process, it might be prudent to revisit the existing ordinance as it relates to adult businesses. Such establishments include adult bookstores, adult movie theatres and strip clubs.

The ordinance currently prohibits any such facilities setting up within 500 feet from schools, daycare centers, nursery schools, public parks, playgrounds, places of worship, hospitals or residential zones.

The hearing was on a proposal by Bransfield to increase this minimum distance to 750 feet, and to expand the prohibitive definition to include "any commercial or not-for-profit outdoor or indoor recreational facility."

Selectman Scott Adamsons, meanwhile, has expressed his wish to increase the minimum distance to 3,000 ft., and also to change the term "residential zone" to "residential use;" this would make the ordinance apply, for example, to residential components of mixed-use developments.

Bransfield worried that this suggestion would set the town up for a lawsuit. "We make up ordinances based on what you can legally do," said Bransfield. "Why would you pass something that has been declared illegal in other

towns?"

Bransfield said that other towns have been unsuccessful in banning adult businesses due to freedom of speech issues.

Bransfield said that, if her proposed changes were enacted, "I think this ordinance [would be] acting responsibly for our youth."

Bransfield said about 20 people went to the hearing, and 10 spoke. All but one, she said, voiced disapproval of adult businesses appearing in town.

Before the Board of Selectmen's meeting, Adamsons had noted that while no such businesses currently exist in Portland, one did about 20 years ago.

During the regular meeting, Adamsons said, "Some of the members of the public suggested we look at some other towns. ... The folks here are all in agreement that we have to keep our kids away from that."

But Selectman Brian Flood said, "I think some of [Adamsons'] comments are a little damaging. We're living in Portland, Connecticut, not in the Bible Belt."

Adamsons added that his comments didn't mean he was in favor of banning alcohol. "I'm not suggesting a dry town," he said. "I'm not even going down that slippery slope."

Flood also criticized Adamsons' proposed distance increase, saying, "We're just throwing numbers around now."

During the exchange, Adamsons said that even a 1,000-1,500 feet minimum distance "would do the trick."

"Do what trick?" asked Flood. "Completely

shut it out of town?"

The Board of Selectmen will hold another hearing on the matter at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, at the library.

Also at Wednesday's Board of Selectmen's meeting, the board unanimously appointed Nicole Linteruer the town's first ever full-time assessor. Paul LaBella had been the previous assessor, but he worked part-time. He resigned in March. Since that time, his responsibilities have been handled by Judy McGinley, who has been full-time Assistant Assessor for 25 years.

But, Bransfield said, McGinley "has joyfully retired. She's done a fine job. She is a great person; we're going to miss her."

Linteruer was chosen from a group of five interviewees, which was narrowed down from a pool of about 20 applicants. She has been an assessor for 16 years, most recently in Willington since 1997 and Sprague since 2004. She has also worked for the Town of Hampton as well as Fleet National Bank in Providence. Linteruer attended Bryant College in Rhode Island and is a Certified Municipal Assessor, most recently being recertified in July of this year.

"I have an open office philosophy," Linteruer said, and added, "You have a lovely little town here. I've already gotten lost on a couple of roads."

Linteruer will officially start on Oct. 30.

Also Wednesday, Charter Revision Commission (CRC) Chairman Richard G. Murphy gave an update on the group's progress.

Bransfield said the CRC has met over the

past year for "reorganizing and reformatting." One of the key changes included in the CRC's proposed revisions is an allowance for unlimited budget referendums. Currently, the Board of Selectmen passes a budget, should it fail at referendum twice.

Also, citizens currently can overrule all ordinances voted on by the Board of Selectmen, with the exception of those dealing with emergency services. The CRC has proposed that citizens also be allowed to overrule resolutions voted on by the selectmen, excluding those related to emergency services or those that are internal in nature.

The proposed revisions also call for the creation of a Public Safety Commission, and eliminates the selectmen's power to transfer unencumbered appropriations to other boards or organizations.

"This is what seven people in good faith came up with," Murphy said, and added, "This is virtually a new document. There were so many recommendations, and we found so many errors, so we thought it would be easier to just start from the beginning."

"I think they've done a heck of a job so far," Adamsons said about the CRC members. "It looks like we're sharpening the blade of a representative form of government."

