



Ministers from Westchester Congregational Church and surrounding churches along with church members lay their hands on Amanda Ladegard, center, during her Ordination ceremony into the Christian Ministry.

Congregational Church Member Ordained into Ministry

by Kristina Histen

Despite the intense heat and no air conditioning last Sunday, members of Westchester Congregational Church in Colchester came out to witness and support one of their own being ordained into the Christian Ministry.

Amanda Ladegard, 25, was the first member of the church in almost 12 years to be ordained by the Westchester Congregational Church, after the Vicinage Council unanimously approved her the week before. Usually, one is ordained by the church that calls for him or her to work there, Ladegard's mother Judy said, but since Ladegard grew up in the church community, Westchester Congregational Church was willing to hold the ordination ceremony for her even though she won't be ministering there.

Participating in the ceremony was Reverend Ted Dole, a retiree from the Westchester Congregational Church five years ago after 32 years of service and now a part-time minister at the Congregational Church of Marlborough. He expressed how pleased he was to have a young person choosing a life of ministry. Out of the 70 graduates from Ladegard's class from Andover Newton Theological School in Massachusetts, only two others were under the age of 30.

"I am very proud of her," Dole said. "I think she will be a good minister, she's got the right attitude and the right enthusiasm."

Dole had baptized Ladegard twice; as a baby and as a teenager in the Jordan River in Israel, and guided her throughout her journey into the Christian Ministry.

After years spent at Sunday school, Ladegard felt a calling from God into the ministry, she said. At age 12, she already knew she would live a life devoted to God. That was also, however, the time when she began "those dreaded years of middle school," and Ladegard said she didn't want to tell her friends in fear of having to deal with "even more unpopularity."

At that point in her life, she had also never seen a woman in the pulpit and thought in order to answer the call, she would have to become a nun. She remembered thinking to herself, "I don't want to be a nun, God. They don't look like they have much fun in life."

As a 16-year-old, Ladegard was still denying that God had any real special use for her, she said. It wasn't until a friend's close call between life and death that made her realize she wanted to help others find God and build a relationship with Him, she said. The decision, though, seemed to puzzle her teenaged peers.

"It's not exactly the most popular thing in the world," Ladegard said. "A lot of my friends were Jewish or Catholic and didn't understand what a minister was. They would come up to me in the hallways asking why I wanted to be a priest."

Ladegard decided, though, to embrace "that inner pulling" into the ministry because she saw the necessity for it. She spoke with her parents, who were very supportive, and to Dole, who encouraged her to take a trip to Israel to further explore her calling. When she was 17 she entered the pulpit to assist Dole, and later, Reverend Megan Comeau. From them, she learned to preach, be organized and speak in public.

She received her bachelor's degree in history from Eastern Connecticut State University and then went on to spend three years in seminary at Andover Newton Theological School, where she received her master's degree in divinity last month. There, she learned about theology, the Bible, reaching out to others and what other faiths have to offer the world for those seeking to know more about God.

As the youngest of three, and the only girl, it was an especially unique experience for her family, because she is the first one to go into ministry.

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"It was a beautiful ceremony," her mother said, "a culmination of all her years of hard work and desires. It was really wonderful."

Ladegard, who still lives in Colchester, is currently looking for a church to start her ministry, but most churches slow down in the summer months, as a lot of people go on vacation. She is focusing her search on churches in the western portion of the state because her fiancée

lives out there, but she is willing to travel. She greatly appreciates the support of her family, friends and her fiancée.

While most young adults struggle with figuring out their own religion and beliefs, Ladegard admits that what she has is a gift. "I have all the same confusions as anyone else my age," she said, "but not that."



Rita Michalsky of Hebron sits at her home with her dog, Griffy. Last month Griffy was named the town's Top Dog and awarded the number one dog tag and a free dog license.

Top Dog is Local Woman's 'Pride and Joy'

by Sarah McCoy

Rita Michalsky was in tears last month when she heard her dog was named Top Dog in Hebron. "He's my pride and joy," she said of Griffy, her toy poodle.

