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There will be thousands of “oohs” and “ahhs” this Saturday at the annual Portland Fireworks show.

Portland Fireworks Set to Go Off

by Michael McCoy

After being postponed last year, the Portland Fireworks are back, and ready to dazzle thousands this Saturday night.

Last February, Mike Dapkus called for the creation of a Fireworks Planning Committee. Dapkus, now retired, was a sergeant with the Portland Police Department, and has been responsible, along with the rest of the police for putting together the show.

The formation of a committee paid off, and the town exceeded its fundraising goal. However, after the flooding of the Portland Exchange Club Grounds postponed the event twice, the committee decided to cancel the 2006 show altogether.

On Wednesday, John Sobczyk, president of the 10-person planning committee, said that the grounds were devoid of any hazards and ready for the show.

According to Sobczyk, the extravaganza runs about 45 minutes to an hour, and in-

cludes more than \$30,000 worth of fireworks.

He also reminded citizens that, despite the newly formed committee, “It’s still the Portland Police Fireworks.”

While the Exchange Club will be selling burgers and hot dogs as always, Sobczyk said attendees could expect some new vendors as well.

Once again, the event is completely free. “It’s always been free and that’s our goal,” he said. However, there will be collection buckets set up to take donations for next year’s show.

Sobczyk estimated that the Portland Fireworks draw about 4-5,000 people each year, and said spectators come from places like Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Pennsylvania. He elaborated that he knew of a few local families whose relatives would time their visits to Portland to coincide with the spectacle.

The Portland Fireworks will begin

around 9:15 p.m. on Saturday, June 30,

with the rain date set for the very next day. Gates are set to open between 5:30 and 6 p.m., allowing children and adults alike to make time for the music, food and all sorts of fun that will supplement the show.

There will be three lots available for parking, including handicapped areas, around the Portland Exchange Club Grounds, located along Route 17A. Fire Police will be directing traffic.

Last week, Sobczyk said, “We appreciate the Explorers who volunteered to manage the parking that night, and all the maintenance workers, firefighters and police who support this event. Our hats are off to Mike Dapkus and his team who plans, orchestrates and sets off the fireworks. His dedication and commitment to this event has made it one of—if not the best—fireworks displays in all of Connecticut.”

Noting the plethora of nearby trees, Sobczyk quipped, “Bring mosquito spray.”

New Editor at *Rivereast*

Starting this week, the *Rivereast News Bulletin* has a new editor. Mike Thompson is taking over for Jim Hallas, who is becoming editor of the *Rivereast's* sister paper, *The Glastonbury Citizen*. He takes over for Kathleen Stack, the longtime *Citizen* editor who retired this week.

For Thompson, the new position represents a homecoming of sorts. He covered Andover, Hebron and the RHAM school district for the *Journal Inquirer* from 2001-02, and then again for the *Rivereast* from 2002-04. He left the *Rivereast* in August 2004 for a nearly three-year stint reporting for the *Citizen*.

"I'm excited about it," Thompson said this week. "I'm looking forward to reconnecting with people in the towns I used to cover, and making new connections with the other towns."

Thompson's not a stranger to the *Rivereast* editing desk, either. Over the past few years, he's filled in when Hallas has gone on vacation.

Hallas, who has been editor of *Rivereast* for the past 20 years, said he will miss "the many great people" from the *Rivereast* towns that he has dealt with over the years, but it was time for a change.

"Mike will do a great job," he added. "He understands the role we play in the various communities—not just to inform, but to provide a forum for the average citizen. I know he will work hard with local governments, organizations and just regular readers to get the word out and that he will provide fair and balanced coverage."

Hallas is a graduate of Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Communications and is the author of four books—two about Marine Corps operations during World War II and two about the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I. He has also participated in TV documentaries on World War II. He and his wife and two sons live in Portland.

Thompson is a graduate of Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY. He lives in Manchester.



Mike Thompson

Colchester Students Selected for Boys/Girls State Program

by Jim Salemi

The American Legion's Boys State Committee has announced the names of four Bacon Academy students chosen to attend this summer's Boys State/Girls State program, to be held at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Two boys and two girls from Bacon—Lauryn McNair, Jenny Sheehan, Michael Guarino and Josh Hodgson—all in their junior year, have the honor of being selected to attend the prestigious program this year.

Students are selected by an informal vote, first by fellow students at the school, then by teachers make recommendations. The American Legion committee then selects the finalists.

According to Walt Tallman, chairman of the Boys State committee for the Colchester American Legion, the four Bacon students will join students from around the state selected to attend the program.

Model governments will be set up, and the students will hold elections to fill political offices from the local to state levels, as well as make appointments for appointed government positions. The student who is ultimately elected Governor will go to Washington, D.C. to compete in Boys Nation/ Girls Nation, which is a national-level model. The top office in the finals is, of course, the Presidency.

"It affords the kids a chance to learn about politics and public policy—how to run a state or government," Tallman said.

When the students arrive, they are assigned a party, usually 'Nationalists' and 'Federalist' parties. They hold caucuses, primaries, party platform development and government organization. There is also classroom instruction on government and politics, Tallman said.

After attending the program, the students will each write a report on their experiences.

Something for Everyone at New Antiques Shop

by Jim Salemi

Colchester Depot has become a destination once more, with the opening of Hanauer & Seidman Antiques, located at 187 Lebanon Ave in one of the old station houses of the rail station that once served the area.

Owners Christine Hanauer and Randy Seidman of Scotland, CT, have opened their showroom, which specializes in 18th and early 19th-century pieces, including, though hardly limited to, furniture, cooking and lighting artifacts, fabrics, including quilts, clothing and effects such as eyeglasses, pottery, and — Christine's passion — stone and earth ware. The pieces range from the primitive and utilitarian to the sophisticated and ornate.

"It's been our passion for over 20 years," Christine said. "We've lived in several early houses and have furnished them with period pieces. We sell what we love."

When the couple started dealing antiques 20 years ago, their inventory was more generalized, covering a number of periods. Over the years, they narrowed it down to specialize in the early country pieces. After purchasing an older house, they learned as they went along what furniture fit where, and translated that to their business.

A number of pieces from the couple's collection have been bought by museums for display in their own exhibits; not surprising, given the condition of the pieces they procure. Hanauer and Seidman are discriminating when it comes to pieces they are willing to buy or sell. With few exceptions the pieces still have their original finishes and are largely free from any repairs or major defects.

Incidentally, Randy and Christine's showroom could easily pass for a museum itself.

The vast former railroad building housing the

collection serves perfectly as the partners' uncluttered showroom, allowing the shopper to inspect it thoroughly and see it from a distance to get an idea as to what it would look like in their homes.

Planks that once served as a landing for a storage area overhead in the historic building have been cut away, and green glass electrical insulators, presumably for an old telegraph system long removed from the building, are still on wooden pegs near the ceiling.

On the walls are quilts, lithographs and antique shelving. Among those pieces, Christine pointed to one of the quilts.

"That quilt is from Litchfield," she said. "The signatures of the women who put it together are on it." A number of the couple's pieces have been manufactured locally, and the earliest pieces are from England, brought over by the earlier colonists.

