

RIVEREAST

# News Bulletin

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Brendan D'Amico, left, of Portland, and Nebojsa Novkovic, right, serve fried dough at the F & W Caterers booth at the Portland Agricultural Fair last Friday night. Novkovic is a Serbian exchange student who will soon be returning home.

## Attendance Up at Portland Fair

by Michael McCoy

The weather cooperated this year, and this helped make the Portland Agricultural Fair a big success.

The three-day fair, held last Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Exchange Club Fairgrounds along Route 17A, saw attendance increase, thanks to sunny skies and cool autumn-like weather. Saturday's attendance, in fact, was the highest it had been since the fair re-launched in 2000, according to Portland Fair Association Vice President John Dillon.

"The skies were clear for a change," Dillon said, adding that he thought the fair "went great."

First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield agreed, saying, "I thought it was a fantastic weekend."

The fair seemed to offer something for everyone. Coleman Brothers provided rides, and the amusement corner of the fair was crawling with kids, who could purchase discounted wristband passes on Friday and Sunday.

For adults, or anyone with an appetite, virtually any taste was catered to. Vinci's Pizza, Thai Taste and the Solar Masonic Lodge Polish Dinner were all options over the weekend – the latter featuring homemade cheese pierogies and kielbasa.

The Masons also offered pierogies, while the Portland Fire Department Company 2 took care of French fries. Meanwhile, a vendor calling itself "Johnny Po-

tato" offered a number of stuffed baked potatoes, including The Belly Buster, a potato covered with broccoli, sour cream, bacon, chili and cheese.

And there was also the standard fair fare, including meatball and sausage grinders, steak sandwiches and hot wings.

Those who wanted to indulge their sweet tooth were also in luck. East Haddam's Hillside Sweet House offered fudge as well as other candies. Sprinkles Ice Cream sold cool treats, while Portland United Methodist Church had hot apple pie. And, of course, fried dough and funnel cakes were available.

There were also a variety of pulls offered throughout the weekend, for horses, cattle, trucks and tractors. Pigs, sheep, goats, bunnies and fowl of all sorts were exhibited throughout the weekend.

Other displays included local author Jill Deane selling her books, which include farcical true tales of motherhood, while Les Mor Caricatures offered fun portraits.

And with Election Day just weeks away, the Portland Democrats and Republicans had their own tents at the fair, offering people chances to meet the candidates.

Sunday afternoon was for the young, as several events for kids took place. The light-hearted games included a potato sack relay and bubblegum blowing, hula-hoop and watermelon seed-spitting contests.

There were many entertainment offer-

ings at the fair, too. Friday night featured the Horizon Wings Bird Show. Horizon Wings is composed of husband and wife team Alan Nordell and Mary-Beth Kaeser, who specialize in rehabilitating birds of prey before sending them back into their home.

Other entertainment included musical acts Rosie and Brother Sleeze. Busted Roses offered a three-hour set, serving up tunes by, among others, Tom Petty and the Rolling Stones. Other musical acts included Beatles-tribute band Number 9, traditional country outfit Gunsmoke and headliner Daryle Singletary.

On Saturday morning, the main stage gave way to a perennial highlight: the Portland Jr. Women's Club Talent Show. According to club president Trish Burdett, the event drew a standing room-only crowd. The 90-minute show consisted of 20 different acts. Though all participants received trophies, special ones were awarded to the top three acts in each age bracket. This year's winners were:

Grades 2 and 3 – Third-grader Joy Vincenzo placed third for her comedic puppet show. Josh Scrivano, grade three, placed second for his rendition of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." Second-grader Elena Uradrick took first place for singing "I've Got Nerve," from *Hannah Montana*.

Grades 4 and 5 – Hayley Townsend, a

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fifth-grader, danced her way to third to "Foot-loose." A collective of fourth-grade Girl Scouts took second place with a hip-hop dance routine. First place went to fifth-grader Julia McQuade who performed "Heart and Soul."

Grades 6-8 – Sixth-graders Sara Colla and Mackenzie Ruppert placed third with a dance routine to "Me Love." Second-place Caitlin McQuade, sixth-grade, sang Bette Midler's "From a Distance." Finally, first place went to seventh-grader Adam Harris for his juggling routine.

While setup was headed up by Boy Scout Troops 2 and 49 and a number of other various volunteers, cleanup took a good chunk of this week to complete. Much of this work was done by students from Portland, Vinal, Mercy, and Xavier High Schools. Dillon also praised the Public Works department for helping with the

efforts. "They've helped us out quite a bit," he said.

The Portland Fair Association meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Hemlock Grange Hall. The group will begin working on next year's event at the Nov. 7 meeting.

Dillon welcomed any interested newcomers in helping out with the fair, saying, "There's always room for more."

One concern for the association to look into at this early stage is parking. There has been talk that in a year from now, the field behind the town garage, currently used for fair parking, could be a private soccer field.

"It's gonna be an issue," Dillon said and, after a pause, laughed, "So, if anyone out there has any property we could park cars on, let us know."

## Mixed Results on RHAM CAPTs

by Sarah McCoy

The RHAM Board of Education learned about the scores of the latest Connecticut Academic Performance Tests (CAPTs) at its meeting Monday night, and the news was decidedly mixed.

Overall, the regional school district was down from last year, with 61 percent of students in the current junior class meeting the goal score on the statewide-standardized tests. This compares with 62 percent in 2006 and a district goal of 69 percent. The district showed gains in the math and writing portions this year, but declines in science and reading.

However, despite the overall decline, West Hartford High School Senior Planner Chip Ward, noted some areas of improvement for the district. When scoring CAPT results, students are placed in five categories: advanced, goal, proficient, basic, and below basic. Ninety-five percent of the students who took the tests, which were administered in March, scored at the proficient level (the level needed to meet RHAM's graduation requirement) or higher. The proficient level is also the level used to determine a school's compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act.

"The challenge is to take those students in the proficient band and move them to the goal band," Ward said.

In his presentation, Ward noted areas for focus for RHAM in the coming months. There has been a consistent decline in science and reading scores since 2005, when 71 percent and 67 percent of students, respectively achieved goal level. Those numbers dropped to 67 percent in science and 59 percent in reading in 2006, and then to 59 percent and 57 percent this year.

Board member Michael Turner remembered that the classes that took the tests in 2006 and 2007 were the first two RHAM classes to progress into the high school without the eighth grade reading class, which was cut in 2004 to allow for more time in other areas. RHAM High School Principal Scott Leslie said this may have impacted scores but added, "the district is working hard to

incorporate critical reading skills across the disciplines."