The CRC's proposal will go to a public hearing Tuesday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m. in the Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave. Copies of the proposed changes are available at the Town Clerk's office in Town Hall, 33 East Main St.

Colchester Highway Named in Johnston's Honor

by Jim Salemi

The section of Lebanon Avenue between Broadway and the Lebanon town line was dedicated as the William J. Johnston Memorial Highway last Friday (Oct. 5) on the town green, near where the green sign stands.

Family and friends of World War II veteran and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient William J. Johnston Sr. gathered on the green for the formal ceremony, flanked on one side by the Antique Veterans Color Guard.

Johnston died 17 years ago, but if he had been in attendance, he might have simply shaken his head over all the fuss, just as he did on the very same green 60 years ago, when the town threw a celebration in his honor after returning from Europe a hero.

"Sixty years ago, after he returned and healed, there was a big celebration for him on the town green. The whole town was there. The whole town was so proud of him," said American Legion commander and VFW member Ray Ryan, a veteran of the Korean War era.

"People were heaping on the praise and appreciation," Ryan continued, "and all he could do was sit there and wonder what all the hoopla was about. To him, he was just doing his job."

Ryan, who served as master of ceremony last Friday with VFW Commander Joe Burba, also read Johnston's Medal of Honor citation by President Roosevelt:

"On 17 February 1944, near Padigilone, Italy, he observed and fired upon an attacking force of approximately 80 Germans, causing at least 25 casualties and forcing withdrawal of the remainder," Ryan read. "All that day he manned his gun without relief, subject to mortar, artillery, and sniper fire. ... When a rifleman protecting his gun position was killed by a sniper, he immediately moved the body and relocated the machinegun in that spot in order to obtain a better field of fire. ... Shortly thereafter, he was seriously wounded over the heart, and a passing soldier saw him trying to crawl up the embankment. The soldier aided him to resume his position behind the machine gun which was soon heard in action for about 10 minutes..."

Other details in the citation include accounts of when Johnston killed soldiers who had worked their way so close to him that his fixed machine gun was ineffective. He killed one with his pistol and another with a rifle taken from

another soldier.

State Rep. Linda Orange presented Johnston's family with a replica of the sign naming the road for Johnston.

William Johnston Jr. and his wife Judy, as well as Johnston Sr.'s daughter Dottie O'Meara and her husband Thomas were among the family members in attendance.

Orange acknowledged the veteran's groups, former First Selectman Jenny Contois and state Sen. Eileen Daily for making the memorial possible.

"This is a great honor bestowed upon your father," Orange said to Johnston Jr. and O'Meara.

While Johnston is recognized for earning the Medal of Honor recipient, he also received other awards, including the Purple Heart, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Italian Medal of Honor and the Bronze Star during his relatively brief service.

Johnston was born in 1918 in Trenton, NJ, came to Connecticut with his family in 1919 and settled in Amston. In 1922, his mother died and Johnston was taken in by the Harrison Foote family in Colchester. Johnston went to the Unionville School for his elementary education and attended Bacon Academy from 1933-37, where he was active in sports, playing on the basketball and baseball teams.

After high school, Johnston went to work for Bacon Brothers in Middletown as an apprentice plumber. He later worked as a truck driver, and then went to work for United Aircraft in East Hartford in 1939.

Johnston married Dorothy Clark from North Westchester on Aug. 8, 1942. He entered the service March 23, 1943 and was discharged on Sept. 9, 1944. After working again as a truck driver for a year, Johnston went to work for the Veterans' Administration in Hartford in 1945, remaining with them until he retired. He had four children, William Jr., Dorothy, Diane and Donna.

Johnston was also involved in the Colchester community. He served as a selectman, coached basketball at Bacon Academy, and was a member of the VFW, American Legion, the Legion of Valor and the Colchester Fish and Game Club. He died May 29, 1990.



State Rep. Linda Orange speaks at last week's William J. Johnston Memorial Highway dedication. Also shown are Johnston's son, William J. Johnston Jr., and daughter Dottie O'Meara.



Dr. Olwale Ayeni has opened his own family practice in an office at 123 Sparrow Commons, near Backus Hospital's emergency medical facility on Broadway. Pictured from left are Thomas Pipicelli, president and CEO of Backus Hospital, state Rep. Linda Orange, Ron Goldstein, finance board vice-chairman, Dr. Olwale Ayeni and his wife Fike.