Michalsky said she has always had large dogs, but after her previous dog passed away about 10 years ago, she decided that her next dog would be smaller. Michalsky put all her feelers out, asking her veterinarian, neighbors, and friends for input on where to find a new dog. By the end of 2002 her neighbor, Melissa Mitchell, had found what she described as "the perfect dog."

Michalsky agreed to meet Griffy and two have been virtually inseparable ever since.

"When [Melissa's] mother came to my door, I remember thinking, 'That's odd. Why is she here without the dog?'" The little bugger was in her pocket," Michalsky said of the first time she met Griffy.

Griffy isn't just any dog, though. Michalsky rescued him after the toy poodle was taken from an abusive situation. To this day, Griffy continues to have nightmares, prompting Michalsky to rub his belly and reassure him that everything is all right.

"He's afraid of brooms, shovels, or anything with a long handle," Michalsky said. "He just

needs love."

And love is in abundance with Michalsky as his owner. Griffy has his own chair by the window of Michalsky's condo. He gets plenty of Pupperoni treats, although he prefers people food. And, he loves trips to the groomer where his hair is trimmed a bow is tied around his neck.

"He's such a lovable thing," Michalsky exclaimed. "I wouldn't trade him for all the tea in China."

At the end of May a friend called Michalsky to tell her that Griffy had won the Top Dog honor. "I didn't believe her at first," Michalsky said. That changed with she walked into the Russell Mercier Senior Center and saw Griffy's picture adorned with a first place ribbon.

There were 27 applicants in this year's Top Dog competition, a record for the annual event. Hebron senior citizens conducted judging during their luncheon on May 29. For winning, Griffy received the number 1 dog tag for the year and a free license.

The second place winner in the competition was Fenway, owned by Allison Heneghan, and the third place finisher was Beau, owned by Victoria MacDonald. These dogs will receive dog tag numbers two and three, respectively.

Another Budget Vote Coming Up in Andover

by Sarah McCoy

Whether residents like it or not, the town of Andover is going to referendum...again.

Voters Tuesday approved sending a proposed \$10.27 million 2008-09 town budget to referendum. The proposed spending plan represents an overall increase in spending of 4.38 percent, but only a 3.4 percent increase in town government and local Board of Education spending. The RHAM budget, which all three towns passed at their May 6 referendums, account for the discrepancy between the two percentage increases.

The budget represents a \$337,694 increase in spending and a 1.3 percent increase to the town's mill rate.

"We feel this is a good, solid budget," Board of Finance Acting Chair Cathy Desrosiers said. "With inflation at 4.1 percent and our budget at 3.4 percent, we feel that the budget is reasonable."

At the town meeting held Tuesday, the majority of those in attendance seemed to agree, as they voted 44-31 to send the spending plan to referendum. The vote will take place Monday, June 14, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. at Andover Elementary School. 44-31

This, despite being almost \$5,000 higher than the budget the finance board brought forth last week that was handily defeated by residents 64-36.

"For many voters, it's not about the final number," Desrosiers said Tuesday night. "It's about feeling comfortable with what goes into the budget."

On Tuesday, more residents seemed to feel comfortable with the budget's content and town officials are hoping that continues for a couple more weeks. "I don't know how to say it another way, this is a bare-bones budget," First Selectman Bob Burbank said during the Town Meeting.

Andover resident Debbie Scanlon disagreed. "We are wasting time," she said. "I'm really angry. I come back this week to see a budget that's been increased after we voted it down last week. That doesn't make any sense."

During the meeting, residents voted down two motions: one to cut the budget by the \$65,000 the town had requested for a new dump truck, and one to make a \$10,000 reduction to the Assessor's line item. At the first town meeting, held May 13, residents overwhelmingly voted to cut the Assessor's line item by \$15,000. The Board of Finance (BOF) voted last week to reinstate this money.

In the last month, the Assistant Assessor has resigned from her position. Because of contractual obligations the \$15,000 initially cut from the Assessor's line item would have to come from the Assistant Assessor's salary, leaving \$12,000 to fund a full-time position. "We, the

Board of Finance, didn't feel that was responsible or reasonable to expect someone to work a 34-hour work week for \$12,000," Desrosiers said.