Ward commended the district on moving to decrease the gap between male and female performance at RHAM. Historically, males have scored slightly higher on the math and science sections while their female counterparts have significantly outperformed males in reading and writing. This trend held true again, but the gap has narrowed, especially in writing. This improvement, Leslie felt, was due to a renewed emphasis on the school-wide portfolio project which places a great deal of importance on writing in every class.

To combat RHAM's declining scores, Leslie presented the school board with a list of new initiatives the school has begun. Starting this year, RHAM staff has been developing Pacing Guides to support the alignment of instructional practices at RHAM. This initiative, according to Leslie, will be tremendously important in the coming years as the district prepares for a large number of retirements. Also new this year is a professional development opportunity for teachers to compare the proficient and goal responses from the CAPT. This will enable teachers to identify specific skills for continued focus on during their classes.

Also this year, there has been a change in the English graduation requirements at the high school.

"In their senior year, it had been possible for students to take a half a year of a softer English class in order to graduate," Leslie said. "We have changed the senior expectation to reflect the district's priorities and have since changed the requirement to either a full year class or a half-year option with a focus on critical reading and writing skills."

This requirement is in effect for the current school year.

Each March every 10th grade student in the state takes the CAPT test. RHAM also conducts a practice CAPT test for the freshmen class in preparation for the follow year. Individual results are provided to the student and administration over the summer.

## East Hampton Board of Finance Candidates Talk Issues

by Michael McCoy

While the race for the Town Council is a three-party affair, the Board of Finance race is a different story.

The Democrats and Republicans each have 3 Board of Finance (BOF) candidates running. The BOF is a seven-member board, but only three of the seats are up for election this year.

On the Republican ticket is Judy Isele, Sal Nucifora and Eric Peterson, while the Democrats are running Barbara Moore, Dan Olson and George Pfaffenbach.

Isele, 40, and her husband Tom have two children. She has lived in town since 2000, and works as a Certified Public Accountant for Alstom Power in Windsor.

Isele has been active with the National Association for Women in Construction, but she also said, "Anything associated with the lake I am very involved in."

Isele was a ZBA alternate from 2001 to 2003, when she began her time on the Board of Finance.

"When I first started, I was the only Republican attending meetings," said Isele, recalling her early days on the BOF. "I was new and I was excited. I was just asking questions, and I think those questions helped get the budget brought down more."

Expanding on her budget philosophy, she continued, "My position is always 'if we're having an increase, how is the taxpayer going to benefit?'"

As for immediate needs in town, Isele mentioned the water system, but also said the roads are "in horrible condition." She also said that services like the senior center, the library and parks and recreation are real virtues, she questioned the performance in other areas, singling out public works. "They do great with plowing snow," mentioned Isele, "but outside of that, we don't get much for our tax dollars."

Moore, 60, has lived in town for 39 years, has two children, and is married to her husband Raymond. For the past 25 years, she has operated Chatham Caterers in town.

Moore previously served on the Board of Finance from 1997 to 2005, and was chair for the last two of those. She said is especially proud of the Chatham Roundtables program that she and Karen Olson oversaw in 2004-05, in an effort to ascertain the financial priorities of the town. If elected, Moore said she plans to reboot the initiative.

"The thing that's most important to me is communication between the Board of Finance and the taxpayers," Moore said, and added, "What [the taxpayers] want and what they feel

is important."

Nucifora, 39, has lived in town since he was four, and is currently a mechanical engineer at Electric Boat in New London. He is also a member of the Chatham Historical Society.

"I've been active in politics for the last two years," said Nucifora, who ran for state senate last year.

When asked about what issues are most imminent, he responded, "Well, the water system obviously," and added, "I would personally like to see the budget for the general government and the education budget voted on separately as opposed to lumping them together." He said such a measure would give the town more voice on the matter.

"We need to keep the property taxes as low as possible," Nucifora added, and said he hopes to provide tax relief to seniors age 70 and over. Finally, Nucifora mentioned his belief that referendum should be a more common occurrence, and more high-ticket items should be included.

Olson, 33, and his wife Juliyanti have lived in town for two years. He has two children and works as a financial advisor, with a focus in green investing.

Olson has volunteered in his children's schools ever since they were in preschool. More specifically, Olson teaches kids responsible strategies for managing their money. He works with the Community Renewal Team, helping with financial planning. The outfit is a local anti-poverty organization.

Olson believes in "handling the budget in regard to the dilemma of taxation ... Are we spending [money] on things that are not beneficial? We need to analyze it from a holistic perspective. Is it making East Hampton a better place to live?"

He also suggested, "Maybe we could come to a best practices conclusion by looking at other towns."

Pfaffenbach, 65, and his wife Karen have two grown children. The couple has lived in town for 30 years. Pfaffenbach works as a real estate agent for Prudential Realty, and previously served on the BOF from 2001-05. He said he is proud of contributing to a budget that passed on the first go around in 2001.

Though he's not running for the Town Council, Pfaffenbach still had thoughts about that body. "We definitely need to get our water system on track," he said. "I think the current council has kind of dragged their feet."

Peterson is running for Board of Finance as well but was unavailable for comment.

## Baldi to Lay Off Three in Colchester

by Jim Salemi

Local gravel pit operator Richard Baldi came to the Zoning and Planning Commission meeting Wednesday, expecting to hear its decision on whether or not he will be granted a variance relating to his recycling operation at his gravel pit off Miller Road.

But the commission ran out of time, ending the meeting after nearly four hours of hearings on the busy agenda, due to lengthy public hearings preceding the decision phase of the meeting.

Baldi, who applied for the variance 19 months ago, said he can't wait another three weeks until the next scheduled meeting and has no choice to lay off three of his employees, which is half of his force for the recycling portion of his business.

"There's going to be layoffs," he said. "I have done everything the town wanted me to and beyond. ... I'm losing money hand over fist."

Beside the fact the recycling aspect of his operation is effectively shut down pending the commission's decision, Baldi has had to hire throughout the approval process numerous environmental experts such as soil scientists, surveyors, hydrologists and other land and water scientists, attorneys and engineers.

"I just can't keep going on like this," he said. "It's also really affecting the morale of the guys."

Baldi recycles non-hazardous materials such as concrete, stone, bricks and old asphalt on his 12-acre lot. The material is crushed to the

size of gravel and is used under roadways, foundations, driveways and even boat ramps.

Baldi said he wouldn't mind waiting for a decision if he were allowed to work during the application process. But he cannot operate his crusher, which is in a fixed position closer to an adjoining property line than the 1,000-foot buffer, as required by town regulations. Baldi is applying for a variance that would allow him to keep the piece of equipment where it has been for the 18 years he's been operating the crusher, approximately 680 feet from the line.

Baldi said that 1,000-foot requirement had always been in place, and approached former town enforcement officers about the regulation.