Colchester Doctor Opens New Practice

by Jim Salemi

The Backus Hospital campus in Colchester just got a little bit bigger, with Dr. Olwale Ayeni opening his own family practice in an office at 123 Sparrow Commons, near the hospital's emergency medical facility on Broadway.

Ayeni, his family, his professional peers and friends gathered at the new office for a ribbon-cutting ceremony Wednesday.

"Colchester is a growing town. I think this is the beginning, not the end," he said at the ceremony, before thanking everyone who helped him get set up in Colchester. "It was the working synergy that made this possible."

Thomas P. Pipicelli, President and CEO of Backus Hospital, gave Ayeni a welcome – of sorts.

"I could welcome you to the Backus community, but you're already with us," Pipicelli joked. Ayeni was a resident at Backus for two years before opening his practice in Colchester.

Pipicelli said he was glad he settled in Colchester.

"This fills out a vision we had years ago, to attract practitioners as part of our plan for Colchester," he said.

Ayeni said he thinks his family practice will be good for the town. "Colchester is a growing town," he said.

Board of Finance member Ron Goldstein presented Ayeni with a "Certificate of Welcome" on behalf of the town. First Selectman Stan Soby was unable to attend the ribbon-cutting.

Dr. Aaron Casey, a chiropractor who opened his own practice recently on Halls Hill Road, said he had gone through much of the same things Ayeni has encountered while setting up shop.

"There are so many things you don't think about, like picking out carpet and getting the computer network set up," he said. "A lot goes into it."

Ayeni has named his practice Colchester Family Medicine, LLC, and his office hours are by appointment. Ayeni can be reached at 537-3204.

East Hampton Superintendent Pleased with SAT Participation

by Michael McCoy

Scores on this year's Scholastic Achievement Tests (SAT) dipped slightly from the previous year, but participation on the exams is still high, the schools superintendent told the Board of Education last month.

Overall, scores on the tests were down just a hair from the 2006 results. The average score this year was 1528, compared with 1531 in 2006. Students did considerably better in math, though, scoring 514, up from last year's 505. Critical reading scores were down nine points, though, coming in at 503, while writing scores dropped from 514 to 511.

However, Superintendent of Schools Judith Golden was delighted that the participation was so high. Like last year, 86 percent of seniors took the test. Just three years ago, that number had dipped to 72 percent.

"You would expect that with a larger number of students taking the test, the [overall score] would go down," said Golden. "We're okay with that. We want kids to take this test to give themselves more opportunities."

East Hampton's overall score was well above the national average of 1511. While the math score was a point below the 515 average, the writing score easily bested the 494 average.

On the state level, East Hampton's overall

score came in somewhat below the state average score of 1533. While Belltown students scored two points higher than the state average in math, in critical reading the score was seven points lower than the 510 state mark. The state average writing score was 511, as it was in East Hampton.

"We're competitive," said Golden, who added, "We're happy because we had a lot of students take the test. We want all of our students to participate."

Golden also was pleased that 85 percent of the Class of 2007 pursued higher education. This is a marked increase from just four years ago, when 72 percent of the Class of 2003 moved onto higher education. The number is also up a bit from last year, when 84 percent of seniors moved on. (However, the Class of 2007 consisted of 116 graduates, down from 127 in 2006.)

Board of Education Chairman Alan Hurst seemed pleased with the results, saying,

"We have 86 percent of seniors taking the SATs, which is just terrific."

Golden said the Board of Education members were "so interested" during the presentation of the SAT scores. "It's a lovely bunch," she said of the school board.

Selectmen Agree to Sell Peters House

by Sarah McCoy

The Board of Selectmen agreed to the terms of sale for the house at 150 East St. for \$110,000 at their meeting last Thursday – but this doesn't mean the Peters House saga is over.

According to last week's agreement, the interested buyer, Jeffery Farber, would be required to meet 16 separate renovation categories within the next five years. The sale is far from finalized, as Farber will be in front of the Inland Wetlands Commission and Planning and Zoning Commission later this month before the town holds a public hearing and vote on the issue.