On Tuesday, Andover resident Donald Denley asked that \$10,000 be cut from this line item. That motion failed.

Resident Georgette Conrad had made a motion to cut the budget 1 percent across the board, but later retracted the motion in favor of cutting the dump truck. "That would be penny wise and pound foolish," Scott Sauyet, who served on the town's Capital Improvements Program committee that recommended the dump truck, said. "It just means we'll be paying more in fuel and more in repairs for the next year."

That motion also failed.

While many in the crowd on Tuesday were senior citizens, a rising number of younger Andover residents have attended the past two town meetings. One of those is Rob England, who, along with his wife, attended their first town meeting on June 3. "We sat down after that meeting with the intent of cutting the budget," he said. "We went through every line item, and at the end of three hours we were able to cut \$15,000 and we weren't even happy about those cuts."

Drew Page agreed. "You can't cut the budget when inflation's at 4 percent and the budget is less than that," he said. "Pass the budget and get it over with. Don't waste another \$2,000 at referendum."

To start off the town meeting Tuesday, Andover resident Michael Donnelly took a stab at the reasons why the town experiences budget sagas each year. "The problem is transparency," he said. "Our charter is too cumbersome. Let's trust the Board of Finance on [this budget] and look at the process in the future."

Donnelly went on to suggest that the town consider looking to partner with Andover-like towns (Columbia or Bolton, for example) to share services.

Desrosiers said that, at this point, the town isn't considering any large-scale systemic changes in the way Andover operates. She said a study would need to be conducted to assess whether or not sharing town or education services with those towns would be prudent or even possible.

The BOF will hold its next regular meeting on June 15 at Andover Town Hall. At this meeting board members will elect its new officials. Desrosiers has been serving as acting chair for the BOF since Joan Foran stepped down at the end of March citing personal reasons. Foran, who took office in July 2007, said Thursday that she "has the utmost respect for the Board of Finance and the rules that govern them. It's a very difficult job."

Enfield Man Charged with Stealing School Bus in Marlborough

by Kristina Histen

An Enfield man who said he just needed a ride home was arrested last week after allegedly stealing a school bus, State Police said.

Peter Smario, 28, of 41 Oakwood St., Enfield, was arrested June 5 and charged with first-degree larceny, third-degree criminal trespass, weapon in a motor vehicle and possession of narcotics, State Police said.

The State Police Troop K barracks in Colchester had received several calls around 11 p.m. last Thursday regarding a yellow school bus that was swerving out of lane westbound on Route 2 around exit 13 in Marlborough, police said. Police said the bus had struck several cones that were set up for construction work in the area.

State troopers were finally able to stop the

bus on the exit 13 ramp merge, police said. The school bus then rolled back into the trooper's car, causing damage to the vehicle but no injury to the trooper, police said.

After stopping the bus, troopers found an illegal knife, 11 bags of suspected heroin and a large amount of cash in the vehicle, police said.

According to police, Smario confessed to stealing the bus from the Laidlaw lot on Old Hartford Road in Colchester because he needed a ride home, State Police said. According to Smario, his friend had crashed his car earlier that evening and was under arrest and detained at the Troop K barracks, therefore leaving him without a ride, police said.

Smario was due in court June 6, police said.

Golden Retriever Wins Top Dog Title in Colchester

by Kristina Histen

When Ron and Jane Yuchniuk entered their two dogs into this year's Top Dog Contest they thought for sure that their cute, little Havanese puppy, Jack, would win.

Instead, out of over 50 applicants, their two-year old Golden Retriever, Savannah, took the crown as the first place winner.

"We were told that the senior citizens liked the little dogs," Ron said. "I was quite surprised, but pleased" when they chose Savannah instead. Jane also said she thought Jack would have won, but admitted that their lovable Golden Retriever is also "number one" to her.