"They said it was okay [where it was]," he said.

Likewise, he said, he approached the land use office about renewing a required permit to operate a gravel pit, and that was also waived.

The Zoning and Planning Commission acknowledged that was the case during hearings on a previous application that would allow earth materials recycling in residential zones.

Some neighbors of the operation complained to land use officials about the technical violation, prompting the town enforcement officer to serve Baldi with a cease- and-desist order.

Neither Town Planner Adam Turner nor Zoning Enforcement Officer Gary Goeschel II were in the field and could immediately be reached for comment Thursday morning.

# Candidates Offer Their Takes on the Issues

by Sarah McCoy

The Republican and Democratic candidates for the Board of Selectmen agree on the issues facing Marlborough in the next four years. With the bids on the sewer project due at the end of the month and land acquisition complete for the proposed business park, these next four years look to be full of activity and excitement.

"It's easy to see that this is a busy time for Marlborough," First Selectman Bill Black said. "We have come a long way in the last 14 months and I'm asking for another four years to continue to help the town progress."

Black, the incumbent, is seeking his first full-term election to the town's chief post. He faces Republican candidate Ken Hjulstrom. Residents elected him last July after Nancy



**Bill Black**

Bader's resignation in November 2005, and then an appointment of Dennis Hawrylko, led to a petition by residents for the special election.

To support his candidacy, Black points to his track record as First Selectman. Since taking office, Black has worked to expand the land search area for the business park, eventually negotiating the purchase of four additional properties, giving the town 76 acres to work with for the hopeful economic development. Black has also gotten the sewer project out to bid, and hopes to break ground early next year.

Despite all this, the tax increase for 2007-08 was relatively low, only two percent.

"Until we have a functioning business park, the tax burden of the town will fall on residents," he explained. "It's no secret that we have to curb our spending while getting the most out of the dollars that are spent."

A townwide survey, completed in 2004, indicated roadway repair was residents' number two concern (taxes being number one). In his 14 months on the job, Black has orchestrated and overseen completion of six and a half miles

of rebuilding and repaving; this represents 10 percent of the town's total roadways.

Perhaps what Black is most proud of is the commitment the town has made in the last year to becoming a greener place. He has worked to reclassify the Blackledge Riverway with a greenway designation, thereby making the property eligible for grant money to protect the land and develop a series of trails.

Also, this winter will be the first in which the town will rely almost entirely on an ice melt product in lieu of sanding the roads. This will prevent the silting and sand build-up that has plagued the town in the past.

The final green piece is a shift towards organic turf management for the athletic fields across town. Under the direction of agronomist Dr. William Dest, Black has developed a long-term plan to stabilize the land at Farley, Blackledge, and West Road.

Black's occupational background includes work as a technician, manager, and emergency preparedness director for what is now AT&T. He feels many of the same skills he employed there transfer to his new role as First Selectman.

"Most of my projects lasted between 18-24 months," he said. "You see your assignment through before moving on to the next area needing revitalization. Managing projects, which includes time and money, is one of those skills that I used [at AT&T] and continue to use."

In some ways, this year's election is the election that could have happened four years ago, but never did. In 2003, Black sought the Demo-

crats' support for the First Selectman post. Instead the party opted for Jim Angelo, who later lost to Bader in a landslide. Concurrently, Hjulstrom sought the Republican ticket, only to be passed over for Bader.

Hjulstrom, a 21-year resident of Marlborough, is seeking election to his second town board. He served on the Marlborough Board of Education from 1998-2003. He brings that experience, plus 27 years of electrical engineering and project management, to the table.



**Ken Hjulstrom**

"We're going to need someone in office who can take a stand and make the hard decision," he said. "It may not be a popular one but things need to get accomplished in this town and I hope to be the one to lead Marlborough."

Like Black, Hjulstrom sees the sewers and business park as the primary focus for Marlborough in the coming years. "The sewers have been a long time coming and even if the current phase comes in under budget, it is still a fraction of the original scope," he said. "We need someone to get the ball rolling."

Hjulstrom added that he is "disappointed" in the town for opting not to continue the sewer line to the proposed business park, an area he sees as key to Marlborough's future. "There is no way to reduce residents' taxes without the business park," he said. "I'm concerned about the ability to develop without that sewer line."

Hjulstrom isn't afraid of jumping into a new position with large projects on the horizon. In the six years he served on the Board of Education, Hjulstrom helped see the town through the school renovation project under budget. That project helped him to see the importance of maintenance for the town.

"When you don't have a consistent approach to maintaining what you have, you pay a much higher bill at the end," he said. "If elected one of my primary focuses would be to ensure that all town property is cared for."

Running for First Selectman isn't something that just popped into Hjulstrom's head one day; it's a decision he's mulled over for years. In 2003, after failing to garner his party's support for the First Selectman post, he ran for the Board of Finance, where he lost by four votes. Since then, he's served the town in other capacities. Hjulstrom is now on the Board of Directors at the Florence Lord Senior Housing Center, serves as secretary for the Marlborough Lions Club, and chairs the Republican Town Committee.

Hjulstrom – who said he plans on keeping all of those posts if he's elected – said being First Selectman, for Hjulstrom, "would be a dream come true."

The highest vote-getter between Black and Hjulstrom will be elected as the town's First Selectman. But the loser isn't necessarily out. The next two highest vote-getters, of all the selectmen candidates, will earn slots on the Board of Selectmen.

Also running for the Board of Selectmen are Joe La Bella and Riva Clark.

La Bella, a Democrat, was appointed to the board last July, filling Black's post when he moved to the First Selectman role. It's a position, La Bella will admit, that he hadn't planned for.

"Bill and I have a common vision for the town so, with the support of my family and work, I agreed to do it for 14 months," La Bella said. "But now that we've gotten a good start, I'd like to see these projects through."

With his family's support again, La Bella is running for his first full term on the Board of



**Joe La Bella**

Selectmen, and said he's determined to keep up the progress.

"There has been good work done on the sewers, business park, and trails," he said. "The attitude in Town Hall has changed. There is a lot to be proud of and build upon in the next four years."

In addition to economic development and sewers, La Bella said he sees the installation of a trail network in town as a priority for Marlborough. "It's a way to encourage recreation and community togetherness in a project that will advance the character of the town," he said.

La Bella moved to Marlborough from Rocky Hill in 1995. He then married and started a family, twins Michael and James. In 1996, he was appointed to the Board of Finance in 1996, serving until 2001. After a two-year hiatus, La Bella was reelected in 2003 and stepped down last year to become a selectman.

The Republican-endorsed Clark grew up in Marlborough, left for college in 1980, and returned in 1997.