Randy said he and Christine settled on Colchester to open their shop because they were so impressed with the town, from the people to the police to the local government.

"We love the town," he said. "We love the folks and the town administration has been great. There seems to be good police presence here. It seems like a business-friendly town. We were welcomed by the older residents who stopped in because they remember when the railroad was active. We've heard a lot of good local stories too."

Randy and Christine are always looking to buy antiques, and can be reached at 537-6565. Their shop is open Thursdays through Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A sampling of their inventory can be viewed online at hanauerandseidmanantiques.com.



Christine Hanauer and Randy Seidman have opened a new antiques store in Colchester Depot.

EHHS Grads Sent Into “Real World”

by Michael McCoy

Despite being moved indoors, due to threat of rain, members of the East Hampton High School Class of 2007 seemed as excited as ever at last week's graduation ceremony.

East Hampton school officials were faced with a split decision on Thursday, June 21. Just before commencement exercises were slated to begin, the skies looked beautiful and clear. However, the forecasts did not look good.

Officials eventually decided to move the ceremony from in front of the high school to inside the gymnasium. This proved wise, since a short but strong rainstorm hit the town shortly after graduation began.

But the Class of 2007 did not let the change of location rain on their parade. After leading the packed gymnasium in the pledge of allegiance, Class President Alex Fisher welcomed the crowd. Throwing himself into the role of Chris Farley's alter-ego, motivational speaker Matt Foley, Fisher predicted, "All of us will fail at something, and then you might be asking yourself, 'How can I get back on the right track?' Well, if you are determined to never give up until you've found success you'll be OK. But if you're not, then you might find yourself 'living in a van down by the RIVER!'"

Next, essayist Scott Carlson delivered a nostalgic address that spoke to the cohesion of the class. "At face value, we are the Class of 2007," said Carlson. "If you dig deeper we are much more. We are classmates; we are teammates; we are bandos; we are conspirators; we are friends, all connected by those countless experiences shared over the years."

Salutatorian Kelly Soltis suggested that this particular class has especially concerned itself with life outside of Belltown. "We have inves-

tigated the conflict in Darfur, Sudan, where millions of Sudanese have been displaced as refugees in Chad, and thousands killed by their own government," she said. "Many of us have shown awareness by sending holiday cards and valentines overseas to our troops, who are fighting constant battles in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other turmoil-ridden areas of the world, and whom we will probably never meet. ... Through raffles and homeroom competitions, the Class of 2007 has raised money for victims of Thailand's tsunami and Hurricane Katrina."

Soltis concluded by saying, "We, the graduating Class of 2007. Have known the real world for quite a while, and it's time the real world got to know us."

After the senior choir delivered a piano-accompanied rendition of Sting's "Fields of Gold," Valedictorian Kelsey Taylor devoted her speech to her pride in her Belltown heritage. She even went as far as bringing out the East Hampton Bellringer as her special guest.

"As we transferred to high school," suggested Taylor, "many of us thought, 'we're going to be Bellringers? That's so lame.'" However, Taylor went on to commission her classmates to take pride in their unique roots.

Acting Schools Superintendent Kevin Reich proclaimed, "Today is when you leave behind your childhood ways and step into the shoes of adulthood."

Principal Linda Berry, meanwhile, compared the Class of 2007 to a host of reality programs, using shows like "Cribs," "Laguna Beach," and "Dog the Bounty Hunter" as comedic metaphors.

So, despite a last-minute location switch, the Class of 2007 landed on their feet.

The Class of 2007 includes:

Kelsey Lynn Aarrestad, Anita Marie Ackerman, Michelle Marie Affinito, Patrick Salvatore Aiello, Alexandra P. Anderson, Melissa B. Anderson, Christine S. Avery, Paul A. Baledes, Kelsey Anne Banning, Jessica Barber, Nicole P. Barber, Ryan Joseph Beaulieu, Brian M. Bell, Nicole Lynn Bernard, Alan R. Bouchard, Bryan Matthew Boutillier, Leah Marie Buracchi, Richard Raymond Busch, Kara Marie Bussolini, Alexis Maria Calarco, Scott J. Carlson, Stephanie Cespedes-Loaiza, Nicole A. Claps, Danielle Elizabeth Cleaver, Shannon Noelle Cleroux, Sarah Nicole Cohen, Sean Christopher Costello, Hannah Eva Cotier, Tory John Cozzi, Kasey Marie Cutler, Chelsey Anne Cyr, Bradley John D'Avignon, Jessica Lynne D'Erocle, Sasha F. Davidson, Mathew David Dessureault, Joseph Phillip DiPace, Elyse Janeane Dolde, Stacey Alice-Ann Donahue, Katelyn Nicole Dotson, Joseph James Epstein, Caitlin Elizabeth Ferchaw, Alex James Fisher, Michael F. Fitzpatrick, W. Ross Flannery, Nathaniel Lee Fortin, Cory Alexander Fox, Wesley J. Francis, Daniel Victor Galanto, Sherri Lynn Gamberale, Carl Albert Gingras, Justin R. Goguen, Michael I. Goodson, Nicholas David Gosselin, Brian J. Goulet, Vincent Thomas Greco, Stephen Charles Harmon, Norbert Joseph Heil, Elizabeth Alexandra Henault, William Joseph Hiers III, Danielle C. Holmes,

Hunter Hughes, Jessica M. Hutchinson, Courtney Lynn Johnston, Elizabeth Irene Jordon, Emily Rae Joyce, Taylore Eve Karpa, Brittany Elizabeth Kelly, Andrew Thomas Kemp, Juliane Margaret Kimball, Brian A. Kohn, Kenneth Joseph Landry, Patrick R. Lapiene, Sarah Elise Larson, David Thomas Leue, Meghan Anne Loura, Kaitlyn Nicole Matzek, Savannah Leigh McInvale, Allison Lynn Milliot, Lindsay Marie Miner, Katherine Ann Mulligan, Branden Patrick Murphy, Lucas R. Myers, Amanda Rose Myshrrall, Benjamin George Niver, Leigh Ann Odell, Scott Pawlow, Zachary M. Pedersen, Kara Lee Perriolat, Michael Philhower, Kyle Picard, Brittany Ellen Plummer, Tyler Bryce Provost, Bernard Purnomo, Chelsea Quackenbush, Ashley Marie Rand, Kevin John Ritchie, Samantha Yei Jin Root, Jason Scott Scaplen, Samantha Lee Seamon, Brian Thomas Seidl, Lauren Patricia Shepherd, Mark Phillip Simmons, Kelly Christine Soltis, Timothy D. Spooner, Samantha St. Amand, Sarah Jane Stannard, James Ian Stewart, Andrew Mark Stolzenbach, Andrea A. Strong, Kelsey Patricia Taylor, Monica Ann Trotochaud, Derek Carl Turner, William E. Veronin, Ginneane Vesce, Keith Nicholas Viccaro, Brittany Katrina Vicino, Kayla Ann Wesner, Katherine Melanie Zawisza, Carol Elaine Zemina.