Over the month of May, owners submitted their favorite pictures of their dogs to the town clerk, Program Assistant for the Senior Center Priscilla Clesowich said. On May 30, the pictures were mounted on the walls of the senior center and senior citizens were handed out ballots to pick their favorite dog, no matter how big or small, she said.

"It's that simple," Clesowich said, "but we come up with other names because everyone likes to have an honorable mention."

Other dogs won in categories like the prettiest, best dressed, most photogenic or best groomed. Winners in these categories don't get anything like the top dog and assistant top dog,



Best buds Jack, left, and Savannah both participated in this year's Top Dog Contest. With over 50 other dogs to compete against, Savannah won the title as this year's top dog.

but it is like a consolation prize and "it's nice" that they get mentioned, she said.

As Top Dog, not only does Savannah get the free rights to brag shamelessly and bark in all her glory, but the town also pays for her dog license this year. The title of Assistant Top Dog was won by Mabel, who is believed to be a bulldog. Mabel, who is owned by Kathleen Urban, also gets a free license, but it is paid for by the senior center, Clesowich said.

"There's really no difference," Clesowich said, "but we have to have a number one and a number two."

Licenses for spayed or neutered dogs cost \$8, and they are \$19 for dogs that are not spayed or neutered, the Town Clerk's office said. The Top Dog contest is held on May 30 because it is the day dog licenses are due, Clesowich said.

Savannah is a very obedient, intelligent dog, and just a good girl, Ron said. Judging from the other pictures he can see why she won. Of course, he admits to being biased because "everybody likes their dogs better than anyone else's." Because she is Top Dog, Savannah is registered as number one out of all the dogs in Colchester in her licensing, Ron said.

There also seem to be no hard feelings from Jack despite his loss, because the two still remain best buds.

New Colchester Vet All About Compassion

by Kristina Histen

Angels have been making regular appearances at the Compassion Veterinary Clinic on 35 Lebanon Ave. — at least that's what Dr. Chanchal Patil calls the cats and dogs she cares for.

"The fact that Dr. Patil refers to the animal patients as angels, tells a lot about her," client and friend Kathy Rogers said. Rogers is new to Colchester and owns two bearded collies. "I think she personifies the name of her clinic, 'Compassion;' that is what she is all about."

When one first enters the small, friendly veterinary clinic, not only are they greeted with smiles from Patil and her two assistants, but the cats that pretty much own the place, Teddy and Mimi, usually stop by to meow a hello.

"When I walked in, I knew immediately my dogs had found a home," Rogers said.

Patil always knew she wanted to be a veterinarian. Ever since she was a child, she has been surrounded by animals. Even now, she has six cats at her home in town, not to mention Teddy and Mimi at the clinic. Patil came to the states in 1985 from India and received her degree in 1986. Since then, she has been at work, but has only been practicing small animal medicine for the last five years. She had been working with her husband for many years at a clinic they co-owned in Massachusetts, but realized she wanted to be independent and own her own place.

She made the big move in January to Colchester, and opened up the clinic right away, changing the name from Paw Prints Animal Hospital to Compassion Veterinary Clinic.

"Compassion is the basis of all care; love and compassion," Patil said. "Without that, we are nothing because it is unconditional love that we have to give them. Compassion is the sense of this practice."

She said that so far, running her own place has been very "smooth flowing," mostly because she has had experience running a larger practice, but admits learning the business aspect of it has taken some getting used to.

"I'm very glad to be here," Patil said. "It is a very sweet town and this practice is an appropriate size for me."

Like many new businesses, there have some minor problems along the way, like when the X-Ray machine wasn't working for a few days, a new refrigerator needed to be purchased or when a whole new computer system needed to be bought because the other one crashed. But, in high spirits and with a smile on her face, Patil said, "It can happen anywhere."

Within days of opening in January, a panicked Anne Burtch rushed in with her cat Forrest because of an injury on his paw. Despite having a lot of things to do, Patil pleasantly addressed the situation instantly and took him right in.

"It couldn't have happened at a worse time," Burtch said, "but you wouldn't have known it by the way she handled it. This place communicates so well that they care about the animals, and really understand how much we care about our own animals."