"I walked into, what's now, my house on the lake and it immediately felt like home," she said of her return to town.

Soon after coming back to Marlborough, Clark began her civic service. She spearheaded the town's birthday celebrations as Bicentennial Chairman from 2001-03. Then, in 2004, Clark began working as a board clerk. "This is where I truly fell in love with government," she recalled. "It was always something that I had been interested in but I didn't want to deal with the not-so-pretty part of politics. Now I see the value of the selectman role and can handle the ups and downs."

As a sewer district resident, Clark said she is most interested in the upcoming sewer construction. Apart from that she sees charter reform and a renewed effort to filling board and commission vacancies as priorities for the town. "We need to update the document that guides the town," Clark said frankly. "As someone who has experience working on a project like this, I feel my skill set fits well with the town's needs."

Clark works in the credit and collections office for BKM Total Office. "I've made the tough calls," she said. "They've toughened me up. Now I'm ready to give back during a busy time."

The municipal election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 6, with voting taking place at Elmer Thienes-Mary Hall Elementary School, 25 School Rd., from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.



**Riva Clark**

# East Hampton Town Council Race is a Three-Party Battle

by Michael McCoy

In 2005, five members of the upstart Chatham Party shocked naysayers and won election to the Town Council by a landslide.

The two years that have followed have proven divisive, not just on the seven-member Town Council (in addition to the five Chatham members, there are two Republicans on the council), but for the town as a whole. The latest issue, that everyone seems to be talking about, is the town's proposed water system, which heads to a vote on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

And it's also on Nov. 6 that, once again, all three parties will vie for control of the Town Council.

Running on the Chatham ticket are Patience Anderson, Sue Weintraub, Scott Minnick, Kyle Dostaler and Alison Walck (Dostaler, Minnick and Walck are incumbent members of the council). For the Democrats, Terry Concannon, Christopher Goff, Alan Hurst, John Tuttle and Matthew Walton are seeking seats. On the Republican ticket, Thomas Cordeiro, Bill Devine, Melissa Engel and Ted Hintz Jr. (Divine and Engel are seeking reelection).

Anderson, 47, and her husband Rodger have lived in town since 2005. She is an office manager for Warner Specialty Products of Chester. She is chairman of the school board for St. Stanislaus School in Meriden, and, since February, has served on the East Hampton Economic Development Commission (EDC).

"I think that what I am proudest of," Anderson said, "is that I work with a team of wonderful people. I approach my task as though I'm a member of a team. The EDC has probably been the single most wonderful experience in my years of community service."

Though Anderson singled out education and economic growth, she said, "I think every issue that is an issue for a residence is an issue for the town to deal with."

Concannon has lived in East Hampton for the past two years with her husband, former Marlborough First Selectman Howard Dean. However, Concannon has been involved with St. Patrick's Church for the past eight years. They have seven children.

Currently, Concannon lobbies for elderly home care and hospice with Rome Smith and Associates of Hartford. However, she served as State Representative from 1993-99. Then, from 2000-05, she was director of the Downtown Business District in Middletown.

In 1994, Concannon was instrumental in establishing the .02% alcohol limit for those under the age of 21. Concannon also helped make hemodialysis more accessible to those with kidney issues. She has also helped secure seed money for the ice jam pillars in Salmon River.

Also, Concannon chaired the Connecticut Nuclear Energy Council in 1996 and helped secure money for the 1998 reconstruction of the Goff House.

"I'd like to see better communication with the taxpayers ... and I don't want any foolish expenditures," Concannon said.

"I'm very interested in long-range capital planning and meeting all the needs of the town in one five-year plan," she added. "I'm also looking at tax relief for the elderly."

"Overall, we've got to encourage smart growth in the appropriate places," she continued. "Right now the homeowners are paying 94-97 percent of the tax balance."

Cordeiro, 39, has lived in East Hampton since he was in second grade. and he is currently a marketing manager at Stanley Works. He and his wife Kim have three children.

Cordeiro has volunteered with the Podium Players. From 2000 to 2001, he served on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Then, in 2001, he was elected to the Town Council, and served until 2005.

"I was closely involved on the Town Council with the Plan of Research and Development Survey in 2003," Cordeiro said, adding that this survey addressed open space and economic development concerns.

Cordeiro was also part of the council that saw through a \$450,000 Brownsfields Grant for the

Village Center. "That was something that was really close to me," Cordeiro said.

Cordeiro declined running in 2005. "I thought I left [the Town Council] in good hands," he said, "and I think we're at a crossroads now."

Recognizing the importance of the water issue, Cordeiro said of the current proposal, "I think it's ripe to possibly fail. This council seems to care just about a small amount of people. ... I think water should be serving a larger part of the community."

He also spoke out on economic development, saying, "I am not a proponent of big-box retail, but I think we need to find a way. I don't have an answer for it. We are on a path that will tax people out of their own homes."

Devine, 63, has lived in town the past 30 years, and owns and operates Devine Jewelers in town. He lives with his wife Ann and has one daughter.

Devine served on the Board of Finance from 1981-87. From 1987-91, he was chair of the Town Council, though it was officially the Board of Selectmen until 1990. Then, in 1991, Devine began a four-year stint as liquor commissioner for the state of Connecticut. In 2005, he returned to the Town Council, where he currently serves.

"We worked well with the Town Manager and the heads of the departments," said Devine of his time on the council. He recalled with fondness a period between 1988 and 1991, which included the building of the high school and Memorial School, as well as improvements to Center School.

"The most important thing," Devine said, "is lowering the tax base for the homeowners and bringing the water system for the entire town, not just for some."

Dostaler, 41, is married to EDC Chairman Mary Ann Dostaler. They have lived in town since 1998. Dostaler runs MAD Communications in town, which specializes in Internet services and web development.

Dostaler has also volunteered his professional services to nonprofit organizations like Thomas Ecumenical Group, Everybody Wins Connecticut, and professional choral ensemble Concorra. He is also a member of the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce.

Having served on the Town Council for the past two years, Dostaler said, "I think one of the things we've been able to accomplish is the formation of some of the commissions we've created." These include the Lake Commission, the Ethics Commission, and the Redevelopment Agency. Speaking to the latter, Dostaler said, "The village center: That's a gem that needs to be polished."

What distinguishes the Chatham Party members from others, Dostaler said, is that "we treat people with respect; we as a party are willing to embrace our challenges head on. ... The Democrat and Republican Town Council was based on a policy of avoidance."

Dostaler says the council's biggest charge should be "to provide a vision for the town for where it wants to be in 5 years, in 15 years, in 20 years." He mentioned that town roads, the public library, and the senior center all needed improvements.