Middlesex Chamber of Commerce President Larry McHugh (right) handles the real scissors while CVNA President Marion Donahue (center) uses the jumbo ones at Tuesday's ribbon-cutting ceremony. Portland First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield assists on the left.

Connecticut VNA Officially Opens Portland Office

by Michael McCoy

The Connecticut Visiting Nurses Association (CVNA) held a ceremonial ribbon cutting Tuesday morning to celebrate the formal opening of their Portland patient services office.

This event was sort of the culmination of events that began back in 2005. That year, Gilead Community Services of Middletown acquired the Portland VNA. However, after realizing that Gilead did not have the infrastructure to support the PVNA, they sold it to the CVNA last August. At that time, CVNA President Marion Donahue said, "This allows us to continue and expand our services in that area." Some of these services include telemonitoring, advanced wound care, hospice care, psychiatric care, pain management, and complementary services.

Despite the fact that the PVNA has technically been dissolved, Donahue said the office at 309 Main St. in Portland will retain the name that it has held for 75 years. "We're just going to carry on the same tradition," she said.

The event was attended by a number of officials including Director of Business and Community Development for the CVNA Guy Tommasi, Gilead Executive Director Barry

Simon, Middlesex Chamber of Commerce President Larry McHugh, and Portland First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield.

"We're officially open and ready to go," Donahue said. "I think we're off to a great start."

The CVNA, which is part of Masonicare, Inc., has a home office in Wallingford, and 11 satellite offices throughout the state, and over 1,000 employees.

The ribbon cutting, which took place at 11 a.m., was followed by a recruitment open house at 3 p.m. That effort was led by Sue Pettorini-D'Amico. "It lets people learn more about possible employment," said Pettorini-D'Amico. "This is a good way for the local nurses to get to know us. We want people to know we're here."

Donahue, who has been CVNA president for three years, said, "It reminds me of the first home office I ever worked in, so I have a good feeling about this."

Acknowledging the brand new sign in front of the office, Bransfield said, "I'm thrilled that the Connecticut VNA has decided to continue the fine tradition of caring for the community since 1933."

New Appointment Raises Questions in Marlborough

by Sarah McCoy

The Marlborough Board of Selectmen recently appointed a new Emergency Preparedness Director leaving some to question how seriously the town views the role.

Ann Kilby, a long-time Marlborough resident, has been appointed to the post. While no one is questioning her qualifications, both Fire Chief Bill Lord and EMS Captain Mark Merritt said they would have liked to have given their input.

"This isn't a volunteer position," Merritt said. "We can't be missing the boat when it comes to things like programs, training, and grants. I'm not saying that Ann isn't the right fit, I'm just saying that I would have liked to be asked."

Both he and Lord said they did not know Kilby.

In a memo to the Board of Selectmen, former Emergency Preparedness Director Doug Knowlton describes how the role of the Emergency Preparedness Director has "greatly expanded since 9-11." Because of the daytime meetings and what he described as an "ever-increasing level of responsibility," Knowlton stepped down from his post. He will remain on board as part of the Emergency Preparedness Team in an assistant role.

Due to the time commitment of the position, Merritt and Lord have reservations. "All the people who see the importance of the job and love the role steer away because of the time commitment," said Merritt. "I would've liked to be asked to communicate what is needed from the job before an appointment was made."

It was because of the lack of input from Merritt and Lord that Selectman Sharon Reiner opted to abstain from the vote. Nevertheless, Kilby's appointment went through 2-0 with both First Selectman Bill Black and Selectman Joe LaBella supporting the move.

Kilby expressed little concern for the hours needed to do the job. "I am recently retired and now have the time to take on a position such as this," she explained.

Kilby brings over 25 years of project man-

agement experience to the position. She is a former employee of Aetna Life and Casualty where she managed and oversaw multi-million dollar projects. This experience, according to Black, is what sealed the deal for Kilby.

The role of the Emergency Preparedness Director is to coordinate drills and training for the emergency personnel in town. Kilby will also be responsible for communicating with town officials, residents, and the media during an emergency. "I am not doing emergency response," she said. "But there is a lot of coordination and preparation that needs to occur in order to assure that our firefighters and EMTs have adequate resources and training."

Because Marlborough is a small town, Kilby will be required to organize agreements with other towns to share resources and training efforts. "The work will be quite extensive in the next few months to get the documentation filed and training underway," she said. "Once we get the ball rolling I feel like things will begin to fall in place."

Kilby's appointment is effective July 1, and will last five months before a re-appointment is required, as per state statutes. In the meantime, she is busy reading up on her soon-to-be responsibilities and attending classes to become fully prepared for what lies ahead.

"The more time [Kilby] can give to the position, the more the town will see out of it," Lord explained. "Because we've never spoken, I can only hope that she will take the job as seriously as we all do."

With a strong project management background and new time on her hands, Kilby said she is eager to get her feet wet. "I feel this is a good match for Marlborough and I'm ready for the work that needs to happen to keep Marlborough prepared," she said.

Kilby has lived in Marlborough for over 20 years. In addition to the Emergency Preparedness Director position, she also serves as one of the town's Registrars of Voters and as the secretary of the Democratic Town Council.

Colchester Receives \$500,000 For Wastewater Treatment Plant

Congressman Joe Courtney announced Thursday (June 28) that he has secured \$500,000 for Colchester to construct a new wastewater booster station on Flatbrook Road. The funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2008 Department of the Interior Appropriations bill, which was passed by the House of Representatives.

"The Town of Colchester has experienced significant growth in recent years, which makes this an important and worthy project that deserves federal assistance," Courtney said in a press release.

First Selectman Stan Soby said the town "appreciates the effort and energy of Congressman Courtney this quickly into the process." Water and Sewer Commission Chairman Robert J. Tarlov said, "The availability of funding to offset some of our cost of this project is so important, not only to Colchester but also to the other towns in

the area that rely on our pump stations to carry wastewater to the treatment plant."

Recently a "Regional Facility Plan" identified improvements necessary to achieve future state and federal water quality goals while providing for expected growth. The Prospect Hill pump station is effectively at capacity. The study determined the most efficient and economic way to increase capacity is to construct a booster pump station on town-owned land approximately half way in distance and elevation between the station and the treatment plant.

Because of the regional growth and environmental benefit, it is expected the project will be eligible for State DEP Clean Water grants and low interest loans, the press release says. Look for more information about the project in next week's *Rivereast*.

Sewer Line Rupture Causes Spill in Colchester

by Jim Salemi

Over 50,000 gallons of raw sewage from a broken sewer main along the Airline Trail poured into the Jeremy River last Sunday, prompting local and state officials to warn against fishing and swimming in both that river and the Salmon River until further notice.

According to Betsy Wingfield, chief of the DEP's Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, the rupture occurred behind the Route 149 commuter lot near the Route 2 interchange. The rupture was the result of a seal breaking on a cleanout apparatus. These are installed in the line at various intervals in the event there is a blockage that needs to be cleared.

Sewage from Colchester is pumped to East Hampton, and the line runs along the Airline Trail between the two towns.