Patil is so good at her job because she loves being with pets and taking care of them. When they get better and finally are able to go home, she said to see the joy on their owners faces, "is the most rewarding thing," and she cannot even describe how "beautiful it feels inside."

Nancy Stroebel drives all the way from Andover to bring her gang of five cats and two dogs to the clinic, and recently, has been coming everyday because of her cat Kristina. Unfortunately, Kristina is dying, and Stroebel is just not ready to let go quite yet (as long as the cat is not in pain). Patil has been giving Kristina



Dr. Chanchal Patil, left, owns Compassion Veterinary Clinic on 35 Lebanon Ave. She is seen here with her assistant Jenni Butler. The clinic opened up six months ago.

shots, regular check ups and coaching Stroebel through the process.

"I can't tell you how kind, gentle and considerate Dr. Patil is," Stroebel said. "She is lovely with animals and lovely with people. If I lived in New York City, I'd still come here."

Clients appreciate the small atmosphere and the added personal touch. Patil knows each animal personally, and always takes the time to explain certain medications and each procedure in detail, no matter how long it may take or how many questions are asked.

"Animals really are little angels," Patil said. "They are very innocent and show us love and affection. They give much more than we can ever be worthy of."

Compassion Veterinary Clinic, which only takes dogs and cats, is open every Monday through Saturday at 8 a.m. On Mondays and Fridays, it closes at 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m.; and Wednesdays and Saturdays at noon. And, of course, if need be, Patil will stay later to accommodate those that can't make the scheduled times.

East Hampton Valedictorian, Salutatorian Fondly Recall High School Days

by Michael McCoy

In less than a week, the members of the East Hampton High School Class of 2008 will officially begin the rest of their lives. Included among the students who will receive their diplomas are Alicia Gadomski and Janice Nosal, who have finished first and second, respectively, in their graduating class.

Alicia, 18, is the daughter of Polish immigrants Eligiusz and Irene. Her brothers, Jacob and Phillip, are East Hampton High School (EHHS) alumni.

During her time as a Bellringer, Alicia participated in National Honor Society, Student Council, indoor and outdoor track, and helped organize the Red Cross Blood Drives that happen in November and March. She also played flute in the concert and marching band.

As for other activities, Alicia said, "Anything out of school is relaxing." She especially enjoys traveling and has visited places like Costa Rica, Poland, and, most recently, traveled to Germany in April with her mother.

While at East Hampton, she especially enjoyed her Spanish and biology classes. Regarding the latter, she said, "I've always been just a science girl."

Alicia is also trilingual. In addition to English and Spanish, she is also fluent in Polish, thanks to her parents.

Alicia pointed to Advanced Placement U.S. History teacher Joan Mastromonaco and Spanish teacher Regina Dellavolpe as integral to her high school years. "Together they helped me with some personal problems," Alicia said. "Generally, they were more than teachers. They were friends. ... They were very inspiring."

One high school experience it seems she will not miss is the nerve-wracking interim between applying to colleges and waiting for responses. Once she did hear back, her choice was easy; she opted for Boston University.

At BU, Alicia will be Pre-Med, majoring in biology. "I [had] always wanted to be a neonatal nurse," she said. However, she added, the father of a friend convinced her to be a physician. Now, Alicia wants to be a pediatrician.

When asked if she was more sad or excited about moving on from East Hampton, Alicia responded, "I'm more excited, because I know I'll stay in touch with my high school friends." She continued, "We're all ready to move on. We can't just stay in high school forever."

Before heading off to Beantown, Alicia will spend this July volunteering at a children's hospital in Costa Rica through the nonprofit orga-

nization United Planet.

Janice, the 2008 salutatorian, is the daughter of Ellen and Ken, and her older sister Laura is an East Hampton High alumni. Not only will Janice graduate on Thursday, but she will also celebrate her 18th birthday.

Janice is a member of National Honor Society, as well as the drama club. Most recently, she was part of the club's spring production of *The Madwoman of Chailot*. She also sings in the choir and Bella Voce, the women's ensemble, and is coeditor of *The Bellringer*, the school newspaper. She is also quite active in her church, St. Patrick's, where she sings in the choir.