"The Chatham Party knows how to get things done," he asserted. "The only real predictor of future success is past performance."

Engel, 51, has lived in town for 32 years and has a husband named Robert. For the past decade, she has owned and operated Markham Meadows in town. She previously worked as a senior accountant for Hartford Insurance Group.

Engel has been a member of the Republican Town Committee since she was 18, and is a charter member of the Old Home Days Association. In the late 1980s, she served on the Midstate Regional Planning Agency. She has been on the Town Council since 1999.

"During the first two years [that I was on the Town Council] we reorganized the Lake Commission and actually got something done," said Engel. "We hired lymnologist Ken Wagner."

She said she is also proud of forming the facilities sub-committee.

Engel said the biggest immediate issue is "adopting a water system of the appropriate size and price."

"The second thing that needs to happen," Engel said, "in conjunction with the Plan of Conservation and Development (PoCD), is a bi-partisan and multi-board task force." Engel said that this collective would create a comprehensive plan as to what areas of town should be focused on for economic growth. "It all comes under the banner of embracing change, not resisting it."

Goff, 35, is a third-generation East Hampton native who has lived his whole life in town. He has three children and works for the Department of Children and Families.

In 2004, he worked on Habitat for Humanity's first East Hampton project. Then, in December of 2005, he volunteered to travel to New Orleans with the Red Cross to aid in the Hurricane Katrina effort. Goff has worked with the Red Cross for a decade.

After serving on the Board of Education from 1998-2001, Goff was elected to the Town Council in 2001, serving as vice chair. He was re-elected in 2003 and served as chair until 2005.

Goff said he sees the water system, maintaining Lake Pocotopaug, and economic development as priorities for the coming years. He also wants to explore the prospect of doing a full charter revision, a task that has not been carried out since 1987. "It's a big and lengthy process," he said.

Goff added that "one of the biggest challenges will be if the current council doesn't hire a new Town Manager."

Also, Goff said, "I think something I'd like to continue is looking into regionalizing certain services...because the [Chatham] Health District has worked out great." He also suggested roadwork, fire equipment, and animal control could succeed in a similar way.

Hintz Jr., 37, has lived in town all of his life. He and his wife Shannon are currently expecting twins. He is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Financial Planner. He and his sister run Hintz and Co. LLC, while he alone operates Hintz Financial Services. Both businesses are stationed in Portland.

Hintz has served as chairman of the Board of Finance since 2005. "I've tried through the Board of Finance to work across party lines to get a budget passed on the first time," Hintz said of a feat that was accomplished earlier in the year.

He pointed to the water system as a priority and added, "We have a lot of issues that are facing the town right now." He made special mention of the high school and town hall as buildings that will need to be addressed in the near future. "We need short and long-range planning. We need to be taking some steps to get where we need to be."

Minnick, 39, and his wife Lynn have two children. Minnick has lived in East Hampton all of his life. He currently teaches French at Smith Middle School in Glastonbury.

Minnick has served on the Town Council for the past two years, and said, "It's time-consuming and stressful, but fulfilling 'cause we're doing good things for the town."

Also, Minnick said, he looks forward to continuing to work on the water system, as well as the revitalization of the Village Center. "It takes time for things to happen," he said.

He also said "we're also looking forward to working with a new Town Manager."

Minnick stressed, "I haven't forgotten the reasons why we ran two years ago. They're the same as the reason why we won: People were frustrated with the previous councils not doing anything."

Tuttle, 46, moved to town in 1988. He and his wife Mitzi have two children. Tuttle, who is a Vice President of Sales for Nathan's, has served on the East Hampton Little League Board and the East Hampton Athletic Hall of Fame Board. For the past four years, he has served on the Board of Education (BOE).

"The biggest issue we face as a municipality is rising cost," Tuttle said. He also said that the BOE did what it could to combat this. "The cost of special education was out of control," he said, adding that, to this end, the BOE placed three full-time psychologists in the schools.

If elected, Tuttle said, his first priority would be encouraging economic development, while controlling cost would be his second. The third one, he said, is to investigate cost sharing. Finally, he said, he hopes to lower the tax burden for residents.

Tuttle also expressed distaste over blight, pointing to the recently-charred building at Route 66 and Old Marlborough Road as well as the "Mister Di's building" at the corner of High and Main streets. Tuttle said the latter has been vacant for seven or eight years. "It's owned by a fellow Democrat," Tuttle said. "I don't care if it's owned by Mickey Mouse."

Walck lives with her husband Robert. She has two children and has resided in town since 1995. Prior to that year, she lived in Branford, where she served on the Planning and Zoning Commission from 1993-95. From 1995-98, she sat on the East Hampton Inland/Wetland Commission.

Walck, a retired commercial pilot, now works at Tinkling Teacups in town. She also trains horses. She said she is quite proud of her part in forming the Lake Commission and hopes to see the Village Center revitalization come to fruition.

Walton, 57, is a lifelong resident of East Hampton, where he lives with his wife Beverly. He has two children and is a supplier quality engineer with Pratt & Whitney. He is a past president of the Old Home Days Committee and is currently president of the Rotary Club. Since 2000, he has served on the Board of Fire Commissioners since 2000. He also served in the fire department for 25 years.

While mentioning the water system as a chief concern, Walton said, "East Hampton needs to encourage smart economic growth along with residential growth." He added, "We must encourage [developers] to help us with our parks and open space issues."

He expressed interest in regionalizing town services. He added, "We're also looking into more tax assistance programs for veterans, seniors, and emergency service workers. They deserve more."

Weintraub, 54, is married to Bud Liftig and has lived in town since 1988. She has run her graphic design business, Weintraub & Company, located in Middle Haddam, for 25 years.

Weintraub served on the Planning and Zoning Commission from 2005-06. She is currently a member of the Streetscape Steering Committee, as well as the Ad-Hoc Committee to Hire a New Town Manager.

While on the PZC, Weintraub remembers citizens being concerned as to why they could not readily know when public hearings took place and who the applicants were. "I researched state regulations and put together a fact sheet." She said she found the PZC was required to advertise such hearings in a newspaper of substantial, local circulation. "The citizens were angry," she said. "They wanted to know what was going on."

She also designed the most recent Plan of Conservation and Development. "I spent 80 hours over 10 days on it, so it would meet the deadline."

Looking ahead, she supposes, "I think the most important issue is the town council partnering with the new Town Manager to revitalize the village center."

"I think one of the most valuable resources we have in this town is our people. I think a town is only as good as its staff and volunteers," said Weintraub, concerning personnel.

She also voiced concern for responsible spending. "We've got to give our residents more services for their tax dollars," she said. "They expect it, and they really deserve it."

BOE Chairman Alan Hurst is also running on the Democratic ticket for Town Council but was unavailable for comment at press time.