Wingfield said the break that happened overnight Sunday is not related to erosion problems which affect the section of line near the viaduct near Bull Hill Road at the East Hampton border.

Erosion has undercut the bedding of the line lies on in that area, raising concerns among local and state officials that the ductile iron pipe might break under its own weight.

According to Colchester First Selectman Stan Soby, the section near the viaduct has been repaired temporarily, and the town is hoping a bond approved by the state Bonding Commission for \$500,000 to make more lasting repairs will be signed by Gov. M. Jodi Rell. She was expected to approve the bond Friday, after press time.

Soby said 30,000 gallons of the material has been cleaned up so far, and final water quality tests were performed early Wednesday morning. The results will be analyzed

by the DEP as well as local health officials.

When larger bodies of water, such as lakes and Long Island Sound, become polluted with effluence, the DEP will take a hands-off approach to the problem, and allow it to remediate naturally.

But because these two rivers are much smaller in scope than a lake or the Sound, DEP workers, in collaboration with an environmental contractor and local officials, were able to take a hands-on approach to the problem, and spent four days removing material from the rivers.

"It's a much smaller system, so it was decided to remove the source material rather than rely on natural processes," Wingfield said.

Meanwhile, Wingfield said, the DEP has posted signs along the affected stretches of the Jeremy and Salmon rivers, and DEP personnel were patrolling the rivers to warn people of the problem.

Soby said it has not yet been decided who will pay for the cleanup, though he said the town may be liable because the break happened in town.

Colchester Public Works Director Mark Decker was on vacation last week and could not be reached for comment. Vincent Susco, spokesman for the East Hampton Water Pollution Control Authority, said that an alarm indicting a breach somewhere along the line was sounded around 1 a.m. Sunday. The pumps were shut down about a half-hour later, and a painstaking search in the dark for the leak started immediately thereafter.

Susco said the leak was discovered between 3 and 4 a.m. and the materials left in the pipe and a holding tank at the cleanout area were pumped onto trucks and brought back to the station for proper disposal.

Portland Police Log

6/23 — Thomas Hilton, 37, of 5 Flower St., Middletown, was arrested and charged with assault 3rd degree, disorderly conduct, and threatening, Portland Police say.

Marlborough Police News

6/16—David Taylor, 32, of Rudden Lane was arrested for criminal mischief and theft after pulling away from a gas pump with the hose and nozzle still in his truck, police said.

According to reports, Taylor allegedly asked a gas attendant for five dollars worth of gas. The attendant asked for cash up front, then Taylor allegedly drove away from the pump, police said.

6/18—Police said they are investigating the theft of a snowmobile, two small sailboats and a truck toolbox from property on Hodge Hill Road. Anyone with any information is asked to call police at 537-7555.

Colchester Police News

6/18—Aimee Carlson, 38, of 252 Bull Hill Rd., turned herself into police on a warrant charging criminal mischief and disorderly conduct following an alleged fight, according to police reports.

6/19—Tyler Hess, 18, of 1548 Manchester Rd., Glastonbury, was arrested for intimidating a witness, threatening and disorderly conduct after allegedly threatening a police informant at the informant's home, according to police reports.

6/21—Joshua Couch, 28, of 63 Linwood Ave., was arrested for DUI and driving too fast for conditions, according to police.

6/21—Two 17-year-old juveniles were arrested for possession of marijuana, according to police.

6/26—Lynn Woods-Lynn, 58, of 1002 Canterbury La., was arrested for DWI, driving with a suspended license and failure to drive correctly, according to police reports.

East Hampton Police News

6/11 — A 17-year-old male juvenile was issued a ticket for following too closely, traveling unreasonably fast, failure to have headlights and operating a motor vehicle without a license, East Hampton police said.

6/14 — Dianne A. Kallaugh, 50, of 108 Red Glen Rd., Middletown, was issued a ticket for failure to obey a traffic control signal, police said.

6/17 — David G. Cummings, 19, of 34 Leesville Rd., Moodus, was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol, carrying a dangerous weapon and operating while under suspension, police said.

6/18 — Steven Czapiewski, 41, of 4 Slater Rd, New Britain, was arrested for violation of a protective order, unlawful restraint 2nd degree, disorderly conduct, interfering with an emergency call and larceny 6th degree, police said.

6/18 — Leon R. Naud, 43, of 13 Long Crossing Rd., East Hampton, was arrested for operating a motor vehicle while under suspension and failure to appear, police said.

Hebron Police News

6/22—Police are investigating the disappearance of \$500 cash from a drop-safe at RHAM Middle School, according to police

6/24—Mike J. Temple, 23, of 186 Kinney Rd., was arrested for DWI and misuse of headlights, according to police.

6/24—Eric Porter, 25, of 87 Burnt Hill Rd., was arrested on warrants for two counts of failure to appear in court, according to police.

6/25—Janet L. Gura, 46, last known address 14 Wigum Rd., Westbrook, was arrested for Burglary, theft, theft of a firearm, criminal mischief, possession of marijuana, possession of narcotics and possession of narcotics paraphernalia, according to police.

Police tracked down Gura at a Meriden hotel, where police also found the belongings of the victim, including a 9mm handgun, according to police.

Andover Budget Sent Back to Referendum

by Jim Salemi

Maybe the third time will be the charm, as far as the 2007-08 Andover town budget is concerned.

Those in attendance at a Tuesday town meeting voted 54-38 to send a proposed \$7.16 million spending plan to referendum. The referendum will be held Tuesday, July 10, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., at Andover Elementary School on School Road.

This will be Andover taxpayers' third trip to the polls in two months; referendums on the proposed 2007-08 budget failed on *May* 22 and June 19.

But before sending the budget to referendum, voters Tuesday questioned the accuracy of the proposed spending plan.

The budget presented to voters was last updated June 5, and this prompted residents to ask for the most current figures.

"It is hard to cut intelligently if we don't have the same figures you do," said resident Georgette Conrad, a number of residents applauding in support of her remark.

Some figures have changed since June 5, Finance Board Chairman Steven Reade said, and figures will continue to change as the town pays bills until the end of the fiscal year, which is June 30.

Reade pointed to the transfer station line item, which he said cannot be a firm number because the amount of trash and other materials handled by the transfer station and the haulers fluctuate according to what the residents bring to the station. He said the bill to haul trash often spikes in the spring, when people clean out their attics and basements.

Reade told residents that for the sake of fairness the board decided to cut one-half of one percent of each line item in the budget.

"We felt this was more prudent," he said. "This will give individual departments the ability to prioritize."

In all, nearly \$19,000 was cut from the local education portion of the budget, and \$21,500 from the town portion since the last failed budget.

Also, he said, the board could not find any "fat" to cut out of the budget. "We trimmed an education budget that is already sparse. Money is coming out of road repair," he said. "I'd like to say I'm proud of this budget, but this will lead us into territory we were in two years ago. There's only so much you can do."

Two years ago, the town imposed a special tax to make up a shortfall in town funds due to sloppy accounting. Two separate independent auditors could not balance the books, so exactly how much money the town came up short will likely never be known.

Another resident remarked that the tax rate that would be imposed is the same as the rate two years ago when the additional special tax was levied on property owners.