This year, Janice also joined the marching band's flag team. "The group of girls I met there," Janice gushed. "I never felt so welcomed into a group before."

Janice's pet subjects are history and Advanced Placement Government. "My logic with history is I like to learn about what people have done in the past, right or wrong," she said, theorizing that such study could lead to social progress.

"That's where my love of politics comes in," she said, and added, "I like learning about people; I'm a people watcher."

"For the longest time," she recollected, "I thought I was going to be an elementary school teacher." However, her AP Government class changed her mind. Next fall, she will attend Stonehill College in Easton, MA, and plans to double major in political science and American history. She is especially keen on the Revolutionary War era. "It was a pretty radical time," she said.

Though not completely settled on where she plans to go from there, Janice said, "I think I might choose to be a professor."

Janice said her change in career goals caused a certain amount of stress. She also deliberated for some time after narrowing her school choices down to three. But she seems quite excited about her pick.

Like her cohort, Janice valued her time with Mastromonaco. "She expects nothing less than the best at all times," she said. "She pushed me not to give up despite the massive amounts of work that class entailed."

Given her interests, it should come as no surprise that AP Government teacher Melissa Reynolds also made her list of favorite teachers. "I love her personality," Janice said. "She's so sharp and witty. She made class so interesting."



Alicia Gadomski, left, and Janice Nosal, right, sit in the music room, where they have spent much time over the past four years, albeit for different groups. The girls are the valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of the East Hampton High School Class of 2008.

As for leaving Belltown, Janice said, "I was a lot more prepared to go until these last few weeks." Though not looking forward to saying goodbye to so many friends, she sounded hopeful nonetheless. "I'm ready for a change of pace," she said, "and I'm ready to make some new friends."

Janice will spend the summer working at East Haddam's Goodspeed Opera House.

Both ladies put much stock in band and choral director Curtis Weybright. "He influenced my love of music," Alicia said.

"He does have some corny jokes," Alicia said, "but I think that's what brightens our day."

Janice added, "We lovingly refer to them as 'Weybright jokes,'" she said. More seriously, she added, "He's become a mentor. I know he'll always be there."

Along that note, both Alicia and Janice recently went to Cleveland for a long weekend

with the rest of the music department. The trip included the adjudication of the concert, marching and jazz bands, as well as the choir, Macho Voce, and Bella Voce. "It was a busy and somewhat stressful trip," remembered Janice.

However, the journey was not all business. The students visited the city's botanical gardens, Museum of Natural History, the Great Lakes Science Center, the House of Blues and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Both girls also went on the senior class trip last fall. The destination was Washington, DC, which included stops at all the major monuments, the Smithsonian, the Holocaust Museum, and dinner cruise down on the Potomac River.

Commencement exercises are scheduled for this Thursday, June 19, at 6:30 p.m., at the high school, 15 North Maple St.

Cookbook Committee Presents Money to AHM, HIHS

by Sarah McCoy

Marsha Lodge's eighth grade class at RHAM Middle School recently wrapped up a yearlong project to benefit AHM Youth Services and Hebron Interfaith Human Services (HIHS).

The seven students compiled a cookbook and sold copies, raising \$1,200 for each organization.

Last summer, Lodge read the book *The Glass Castle*, which spoke to a theme of resilience. This became the focus word for Lodge's class as students learned what it means to be resilient in school and in life.

On Tuesday, Lodge's students presented their ideas on resiliency and how it applied to their lives. The students presented their own definitions of 'resilience,' and many quoted Confucius: "Our greatest glory is not in falling, but in rising every time we fall."

Whether it be skateboarding, playing baseball, or in creating a cookbook, students learned how to persevere through tough times to find success. "At the beginning of the year, I didn't really care a lot about what was going on in school," RHAM eighth grade student Liz Siler admitted. "Now I do. I want to get better grades and be a part of the community. Resilience, to me, is about overcoming stress and doing the best you can."