The historical house, known as the Peters House, has been a hotbed of controversy for the last three years as the town decided its fate.

In 2004, the town acquired the house when it purchased a 112-acre parcel along East Street for an athletic field complex. Since then the selectmen and historical organizations in town have been at odds over the historic structure that requires hundreds of thousands of dollars in repairs.

This summer Farber, a Hebron resident, came forth and expressed interest in purchasing the property and renovating it for he and his family to live in.

After almost three months of negotiations between Farber and Town Manager Jared Clark, the Board of Selectmen on Thursday, Oct. 4, approved the terms of the sale of 150 East St. The vote passed 3-1, with David Schoolcraft opposing it. Selectwoman Vickie Avelis was absent from the meeting.

As per the terms of the sale, Farber is to restore the exterior, ell, and certain interior features of the home that is believed to be the former home of Caesar and Lowis Peters, freed slaves of Reverend Samuel Peters. Farber must use natural materials in the renovation and use, according to the terms of sale document, "colors generally available at the time of the building's construction, estimated to be between 1790 and 1815."

Also, the ballroom and fireplaces must be restored to resemble original condition. At last Thursday's meeting Farber reported that he is already in contact with Greg Farmer, a pres-

ervation expert with the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, for assistance with the fireplace restoration.

The agreement allows Farber to build a three-car garage, and it also requires that he and his family live at the house for at least five years. The Town of Hebron maintains first right of refusal if Farber ever opts to sell the property.

One item not included in the agreement is a mandatory nomination for the house to the National Register of Historic Places. The Hebron Historical Properties Commission (HHPC) had requested that this be a condition of the terms of sale however it is absent from the final draft.

"I'd be happy to have it nominated after construction has been completed," Farber said to the selectmen last week. "I have met the requirements for local designation. Let me do my work and get to the national piece afterwards. Financially it makes sense to do it that way and it's better for the house."

Farber said he is happy to meet with the HHPC to discuss what needs to be done to gain the national notoriety.

Schoolcraft, who has voted against selling the property since the very beginning, said, "It's not that I don't think this [terms of sale agreement] provides satisfactory protection for the house or that Jeff won't do a good job. I believe the town should maintain control of the property."

The three Democrats on the Board of Selectmen disagreed with Schoolcraft and passed the motion.

"Taxpayers are already feeling like they are overtaxed," selectman Mark Stuart said. "Is it the right choice for us to commit ourselves to a half million dollars more for [the Peters House] to be usable? The house will become a prized home in Hebron that people will want to live in."

However, the Board of Selectmen doesn't hold the final seal of approval for the Peters House. Provided the land use commissions give their approval to the parcel, the selectmen will then hold a public hearing, and the residents will vote on the fate of the house.

Portland Police News

9/28 — James R. Marley, 62, of 211 Mountain Rd., Windsor, was charged with DUI and failure to drive in proper lane, Portland Police say.

10/7 — Robert Holley, 27, of 67 Freestone Ave., was charged with disorderly conduct and third-degree assault, police say.

10/7 — Joshua Andrew, 19, of 54 Indian Hill Ave., was charged with failure to have insurance, failure to carry license, simple trespass, and operating unregistered motor vehicle, police say.

Obituaries

East Hampton

Frances Hope Avery

Frances Hope (Dallas) Avery, 80, of East Hampton, widow of Gordon Avery, died Wednesday, Oct. 10, at Marlborough Health Care.

Born May 14, 1927 in Hartford, she was the daughter of the late Alexander and Lillian (Marsh) Dallas. Frances was a lifelong resident of East Hampton.

She is survived by her four daughters, Patricia Clement of Florida, Bonnie Clement of Maine, Barbara Mehoff and her husband Eric of Union, and Sherry Sukach and her husband William of East Hampton; a sister, Faith Johnson of Haddam Neck; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday, Oct. 12, at 11 a.m. in the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, with the Rev. Thomas Kennedy officiating. Burial followed in the family plot in Lakeview Cemetery. Friends called at the funeral home on Friday morning. In lieu of flowers memorial donations can be made to the East Hampton Ambulance Association, P.O. Box 144, East Hampton, CT 06424. To leave online condolences or for directions visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com