Reade said he understood residents' concerns about taxation, given a recent revaluation that reassessed real estate property, combined with a sinking housing market, negatively affecting the market value of the home.

Finance Board member Michelle Davidson said she could not support the budget as it is without further adjustments.

"My concern is that after we added in [Education cost sharing, local capital improvement and school transportation state grants and funds from the casinos], I come up with an \$81,253 shortfall in state revenue...If it's not funded, I see a shortfall. I can't support this budget as a board member," she said.

Bacon Graduates Finish ‘Remarkable’ Journey

by Jim Salemi

Individually, they have the distinction of having completed one of the most rigorous public school programs in the nation. Collectively, they brought home enough awards and achievements to warrant the construction of two additional trophy cases at Bacon Academy.

Those were the accolades bestowed upon the 200-plus Bacon Academy graduates during commencement exercises last Monday by Schools Superintendent Karen Loiselle.

“What makes you remarkable is your actions, you brought community activism to new heights,” Loiselle told the graduates. “Your activism against genocide in Darfur, partnering with the Colchester Land Trust, or the courageous journalism in the Bacon Courier, demonstrates that you will make the world a better place and that is why I have faith in our future.”

While Loiselle has served as the district’s superintendent for only a few years, she served as principal previously.

“As principal I watched your theatrical, athletic and academic pursuits. You were all eager and energetic. Now I preside as your superintendent, and seeing you graduate is the highlight of my career. The journey was not easy, but you each overcame your obstacles,” she said, and added, “Dare to be different.”

This past school year, Bacon students placed in the top 10 of the National Science Bowl in Oceanography, the first year Bacon students competed in the competition, and Bacon students placed highest ever in robotics, ‘Model UN’ and mathematics competitions, just to name a few.

One of the more remarkable success stories in the Class of 2007 was Jeffrey Petro. Petro was in an alternative education class for students who are at risk of failing or dropping out of school. Not only did Petro stick it out and earn his diploma, but also made the honor roll his last semester and will be attending college in the fall.

Fourteen other students enrolled in the program also received diplomas.

Class of 2007 Valedictorian Elizabeth Mortensen will be pursuing her passion—environmental sciences—when she goes to college in the fall, and asked graduates to “pursue their passions” as they go forward, just as she is pursuing hers.

Salutatorian Erica Clauss and Gilbert Lamb Essayist Lenora McLellan also addressed fellow graduates and encouraged them to “make a difference.”

“I hope all the graduates here can find their passion and, if they have, they embrace it with their whole lives,” said Mortensen.

“Keep your respect for the environment,” she said. “Our future depends on the earth.”

“We can be the generation that reverses the degradation of the environment,” she added, and quoted former President Lyndon B. Johnson in closing:

“If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it,” she said.

Graduates of the Bacon Academy Class of 2007:

Christen Albani, Corrado Alicata, Steven Allard, James Alvarez, Laura Amell, Christopher J. Anderson, Anna Patricia Angela Armagno, Anastasia Askitis, Brandy Nichole Avellino, Steven M. Bandtlow, Emily M. Bickhardt, Lauren Casey Bis, Mathew J. Bishel, Issac Bjorbekk, Amber Blandina, Paige A. Bogda, Joshua R. Boulanger, Benjamin T. Bradley, Nicole Elizabeth Bradner, Melanie Irene Breault, Caitlin Breen, Ashely Leigh Brown, Tiffany Brown, Sara L. Busher, Davis J. Cady, Margret Laura Carey, Elise Addrianna Carola,

Todd William Carrier, Emily Victoria Carson, Steven W. Carson, Ashely Laura Catarino, Matthew William Chalmers, Melissa Chaloux, Aurora Marie Chmielecki, Dale Christensen, Michelangelo Antonio Ciccone, Tamara Lee Cintron, Erica Clauss, Mallory Ann Coffin, Brianne Colonna, Shawn A. Connors, Ellen D. Cormier, Christine M. Corrado, Dustin Cote, Tyler Cote, Brendan P. Counihan, Emma Krouse Cox, Justin Adam Cruickshanks, Peter Julius Csere, Jennifer Andrea Currie, Justin T. Currier.

Beht Anne D’Atri, Nicholas R. Delisle, James Alan Demar, Ronald L. Demers, Christopher Francis Deslandes, Lauren L. Dimberg, Erica Leigh Dixon, Cole Doocy, Kate L. Doyle, Gregory H. Dressler, Alyson M. Dube, Jordan Duffy, Megan Duffy, Jacquelyn Marie Eifler, Terry Faipier, Jr., Heather Lynn Farrington, John N. Felts II, Maolly Ferland, Jessica L. Fitzgerald, Danielle Marie Floyd, Sarah Fournier, Lindsay Sarah Fuller.

Cassndrah Allison Gagnon, Ryan Gerrard Gagnon, Heather Gaudette, Adam C. Gazdzicki, Rachel Marie Girouard, Kirsten Lee Goodrich, Angela Marie Goody, Zachary J. Gortler, Christopher Granata, Lindsay Marie Graves, Alicia Elizabeth Gray, Jonathan R. Griggs, Brittnee Rachel Guelbart, Britany Renee Guilbert, Brian R. Gustafson, Sheldon Edward Haag, Richard Haagensen, Dawn Elizabeth Hathaway, Eric J. Hennig, Ashlin Jade Holman, Roland Hopkins, Sarah Rachel



Members of the Class of 2007 tosses their caps high at the close of Monday’s Bacon Academy graduation ceremony.

Houra, Kesia Howard, Bryan Hopkins Howes, Phil Inkel, Brittany Elizabeth Izzo.

Nichole A. Jenkins, Cassandra C. Jesmonth, William M. Keating, Kristina Kelly, Larissa Jean Kemmett, Melissa M. Knighton, Christian Kraemer, Nicole A. Kuster, Christine M. Lajoie, Alexander K. Lami, Michael Patrick William Laporte, Katie Elizabeth Lazuk, Samantha E. Lee, Kyle John Logiudice, Jacob John Luth.

Kevin Brian Malicki, Kristina M. Malits, Erin E. Marceno, Christine K. McGuiness, Kenneth McKenna III, Leonora Rose McLellan, Carolyn Michalowicz, Erin L. Mikan, Andrew Thomas Miller, Trisha A. Mirante, Robert Monaco, Tamara Elizabeth Montgomery, Avian H. Morales, Sean Michael Morgan, Kaitlin Louise Morris, Elizabeth Parker Mortensen, Gabrielle D. Nadeau, Melissa Mary Nardone, Carl Alexander Nestor, Coty Nichols, Kristina Laurén Norris, Ryan O’Grady, Ashley O’Kane, Julia Kristina Olczyk, Brett Opalenik, Joshua D. Orbach, Brittany Nicole Overstreet.

Brian Thomas Paquette, Joshua E. Parent, Cassandra Elizabeth Parker, Alex B. Perez, Jeffrey M. Petro, Abbie M. Phillips, Bridget T. Phinney, Kiera Pinell, Cameron T. Pinnock, Andrew R. Pisano, Ashely Pizzoferrato, Troy J. Prentice, Chelsea M. Prescott, Dale John Previti Jr., Jason R. Prior, Matthew David Prior,

Emily Puscas, Sarah Jane Ringo, Kelly Marie Roccapriore, Garrett Corbin Ross, Joe P. Rzewuski.