Siler said that through the process of collecting recipes, categorizing them, and preparing them for a book, she learned how to get along better with her classmates while working towards helping others. "It's really amazing to consider that the seven of us can actually

help others," she said.

As AHM Director Joel Rosenberg stood to accept the check from the students, he made them repeat after him, "I can make a difference."

"Whether you believe it or not," Rosenberg said, "You did make a difference and you're an inspiration to everyone."

HIHS Director Terry Young said the money the students raised for her organization would be used to help defray the cost of daycare for families in the summertime.

At last Tuesday's celebration, Lodge's class also presented a baby named Albert with a handmade quilt that the students had made earlier this spring. Albert, now nine months old, lived with Siler and her family as a foster child. He was adopted last winter and the students wanted to show Albert their love through their class project. He cuddled right into the blue and green memento and smiled showing his sparse collection of teeth.

Both the cookbook project and baby quilt were part of an interdisciplinary unit Lodge taught over the course of the year. Students learned how to write letters as they wrote to residents asking them to contribute a recipe. They, then, organized the recipes and worked together to select a cover.

As the class sorted through the 70-plus cover options, class member Michael Donovan mentioned that one specific illustration looked like Hebron 300 years ago. In honor of the town's 300th birthday, the class elected to choose that drawing for the cookbook's cover.



From left, Tyler Balula, Cody Landry, Jim Fitzpatrick, AHM Youth Services Director Joel Rosenberg, Corey Mosdale, Michael Strasser, Hebron Interfaith Human Services Director Terry Young, Michael Donovan, and Liz Siler hold up two \$1,200 checks. The seven eighth grade students raised the money for the two local nonprofit organizations through the creation and selling of cookbooks.

Although the students have surpassed their goal of raising \$1,000 for each of the organizations, they aren't stopping just yet. The cookbooks are still on sale at the Hebron Town Of-

fice Building, 15 Gilead St., Hebron; Ted's Foods, 127 Main St. (Route 66), Hebron; or by calling Lodge at the middle school at 228-9423. Copies are \$10 each.

Portland High School's Top Two Students Heading to UConn

By Michael McCoy

It's off to the University of Connecticut this fall for Sarah Harris and Stephanie Tornaquindici, the valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of the Portland High School Class of 2008.

During her time at Portland High School, Sarah, 17, has participated in Tri-M Music Honors Society and the Ambassadors Club, which provides orientation to eighth graders, smoothing out their transition to the high school for the following year.

In addition to being a member of National Honors Society, Harris has also played clarinet for the concert and marching bands. However, her role in the latter was a bit different last year, as she was drum major.

Since she was three years old, Sarah has studied tap dance at Encore Dance Studio, and recently took up yoga.

She has also been active in the school's theatre program, taking on key roles in *The Sound of Music* (freshman year), *Meet Me in St. Louis* (junior year) and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (senior year.)

"I love to hike," Sarah added. She and her family (which includes parents Rick and Allison and brother Adam, 13, who attends Portland Middle School) regularly take the trip to New Paltz, NY, to hike and subsequently lodge at the Mohonk Mountain House.

Sarah went to Philadelphia, PA, two weeks ago for the 2008 senior class trip, where she visited Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, the Franklin Institute, and, in New Jersey, Six Flags Great Adventure.

In the fall, Sarah will attend UConn, where she will study English. "For as long as I can remember, I've always wanted to be a teacher," she said. Sarah already has a certain amount of experience. She has worked at Chatham Court's homework center since she was in seventh grade and also tutors students through Portland's Youth Services. This year, she has also taught a fourth-grade class every Sunday at her synagogue, Congregation Kol Haverim in Glastonbury.

Sarah's goal is to teach social studies and history at the middle school or high school level. "History is an area with many smaller areas within it," she said. Sarah said she looks forward to incorporating elements of subjects such as economics and psychology into her lessons someday.

"I find that very interesting" that history can encompass so many other subjects, Sarah said. "I think we learn so much from the past. By looking at our mistakes, we can make the world

a better place."

Sarah said that, as is often the case, the class grew tighter over the course of this past year. "I can trace most of the class from first grade to 12th grade," she added.