Andover

Joy L. Sears

Joy L. (Weingart) Sears, 76, died peacefully on Thursday, Oct. 4, after a long illness. She was born in Lincoln, NE, the daughter of Arthur and June Weingart, and was a longtime resident of Andover, late of Pineola, NC. She is survived by her husband, Parker Sears; her daughter and son-in-law, Deborah and Daniel Hamilton, of Belgrade, ME; and her son, Gregory Sears, of Pineola, NC; a brother, Arthur Weingart, of Vernon and a sister, June Birdsall, of Tucson, AZ, as well as five granddaughters, Cassandra Noone, Shannon Hamilton, Josie Hamilton, Casey Sears and Jessica Sears, and four great-grandchildren, Alyssa Sears and Holly Sears, Daniel Noone and Leah Noone, and several nephews and nieces. There will be a private service at the family's convenience. Donations in her memory may be made to Hospice and Palliative Care of Avery County, P. O. Box 1357, Newland, NC 28657.

East Hampton

Patricia S. Carrier

Patricia S. Carrier, 72, of East Hampton and formerly of East Hartford, beloved wife of Leo Carrier, died Saturday, Oct. 6, at Middlesex Hospital Marlborough Medical Center. Born Sept. 4, 1935, in Hartford, she was the daughter of the late Gordon and Josephine (Landry) Stewart. Patricia was a communicant of St. Patrick Church East Hampton. Besides her husband she is survived by her two daughters and their husbands Sandy and Greg Ratti of East Hampton and Tammy and Mark Anderson of East Hampton, two sons and their wives Mark and Diana Gale of Coventry and Andy and Pam Gale of Newington, her beloved sister Geraldine Kennedy of East Hartford, her God daughter Michele McCabe of TN, and Brenda Strong of East Hampton who was like a daughter to her. She also leaves her seven loving grandchildren Nathan Troiano, Anthony Troiano, Sadie Anderson, Emily Anderson, Jason Gale, Garrett Gale and Joshua Jerome.

A Funeral Liturgy was celebrated on Tuesday, Oct. 9, in St. Patrick Church, East Hampton with the Rev. Charles LeBlanc officiating. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family. Friends called at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, on Monday, Oct. 8. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 2550 US Highway 1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902-4301. To leave online condolences or for directions please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Colchester

Ann J. Dobek

Ann J. Dobek, 57, of Davidson Road, Colchester, beloved wife of Gerald and mother of Greg and Chris, went home to Heaven Thursday morning, Oct. 4, after a short battle with a serious illness.

Born Feb. 19, 1950 in Middletown, she was a daughter of Joanna (Serra) Formica of Portland and the late Ralph F. Formica. She attended Portland High School, graduating with the Class of 1969, and went on to earn an Associates Degree in Accounting from Middlesex Community College. On Sept. 6, 1985, she and Gerry were married at St. Mary Church in Portland. She had worked as a cost accountant for XEROX Educational Publications / Field Publications, for nearly 20 years before leaving in 1988 to raise her family.

Mrs. Dobek was a communicant of St. Andrew Church in Colchester. Along with her sons, she was active with Boy Scout Troop 13 in Colchester, where she served as a Committee Member. She was also a member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Portland. In her spare time, she loved to go camping with family and friends and was well renowned for her baking. Ann was an avid reader and enjoyed tending to her house plants. Most importantly, she will be remembered for her devotion to her family.

In addition to her mother, her beloved husband of 22 years and her sons, she is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Virginia and Arthur Morin of Portland; her brother and sister-in-law, Ralph and Jane Formica of Cromwell; her mother-in-law, Nellie Dobek of New Britain; her brothers-in-law, Robert F. Dobek of Washington, DC and Jeff and his wife, Carolyn Dobek of Damascus, MD; nieces and nephews, Matthew, Ann and Lisa Morin of Portland and Steven and Lizzie Dobek of Damascus, MD; and numerous extended family members and friends.

Friends called Sunday, Oct. 7, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Road, Colchester. The Funeral Liturgy was celebrated Monday directly at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester, with Fr. Michael Giannitelli, officiating. Interment followed in St. Mary Cemetery, Portland.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 106 Franklin Commons, Rte. 32, Franklin 06254-1800 or to the charity of one's choice.