Charles D. Salvatore, Zachary Robert Sargenti, Justin Sawicki, Megan Schoell, Nicole Marie Scrivano, Jeff Shorts, Jaejoon Sim, Sarah Sims, Matthew C. Sjoval, Sheena Leigh Skinner, Julia Skjerli, Nicholas Z. Skowronski, Matt P. Smigiel, Hilary Jill Smith, Jessica Mary Smith, Christopher Robert Solomon, Jason W. Solomon, Karen Ashley Spatafora, Marcus William Spinner, Jocelyn A. Starzyk, Bethany Ellen Stopa, Ryan Keith Sullivan, Taylor D. Suroviak, Alain Michael Therrien, Andrew Michael Astor Thompson, Cassandra Cain Thompson, Christopher E. Thompson, Jerome James Thompson III, Shannon Thurber, Michael Tkaczuk, Joseph D. Tredor, Christopher Trowbridge, Stephanie Twedt, Kelly Ann Urban,

Nichole E. Varriale, Matthew N. Vekakis, Thomas C. Veneziano, Melinda Mae Vullo, Collin Michael Wade, Kevin Walker, Heather M. Waters, Patrick Waszczak, Kathryn Anne Watson, Erin M. Whitmore, Laura J. Wickham, Matthew R. Wilson, Jaymie Lane Withee, Ryan Patrick Wood, Andrew Scott Young, John Albert Young IV, Daniel J. Zbin III, Branden Edward Zesut, Kristin Jennings Zizzamia, Sabina Zygmunt.

East Hampton Road Discontinuance Issue Discussed at Council Meeting

by Michael McCoy

Around 50 people lined the narrow corridor of the East Hampton Town Hall on Tuesday, waiting to say their piece.

An executive session delayed the start of the regular Town Council meeting by half an hour, prompting one frustrated resident to say, “No wonder nothing gets done in this goddamn town,” eliciting a flurry of chuckles from those waiting.

It did not take long for the reason behind the room-bursting attendance to make itself known. Folks were skittish concerning the potential for their roads to be discontinued.

Two weeks earlier, Councilman Scott Minnick had revealed a project he had been working on. Noting that it had the potential to save the town more than \$900,000 over 20 years, Minnick presented a list of just less than 15 miles of roads that could be investigated for potential discontinuance.

That evening, the concept was met with vehement derision from several residents, as well as Republican council members.

Before residents could sound off on the issue, Minnick presented a revised document and said, “That list was based on state statutes and included roads, from a legal standpoint, that could be considered for discontinuance. In my mind, I was thinking we would send the whole list to Planning & Zoning.”

He continued, “Since then, I’ve reconsidered it, thinking this may not be the best way to go about it.”

Speaking to the content of the new document, Minnick said, “The only roads that remain at this point are roads that do not affect any homeowners.”

The new document, while listing all of the

roads initially deemed legally viable for discontinuance, grays out 8.84 of those miles, labeling them “no longer considered for discontinuance.”

The remaining 6.13 miles, still considered for discontinuance, include sections of Bear Swamp Road, Gulf Road, Old Wood Road, Old Young Street, Portland Reservoir Road, Terp Road, Town Farm Road, Whippoorwill Hollow Road, and White Birch Road.

Minnick drove home the fact that he never made a motion, nor recommended to discontinue the entire 14.97 miles of road. “That was not a recommendation,” he said. “It was just, by state statute, what could be considered.”

Councilman Melissa Engel, speaking about the two weeks since Minnick brought the concept forward, declared, “It was two weeks worth of agonizing and research on my part.” She continued, “I’m not sure I trust that this won’t come up again.”

Engel disagreed with the discontinuance of any roads. According to Engel, town officials from Colchester told her that, 15 years ago, the town abandoned some roads, and “fifteen years later, they’re regretting that decision,” claiming that it has hampered the prospect of future development. “Once you’ve abandoned them, it’s hard to go back to a court and get them unabandoned,” she said.

Minnick clarified the difference between “discontinuance” and “abandonment.” Discontinuance calls for a very direct process, closely following very specific steps. Abandonment, which he called “more of a gray area,” requires a road to have not been used in a “long time,” (he mentioned that case law suggests this equals

15 years,) and that the town has shown intent to abandon the roads, i.e. not included them in their budget or proposals to the state for money.

Concluding the formal discussion concerning road discontinuance, Minnick said, “My intentions were, perhaps, not made as clear as they could have been. I just want to make it clear that this was presented from an objective standpoint. At the very least, this is a discussion for planning in the town.”

The council tabled the issue to a future meeting, but the issue of roads continued. Residents spoke of town roads that they feel, by all propriety, should be maintained by the town, and have not been.

James Barton of Markham Road said he built his home in 1990, and was formally guaranteed by, among other parties, the town manager, that the road would be maintained. “I’ve maintained that road myself for 17 years,” said Barton.

Other residents reported similar neglect. The Town Council passed around a notepad for residents with roads that have been neglected by the town could to write their name and contact information. Melissa Engel encouraged any residents with these issues to contact the town hall.

Noting the coincidental result of the discontinuance controversy, Engel said, “Instead of saving us money, this research will cost a little bit,” but added, “You people deserve it.”

“That’s why I think that this inventory was fabulous,” Irene Curtis said. “Now let’s fix it.” Before moving on to other business, Councilman Bob Berlin said, “It was nice to see so many concerned citizens.”

But just when it seemed that everyone was agreeing, the meeting turned divisive.

Bob Berlin made a motion to appoint Alison Walck, Kyle Dostaler, Scott Minnick, Michael Vasquezna, and Nancy Anton to an ad-hoc committee for the hiring of a new town manager. Walck, Dostaler, and Minnick are all Chatham Party Town Council members, while Vasquezna is the acting chairman of the Board of Finance. Anton is a talent acquisition official, responsible for over 100 hires a year.

Councilman Bill Devine swiftly piped up, wondering why there was no minority representation. Engel agreed, saying, “It would be fair for someone who didn’t like this decision to serve on the board.” Engel is referring to the fact that the vote to terminate Town Manager Alan Bergren’s employment was 5-2, straight across party lines.

Minnick responded, “People on this committee should be comprised of people who are positive about everything.”

“This is how you slant things Scott,” snapped Devine. “I think it’s wrong. I think it’s unethical. You’re not giving the minority a chance.”

Engel, who said she felt that just one person on the committee representing minority interests would be sufficient, said, “I’m disputing the fact that you left off minority members,” to which Devine wasted no time adding, “And it’s typical of you.”

Opting to speak to the town attorney before pursuing the issue further, the council tabled the issue to a yet to be scheduled special meeting that will take place sometime before their next regular meeting, once Berlin had withdrawn his motion.