# Portland Selectmen Candidates Champion Economic Development

by Michael McCoy

As was the case two years ago, First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield is running unopposed for reelection to the town's top seat. But the rest of the seats on the seven-member Board of Selectmen are up for grabs.

Republicans Scott Adamsons, John Anderson, Carl Chudzik and Mitch Kogut are running, while Mark Finkelstein, Brian Flood, Sharon Peters Gibala and Kathleen Richards are campaigning on the Democratic ticket. Adamsons, Anderson and all of the Democrats currently serve on the board.

Adamsons, 33, and his wife Jennifer moved to town four years ago and they have four children together. He currently works as Vice President at Insure Bank.

He has been a member of the U.S. Power Squadrons, a fraternal boating organization, since the 1980s. Until April, Adamsons was treasurer of the Republican Town Committee. In 2006, he began serving on the Economic Development Commission until August of that year, when he assumed a vacated seat on the Board of Selectmen.

"Every time I talk to someone," Adamsons said, "they say we're paying too much in taxes for what we get. People think they can spend the money better than we can, and I agree with them."

Adamsons is also a strong opponent of unfunded state mandates. "They make me do the dirty work and tax my neighbors," he said.

Adamsons is also concerned with the prospect of adult entertainment businesses in town. Adamsons said he'd been told there was an adult business in town about 20 years ago, and, he said, "I am told it took years to get rid of." He added, "This is one of those issues when the minority doesn't have to be the power horse." Pointing out billboards promoting such establishments, he noted, "It's offensive to me as a married man, and it's offensive to me as Christian."

"People really don't want 'em," Adamsons said of adult businesses. "I've had that message passed to me from both sides of the aisle."

As for his year with the Board of Selectmen, Adamsons said, "I'm really proud of keeping the citizenry informed," and has helped make strides in decreasing noise pollution from Harbor Park.

"I've been a big advocate of the solar arrays," says Adamsons, of the shields that will be installed on Valley View School. "Portland's going to save at least 18 percent per year on returns on its investments."

Anderson, 49, is married with two children. He has lived in Portland his entire life and works at Anderson Farm Supply, a business started by grandfather, John V. Anderson.

Anderson served as a constable from 1979-84, before the town had its own police force.

He has served on the Board of Selectmen since 2003.

Referring to his minority party status, Anderson said, "I've always been on the opposing side; I haven't been able to do anything." However, Anderson said he's proud of his contributions to the recent ordinance providing for senior citizen tax relief.

When pressed for the town's primary issues, he responded, "Taxes," and added, "It's always been my pet peeve to try to get them under control."

Chudzik, 54, has lived in Portland since 1986. He and his wife Jo Ann have one daughter. Chudzik is owner and broker of Chudzik Realty, which has operated out of Rocky Hill since 1988.

Since 2005, he has been a member of the Conservation Commission and recently took part in the Republican Town Committee's effort to restore the American Legion on Freestone Avenue. "Volunteering is becoming more and more a part of my life," Chudzik said.

"I think taxes is number one," Chudzik said, when asked what Portland needs to worry about most. "It's just getting tight with the cost of energy, trickling down to food and the cost of living. ... We need to get a bigger bite for our buck."

Chudzik also highlighted the environment as a priority for him. "Portland's got a real diverse ecosystem," said Chudzik. "I'd like to keep it the way I found it for my daughter and hopefully for my daughter's children."

He also noted that while economic development is essential, he wanted to see that it "doesn't compromise the spirit of the environment or the character of the town."

Finkelstein, 60, is a lifelong Portland resident. He and his wife Donna have 3 grown children. He is currently Vice President of Hughes Health and Rehabilitation, Inc in West Hartford.

Finkelstein served on the Board of Finance (BOF) in the 1970s until the charter merged the finance and selectmen's boards. Since 2002, he has served on the Board of Selectmen, where he is currently Deputy First Selectman.

Finkelstein said he "provided the impetus" for the recent senior citizen tax relief ordinance and played a role in seeing through the parking ordinance. "I saw history being made this week with a couple of cars being towed off of Main Street," he said.

Finkelstein said he is also pleased with the professional way the current board members have worked together, in spite of party affiliation. "Even when we disagree we show respect for each other," he said.

"I'm most proud to be part of Susan Bransfield's team," Finkelstein continued. "I

look forward to assisting her in any way I can."

He continued, "Taxation is the biggest issue that I see. We need to find a way to ease the burden on the taxpayer."

Flood, 40, has lived virtually his whole life in Portland. Flood is an attorney at Moore, O'Brien, Jacques, & Yelenak in Cheshire, and will get married on May 24. He has been a selectman since 2005.

When asked about his priorities, Flood said, "Well, managing the budget is really the gist of the whole thing. I think the town has made strides toward increasing the tax base. He also pointed to the improvement of town roads and the improvement to the town water system as major issues. "We really need to put money aside for this, or the number goes up exponentially."

Gibala, 44, and her husband Mark have two kids. She has lived in town for 30 years and currently has her own law practice in town, where she specializes in child protection work.

Gibala began serving on the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) in 2001. Her term ended in 2003 and she assumed a spot on the Economic Development Commission, where she served as chairman until 2005. That year, she was elected to the Board of Selectmen.

"I'm proud of the work we've done in the economic development field," she said. "The fruits of our work are just coming to light now."

She also said she's "proud that we have a new Plan of Conservation and Development." As for priorities, she mentioned the Elmcrest project and upcoming changes to the zoning regulations to the list of priorities. "I think this is all important growth that the town needed to go through."

Kogut, 59, has lived in town for five years with his wife Lori. He has two children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Kogut is now semi-retired, but he previously sold software to schools around the northeastern U.S. with Education Resources.

Before moving to Portland, Kogut lived in Burlington for 20 years. There he served on the Zoning Board of Appeals from 1991 to 2000 and on the Board of Education from 1994 to 2000.

Now Kogut is a deacon at the First Congregational Church where he is also the chairman of the trustees. He served on the Board of Directors at Gilead Community Services for five years and also served on the Board of Directors for the Portland Visiting Nurses Association. When asked what the biggest concern for Portland's near future, Kogut responded, "Probably what's going to happen to the 13 acres at the Elmcrest property."

On Friday night at the Portland Agricultural Fair, Kogut said, "I'd like to see our town somehow connect to the river. Here we are having

this fair, and we're not doing anything with the river right behind it."

Richards, 55, has been a resident of Portland since she was 14. She and her husband Bill manage the Connecticut division of Henkels & McCoy, located in Portland. They have two daughters.

Richards began a two-year stint on the Board of Education in 2001. Then, in 2003, she assumed her current spot on the Board of Selectmen. "We're working really hard to encourage economic development in the town," Richards said. "We've been working on that Elmcrest Property to make that work, and I think it will."

Richards said he hopes to attract businesses to town, while nurturing the old ones. "Some have been here for five years, but some have been here for 30 years," he said. She also voiced concern over some of the town roads and the water system. "Some of those pipes are close to 100 years old," said Richards.

As for Bransfield, she's getting ready for her third term in office. A Democrat, 52, has lived in town since 1982. She and her husband Tom have 3 children. "All Portland High School graduates, I'm proud to say," she said.

Bransfield served on the Board of Education from 1991-95. From 1995-2001, she served on the Board of Selectmen. Though she failed in her 2001 bid for First Selectman, she succeeded in 2003 and has held the position ever since. She is also on the Board of Directors for the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, as well as the Council of Small Towns. In 2005-06, she served with about 10 other people on the Governor's Task Force for Education Funding.

Bransfield said she is especially proud of last year's adoption of the Plan of Conservation and Development and is looking forward to the town adopting a new set of zoning regulations. "I have to thank the PZC and the town planner for doing the work," she said.

The First Selectwoman said cutting costs is important, and said, "I think we've been fiscally responsible. There's a limited amount of money and we have to be careful how we spend it."

She noted that in 2002 and 2003, the Board of Selectmen had to set the budget, as is the case in Portland if it fails twice. However, the budget has been voted in by the people in each year since she has been First Selectman.

Still, she added, "For me to say I take credit for things is a lie. ... Something Portland's never had a shortage of is willing and able volunteers and employees."

As for the future, Bransfield mentioned, "We really need to take a look at our water and sewer, and our town-owned roads."

# Portland CRC Member Asks for Chair's Resignation

by Michael McCoy

The Charter Revision Commission (CRC) held a public hearing Tuesday night at the senior center. But the true fireworks came at the commission's meeting following the hearing, as one of its members called for the resignation of the CRC's chair.

The hearing was on the commission's proposed changes to the town charter. Former First Selectwoman Terry Larson was the only member of the public who spoke, offering opposition on several points in the proposed revisions, including the splitting of the general government and education budgets, allowing unlimited referenda on the budget, and the forbidding of the Board of Selectmen performing fund transfers between departments.

But controversy then erupted between CRC members. Tempers began to flare during a five to 10-minute discussion on whether to read a brief e-mail sent by the commission's attorney, Steve Mednick, into the public record. CRC member Joseph Amend objected to the issue just as the commission's chairman, Richard "Pinky" Murphy, was poised to reading.

Gouin agreed with Amend, saying "As far as I'm concerned, it's a correspondence between our town attorney and ourselves."

Amend said, "I'm shocked to even know there is an issue with this," and added, "I don't think it serves any purpose at all. This is kind of like a cat trying to bury stuff in a tile floor." Amend also said that while the document would be fit for public consumption, "Public documents are not exactly public," explaining that under FOI, desired information has to be sought out, instead of just passed around.

CRC member Susan Malecky said, "I think it's much ado about nothing, but if other people have strong feelings, so be it."

Murphy explained his motives, saying, "Every single thing that we do is in the public purview. I don't see why it's a big deal to read a correspondence letter whereby our attorney has tried to facilitate information to us."

But Amend made a motion to deny reading of the e-mail. It passed 4-2.

Following the public hearing, Amend added an item to the agenda titled "7B- for the good of the body." And when the commission came to that part of the agenda, Amend spoke, calling for Murphy's resignation, on the heels of an incident at last week's Board of Selectmen's meeting.

When that item's time arrived, Amend called for Murphy's resignation from the commission, which came on the heels of a scene made at last week's Board of Selectmen meeting.

Amend opened by saying, "Generally, I've been disappointed with the way this commission has been conducted. Lately it's reached a pinnacle."

One reason for Amend's grievance concerned a cover letter of a document that Murphy sent to the commission, which said the CRC had been working on revisions to the charter for only a year. "As one of those who have been working for two years, I find that extremely insulting," Amend said. (In August 2006, the Board of Selectmen rejected the commission's proposed changes to the charter; this led to the immediate dissolution of the CRC. However, the commission soon relaunched, in October 2006, and had the same members as before, with Sharon Scaramella taking the place of Steve Kinsella.)

Amend then alluded to a spreadsheet that the commission had prepared. He said the commission had agreed not to hand out the document, since, he said, it was a sort of bridge between two other documents and would be confusing to the public if viewed by itself. "Murphy," Amend said, "ignored the committee members and passed it out anyway."

Indeed, Murphy did distribute the document to the Board of Selectmen at its Oct. 10 meeting. Amend and fellow commission member Carl Fitzgibbons were at that meeting, and Murphy's action prompted Fitzgibbons to mut-

ter "Bullshit." Amend then asked Murphy, "Who said you could hand this out?" When Murphy responded, "I did," Amend said, "We'll expect your resignation next Tuesday."

Amend also claimed other negligence on Murphy's part, including, "He was very lax in scheduling meetings." He also said that Gouin had asked what the status was of the funds for Attorney Mednik. (The commission was given a budget of \$7,500 when they reformed last October; this money was for, among other things, the services of Mednick.) According to Amend, there was no response from Murphy, and then Mednik suddenly became unavailable to the commission.

Murphy said that Mednick, who specializes in municipal law, had been brought on board at the beginning of the process, but the CRC budget simply ran out the past August. Murphy has asked the Board of Selectmen for further funding, but it has so far been denied.

Malecky gave her thoughts on the whole matter, saying, "We've been working together for a long time." She said some of Amend's points were valid, but added that it would not be beneficial for the commission to remove Murphy and this stage.

Gouin also agreed that many of Amend's points were valid, and said, "If there are two styles that are diametrically opposed, it's mine and Pinky's." But, he added, "Joe, you and I agree most of the time, but I don't agree that Pinky should resign this late in the game."

Also, Gouin added, "We've fought through this in a bipartisan way pretty damn well."

Scaramella told Amend that much of the correspondence that Amend spoke came in the form of casual e-mails, and said, "They were not mandates."

Dorothy DiPiro, another commission member admitted, "There have been times when I have felt that the leadership was weak. There were times when I thought about resigning, but I made a commitment to this town."

But, like Gouin, DiPiro said, "I don't feel that this late in the game Pinky should resign."

Murphy identified the spreadsheet that Amend brought up as "the most egregious" allegation he made. "As soon as the initial draft hits the Town Clerk's office, that is public information." He added that though some may have found the document unclear, "I don't see that it was confusing, and, as chair, I decided to pass it out."