Obituaries

Colchester

Liesolette A. Lockhart

Lieselotte A. Lockhart, "Lilo," 81, of James Street, Colchester, widow of late Donald E. Lockhart, died Wednesday, June 20, at Hartford Hospital. Born April 20, 1926 in Mainz, Bretzenheim, Germany, she was the daughter of the late Fritz and Christine (Bender) Traxel.

On Oct. 29, 1947, she and Donald were married in Munich, Germany. Together, they shared 55 wonderful years of marriage before he predeceased her on Nov. 5, 2003. Mrs. Lockhart had worked in sales for G. Fox in Hartford for 21 years before her retirement. In her spare time, she enjoyed reading but she will be remembered most by her family as being devoted and loving to them.

Survivors include three children, Eunice and Robert Johnston of Glastonbury, Sandra and Dominic Lupacchino of Colchester, and Donald and Susan Lockhart of Aiken, SC; eight grandchildren, Heather Kidwell, Robert Johnston III, Douglas Lewis, Christina Lewis, Donald Lockhart III, Ashley Lockhart, Callie Lockhart and Bailee Lockhart; one great-grandchild, Ian James Kidwell; a brother, Heinz Traxel of Wolfburg, Germany; several nieces and nephews, her friend and companion, Rue, and numerous extended family members and friends. In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by a brother, Joseph Traxel.

Friends called Sunday, June 24, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, with funeral services held Monday, June 25, at the Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St. on the Colchester Green, with Rev. Dr. Linda Barnes officiating. Burial followed in the Linwood Cemetery, Colchester. Donations in her memory may be made to the American Heart Association, 2550 Route 1, No. Brunswick, NJ 08902-4301.

Colchester

Marianne Slembek

Marianne (Hunzinger) Slembek, 73, of Colchester, beloved wife of Horst, passed away peacefully Tuesday morning, June 26, at home after a long, courageous battle with cancer.

Born Dec. 11, 1933 in Kandern, Württemberg, Germany, she was a daughter of the late Fritz and Emma (Isselmann) Hunzinger. On July 13, 1957, she and Horst were married in Kandern and she emigrated to Hartford in December of that year.

In 1963, they moved to their present farm on Prospect Hill in Colchester and raised their family. Over the years, Mrs. Slembek had worked for S&S Leather in Colchester and Grote and Weigel in Bloomfield, as well as at the River Road School in Moodus, but her greatest joy and vocation was found in her family. She will be remembered for her love of them, as well as her chickens, ducks and dog, Dixie; and her wonderful and inviting home.

In addition to her loving husband of nearly 50 years, she is survived by two children and their spouses, Klaus Slembek and Kathleen Goggin of Colchester and Ingrid Slembek and Dennis Hagerty of Meilen, Switzerland; her sister, Liesel Kaiser of Cernay, France; her sister-in-law, Hildegard Slembek Montro of Mooresville, NC; and numerous extended family members and friends.

Friends may call 5 – 8 p.m. Friday (June 29) at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Road, Colchester. Funeral Services will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday (June 30) directly at Christ Lutheran Church, 330 Church St. (Rte. 85), Hebron, with Pastor Jonathan Liebich, officiating. Interment will follow in the Linwood Cemetery, Colchester. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Backus Foundation, 326 Washington St., Norwich 06360.

Portland

Kiarra Grace Kelly

Kiarra Grace Kelly, "Millie," the infant daughter of Nelia Braga and Garritt Kelly of Portland passed into the hands of God on Wednesday, June 20. In addition to her parents, Kiarra leaves her sisters and brothers, Brittney DiCioccio, Heather, Austin, and Ryan Kelly, her maternal grandparents, Antonio and Maria Braga, as well as several loving aunts, uncles, and cousins. Kiarra was predeceased by her paternal grandparents, Anne, "Nancy", G. Kelly and Richard H. Kelly.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Mary Church, 25 Freestone Ave., Portland, on Tuesday, June 26, with burial at The Swedish Cemetery on High Street in Portland. There were no calling hours. Arrangements were handled by Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home of Wethersfield.

Colchester

Rita Bouchard

Rita Bouchard, 73, of Colchester and formerly of New Britain, died Saturday, June 16, at home, surrounded by her family. Born Jan. 10, 1934 in Edmundston, New Brunswick, Canada to the late Armand and Alma (Beaulieu) Dionne, Rita was the beloved wife of the late Rival Bouchard.

Rita is survived by three daughters, Louise Gustafson and her husband Robert of Colchester, Doris Corriveau and her husband Roy of Virginia, Micheline Corriveau and her husband John of Plainville; two sons, Jerry Bouchard and his wife Julie of Plainville, Michael Bouchard of Plainville; 13 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; eight siblings, Berthe Deschenes and Nelson Dionne of Madawaska, ME, Yolande Valcourt, Jennine Fortier, Lucette Dionne, and Rino Dionne all of Montreal, Quebec, Claudette Galant and Carmen Boucher of Edmundston, New Brunswick; a step-sister Jennette Emond of R.V.L., Canada; a brother-in-law Reginald Bouchard of Maine; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband and parents, Rita was predeceased by a brother, Roger Dionne, and an infant brother, Roland Dionne. Calling hours will be Friday, June 29, from 4-8 p.m. at the New Britain Memorial Funeral Home, 444 Farmington Ave., New Britain. Funeral services will begin on Saturday, June 30, at 9 a.m. at the funeral home followed at 10 a.m. by a Funeral Mass at St. Jerome Church, 1010 Slater Rd., New Britain. Interment will follow in New St. Andrew Cemetery, Colchester. A Memorial Mass was held June 27 at Notre Des Douleurs Church in Edmundston, New Brunswick. In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be made in Rita's name to Middlesex Hospital Homecare, 770 Saybrook Road, Middletown, CT 06457. Please visit www.mem.com to leave online condolences.

East Hampton

Michael McDowell-Smith

Michael McDowell-Smith, 20, of West Point Road, East Hampton, beloved son of Brett Smith and Elizabeth McDowell-Smith of East Hampton, died Tuesday, June 26. He was born in Middletown on April 10, 1987. Michael was a graduate of Xavier High School, Class of 2005 and was currently attending Quinnipiac College. Michael will always be known for his affection towards animals and his love for his grandparents.

Besides his parents, he is survived by his brother, Ryan McDowell-Smith and his sister, Kaylan McDowell-Smith, both of East Hampton; maternal grandmother, Jackie McDowell; paternal grandmother, Marilyn Smith; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins; including his best friend, Sean Smith. He was predeceased by his paternal grandfather Gordon Smith, and his maternal grandfather, Dr. Arthur McDowell.

Funeral services were to be held Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. Friends called at the Biega Funeral Home Thursday from 4-7 p.m. Memorial contributions in honor of his grandpa Bud may be made to the Middlesex Hospital New Emergency Dept., c/o Dept. of Philanthropy, 28 Crescent St., Middletown, CT 06457 or in honor of his grandma Marilyn, the American Diabetes Association, 306 Industrial Park Rd., Suite 105, Middletown, CT 06457.