Murphy also criticized Amend for his public outburst at last week's Board of Selectmen's meeting. "You entered into a dialogue with me in front of the camera," he said. "Do you think that that's a positive reflection of this commission? Was that appropriate?"

Amend responded, "Of course it was appropriate, or I wouldn't have done it."

In the end no formal motion was even made to request Murphy's resignation and, before calling for adjournment, Murphy asked, "Is there any other business, since, apparently, I've kept my job?"

Upon leaving the meeting, Larson seemed to address the comments by Amend and Gouin, both Republicans. "I've listened to the meeting tonight, and I am seriously thinking of changing my party affiliation," she said.

First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield attended the meeting along with other members of the Board of Selectmen and said, "We agree with Mrs. Larson."

Murphy hoped the CRC would formally present their finished document to the Board of Selectmen quite soon. That step, along with a hearing by the Board of Selectmen, deliberation on that board's feedback, and the submission of a final draft of the changes must all occur before the end of January. The Board of Selectmen then would have 15 days to accept or deny the draft in part or in whole. It must then go to a town vote within 15 months from that point.

## Obituaries

### Hebron

#### Paulette Serra

Paulette Serra, 60, of Amston, passed away Friday, Oct. 12, after an extended illness. Born May 1, 1947, in Middletown, she was the eldest daughter of Paul Francis and Helen (Spada) Serra, Sr. of Amston. She loved to knit, crochet, bake and enjoyed music, especially listening to her brother's bands. Her greatest joy, however, was found in her family, to whom she was ever devoted.

In addition to her loving parents, she is survived by two children, Renee and husband Michael Collins of Lebanon and Edward Boisvert, III of Windham; three grandchildren, Brooke and Michael Collins, Jr. and Mikayla Boisvert; two sisters, Jean and husband John Zacchio of Thomaston and Lynn Serra Ristau of Manchester; three brothers, Paul, Jr. of Plainfield, James of Lebanon and Joseph of Amston; and numerous extended family members and friends.

She was predeceased by her brother, Frank. A Memorial Service will be held 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 297 Westchester Road (Rte. 149), Colchester. Burial will be private in the New Hebron Cemetery. Care of arrangements has been entrusted to the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester.

### Portland

#### Bernice Sogan

Bernice (Mrozowski) Sogan, 99, of Portland, wife of the late Raymond Sogan, died Sunday, Oct. 14, at Middlesex Hospital. She was born Jan. 2, 1908, in Wilmington, DE, the daughter of the late Konstatine and Nellie (Bienik) Mrozowski. Until her retirement, she was employed by Artistic Wire Co. in East Hampton. She enjoyed reading, baking, sewing, crocheting and, most of all, entering contests. Over the years she won innumerable prizes, including furniture, appliances and even an automobile. Her home was a family gathering spot every Sunday morning.

She is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, Irene and Vincent Tomassetti of Meriden, and Shirley and Harry Egan of Portland; two sons and daughters-in-law, Robert and Carol Sogan of Portland, and Donald and Joan Sogan of West Hartford; four grandchildren, Kara Rice of Cromwell, Scott Egan of Portland, Brett Sogan of Cheshire, and Kelly Warner of Portland; two great-grandchildren, Kevin and Connor Egan; a sister-in-law, Jenny Mrozowski of Middletown; a brother-in-law, Walter Yasny of East Berlin; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by four brothers, Walter, Edward and John Mrozowski, and William Morrow; and three sisters, Stella Mrozowski, Helen Bankowski, and Alice Yasny.

Bernice's family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Middlesex Hospital for their excellent care and compassion, and to the Connecticut Visiting Nurses Association. Funeral services are private and burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Portland. Gifts in her memory may be made to St. Mary's Church, 51 Freestone Ave., Portland, CT 06480. Biega Funeral Home has care of the arrangements.

### Colchester

#### Frances Victoria Bansavich

Frances Victoria Bansavich, 88, formerly of Glastonbury, passed away Sunday morning, Oct. 14, at the Liberty Specialty Care Center in Colchester. Born Dec. 4, 1918, she was a daughter of the late Albert and Lea (Payette) Turpin. Frances went to school in Vermont and relocated to Hartford during WWII. She married Leonard Edward Bansavich in 1943. Together they shared 29 years of marriage before he predeceased her in 1973. She was a homemaker but will be remembered most for her devotion to her family.

Survivors include her five children and their spouses, Lea Trester and husband, Wayne of Ocean Township, NJ, Stephen Bansavich of Hebron, Marylyn and husband, Mark Nolan of Avon, Madelyn and husband, Norman Legault of Colchester and Leonard Bansavich II and wife, Lori of Amston; a sister, Sandra Douville of Panton, VT; eight grandchildren, Sara Poldmae, Eric Reich, Shane Nolan, Bre Collier, Megan Legault, Lori Lynn French, Len Bansavich III and Victoria Ann Bansavich; five great grandchildren; and numerous extended family members and friends.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was predeceased by 10 siblings.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, Oct. 22, at 11 a.m. at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. A calling hour will be held one hour prior to the service. Burial will follow in Jones Hollow Cemetery, Marlborough.

The family would like to acknowledge their appreciation for the care and compassion the staff at Liberty Specialty Care extended to Frances. For those who wish, the family requests that donations in her memory be made Liberty Specialty Care Recreation Department, 36 Broadway, Colchester, 06415.

### Marlborough

#### Margaret Carabine

Margaret (Seaman) Carabine, 89, of Marlborough, widow of Russell G. Carabine, died peacefully at Marlborough Health Care on Monday, Oct. 15. Born July 28, 1918, in Queens, NY, she was the daughter of the late Edward and Ella (Smith) Seaman. Margaret had lived in East Hampton for 10 years before moving to Marlborough in 2004.

She is survived by her son and his wife, Gregory and Bonnie Carabine of Norwich; her daughter and her husband, Sharon and Steven Reiner of Marlborough; two sisters and their husbands, Virginia and Peter Megani of New Hampshire and Florence and Tom Mooney of New York; a sister-in-law, Helen Seaman of New York; three grandchildren, David Carabine and his wife Rohin of Voluntown, Catherine Carabine of Florida, and Ben Reiner of Marlborough.

A Funeral Liturgy was celebrated Wednesday, Oct. 17, at St. John Fisher Church, Marlborough. Burial was held Thursday, Oct. 18, in Calverton National Cemetery in Calverton, Long Island, NY. Friends called at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, Tuesday, Oct. 16.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to RHAM HS Music Boosters, RHAM High School, 85 Wall St., Hebron, CT 06248 or to Connecticut VNA Hospice, 111 Founders Plz., 2nd Floor, East Hartford, CT 06108. To leave online condolences or for directions visit [www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com)