East Hampton

Edward Joseph Kostoss

Edward Joseph Kostoss, Sr., 62, of Skinner Street, East Hampton, died Friday, June 22, at Middlesex Hospital. He was born in Middletown, the son of the late Frank and Nellie (Wolak) Kostoss. Ed retired at age 53, as Crew Leader with the Bridge Dept. from his lifelong job with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation.

He is survived by two sons, Edward Kostoss, Jr., and Robert Kostoss and his wife Elaine, all of East Hampton; a sister, Ann Marie Yodh of Moodus; and a grandson, Daniel Edward Kostoss; also several nieces and nephews. Funeral was Tuesday, June 26, at the Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown, followed by a Funeral Liturgy in St. Bridget of Kildare Church, Moodus. Burial was in St. Bridget's Cemetery. Friends called at the Biega Funeral Home Monday. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Middlesex Hospital Weiss Hospice Unit, c/o Dept. of Philanthropy, 28 Crescent St., Middletown, CT 06457.

East Hampton

Lea O'Neil

Lea (Rose) O'Neil, 76 of East Hampton, widow of Charles O'Neil died Monday, June 18, at Marlborough Health Care Center. Mrs. O'Neil was born July 11, 1931 in Bristol. She was the daughter of the late John and Dorothy (Mason) Rose. Lea graduated from New Britain High School in 1948, and graduated from the New England School of Hair Dressing in 1949. She received an Associate Degree from Middlesex Community College in 1982.

Lea had been a longtime resident of East Hampton. She and her husband were co-owners of OMI – Septic Services in East Hampton for many years. She most recently worked for MARC, in Cromwell, CT, where she received many Awards of Excellence. Lea enjoyed gardening in her yard, summers at the Cape, music, and spending time with her grandchildren. Her warm smile and kind heart touched many people over the years.

Her three sons, Michael O'Neil of Kelso, Washington, Gary O'Neil of East Hampton, and Skyler O'Neil of East Hampton, survive her. Her son, Charles O'Neil Jr., predeceased her. She also leaves nine grandchildren, and three great grandchildren; her sisters Isabelle Blakemore of Washington, DC, Jeanne Christmas of Fredericksburg, VA. and her brothers, John Rose and Richard Rose, both of New Britain; also many nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 30, at South Congregational Church in Middletown. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to East Hampton Ambulance Association, 4 Middletown Ave., East Hampton, CT, 06424, or The John J Nerden Camp PO Box 2617, Meriden CT, 06450.

East Hampton

Gloria Tourville

Gloria (Biondi) Morris Tourville, beloved wife of Robert B. Tourville, passed away Monday, June 25. Born in Columbia, CT, the daughter of the late James R. and Helen (Hennequin) Biondi, she was a lifelong resident of East Hampton. Gloria graduated from East Hampton High School in the Class of 1949. She was employed by Troop K in Colchester as secretary and dispatcher for several years, and also worked at Northeast Utilities for many years, retiring as a clerical supervisor in 1992. Gloria was a charter member of the East Hampton Lioness Club and also the East Hampton Village Lions Club for 24 years.

Gloria is survived by her loving husband Robert B. Tourville, her son Russell T. Morris and his wife Cheryl, and her grandsons Russell T. Morris Jr. and Steven J. Morris. She is also survived by her sister Linda Biondi Praskievicz. She was predeceased by her husband Robert L. Morris and their daughter Patricia Lynn Morris.

Funeral services will be held Friday, June 29, at 10 a.m. in the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, with the Rev. Thomas Anderson Pastor of Haddam Neck Covenant Church officiating. Burial will follow in the family plot in Lakeview Cemetery East Hampton. Friends called at the funeral home Thursday evening, and members of the East Hampton Lions were to hold a memorial rite. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Weiss Hospice Unit c/o The Development Office 55 Crescent St. Middletown, CT 06457.

Hebron

Benita "Bea" Petruck

Benita "Bea" Petruck, 55, of East St., Middletown, beloved wife of Lucian Petruck, died Sunday, June 10, at Middlesex Hospital.

She was born in Casco, ME, the daughter of Wesley and Martha (Thompson) Purks of Hebron. She was a graduate of RHAM High School in Hebron. She retired from Liberty Bank and worked as a Senior Customer Service Representative.

Besides her husband and parents she is survived by her daughter, Tina Tollins of Middletown; stepdaughter Mindy Linehan of Middletown; beloved granddaughter Brandy Rollins of Middletown; three sisters, Arlene Ullmar of Glastonbury, Mary Jane Saucier of Manchester, Roxanne Carbone of Newington; two brothers, Wesley of Rhode Island Scott of Hebron; several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a sister, Tammi Rombach.

A memorial service was held Friday, June 15, at the Biega Funeral Home. Burial at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Weiss Hospice Unit, 28 Crescent St., Middletown, CT 06457.

East Hampton

Bonnie Miner

Bonnie A. (Laine) Miner, 44, of East Hampton, beloved wife of Mark W. Miner died unexpectedly Friday, June 22, at her father's home. Bonnie was born Jan. 10, 1963 in Hartford, the daughter of Roger A. Laine of Marlborough and the late Loretta H. (Bussiere) Laine. She was a 1981 Graduate of RHAM High School in Hebron. Bonnie and Mark moved from Marlborough to East Hampton in 1985.

Bonnie loved animals, especially her German shepherds, and she loved the family farm in East Hampton where she took care of the horses. Her family was the most important thing in her life. She also enjoyed riding her "Harley" with her husband and friends. She was a loving daughter-in-law to David and Theresa Miner Sr. of East Hampton.

Besides her father and her husband Mark, Bonnie is survived by her two children whom meant the world to her, Mark W. Miner Jr. and Amelia Miner, both of East Hampton; her two brothers, William E. Laine and Robert M. Laine; her sister, Brenda L. Nicolo; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were Tuesday, June 26, in the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, with the Rev. Arthur Audet Pastor of St. John Fisher Church in Marlborough officiating. Burial followed in the family plot in Marlboro Cemetery. Friends called at the funeral home on Monday. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Rd., Newington, CT 06111 or American Cancer Society, 538 Preston Ave., PO Box 1004, Meriden, CT 06450.

East Hampton

Adrienne Christopher Martland

Adrienne (Christopher) Martland, 89, of East Hampton, widow of Harrison Stanford Martland, died Saturday, June 23 at Gaylord Hospital in Wallingford. Born Jan. 20, 1918 in East Hampton, the daughter of the late Christian M. and Minnie A. (Smith) Christopher, she was raised in East Hampton and later moved to New York City to become a nurse. Before her retirement she had served as the Head Nurse at Bellevue Hospital in New York City. After her retirement she returned to East Hampton where she has lived for the past 13 years.

Adrienne is survived by her three sons, Thomas Martland of Florida, William Martland of East Hampton and Lawrence Martland of New York; her daughter-in-law, Dianna Martland; a cousin, Ronald Christopher; nine grandchildren, Brian, Kristen, Michelle, Sean, Elizabeth, Nicole, Christopher, Matthew and Andrew; also many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son, Christopher Martland.

Funeral services will be private. Burial will be at the convenience of the family in the family plot in Maple Grove Cemetery in New Jersey. The Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, CT has care of the arrangements.