Harris found herself somewhat reticent to leave behind the body of students she has grown up with. Though she still expected to miss them, a recent UConn orientation introduced her to several students who she also had very common ground with. "I'm very excited," Sarah said about her fall studies. However, she admitted, "to go from a small class to a campus will be a challenge."

Sarah has also received the Nutmeg Scholarship, which UConn gives out to just 15 Connecticut students each year.

Before heading off to Storrs, Sarah will serve as the director of the theatre program at Camp Shalom in Windsor.

Stephanie, 18, is Portland's 2008 valedictorian. She is the daughter of Paul and Patti, and her 11-year-old brother Eric and seven year-old sister Amy both attend Portland public schools.

Stephanie is part of the Ambassadors Club, and played tenor sax in the jazz band and the trumpet and euphonium and trumpet in the concert and marching bands. Outside of school, she also studied piano for the past 12 years.

She also has a longtime love of photography, passed down to her by her father. Last summer, she had the chance to capture endless images as she and her family visited Africa and Brazil. However, the latter trip was not just for fun. The trip to Brazil was a missions project that included a church plant and Bible distribution.

Along this note, Stephanie, a born-again Christian, is quite active at her church, Newington Gospel Hall.

Stephanie is a member of the National Honors Society and the Tri-M Music Honors Society. During high school, she has also taken four UConn classes and one Advanced Placement course.

Stephanie also expressed much fondness for animals. She has two dogs, Max and Lady, as well as a horse named Chloe, who she makes time to ride about once a week. Thus it should come as no surprise that Stephanie, also UConn bound, will major in animal science this fall. "I've always wanted to be a vet," she said, but added, "This trip to Brazil changed my outlook." Her time working in an orphanage there has recently caused her to kick around the idea of being a physician or a teacher. "I'm really undecided," Stephanie said. Either way, she



Sarah Harris, left, and Stephanie Tornaquindici stand in front of their mural in Room 223. It was painted by their beloved teacher Robert Miles.

plans to minor in music.

Echoing the sentiments of her friend, Stephanie admitted, "I was really sad coming into this year." However, she attended her college orientation two weekends ago and, "It really got me excited about going to UConn."

Furthermore, she pointed out that, in addition to Sarah, two other close Portland friends of hers, as well as several other classmates are headed to Storrs. "We're not really saying goodbye," Stephanie said. "We're just going to a new place."

Stephanie is headed to Ireland with her family this summer, and plans to spend the rest of the summer relaxing and spending time with them. As a result of achieving valedictorian sta-

tus, she has earned the presidential scholarship.

Both girls participated in the UConn Spanish class that traveled to Spain last summer. More recently, they both went to Disney World with the marching band in April, where they got to march down Main Street. "That's an experience we will all never forget," Sarah said.

The graduates also agreed on which teacher inspired them the most: English teacher Robert Miles. However, Sarah recalled, "His class was more of a philosophical discussion class."

"I learned the most about myself under his instruction," Stephanie said. Stephanie, Sarah and the other 77 members of their graduating class will participate in commencement exercises Wednesday, June 18, at 6 p.m.

Committee Discusses Peters House Options in Hebron

by Sarah McCoy

The Peters House Use Committee provided the town an update on their progress as they work towards a recommendation for the most suitable use for the historic (and controversial) house at last Thursday's Board of Selectmen meeting.

Will Moorcroft, chair of the Peters House Use Committee, reported that the committee had sent out letters to all the town departments and boards asking for their input on the house. Based on the four responses they've received, the committee is leaning towards recommending the town maintain ownership of the home.

The town of Hebron acquired the Peters House in 2004, when it purchased the surrounding 112 acres for an athletic field complex along East Street. The house is thought to be the possible home of Caesar and Lewis Peters, who were rescued from slavery by Hebron townsfolk in the late 1700s.

Since becoming owners of the 200-year old home, residents and town officials have clashed on what to do with the property. Last year the Board of Selectmen agreed to enter into negotiations with Hebron resident Jeffrey Farber, who had sought to make the Peters House a home for him and his family. When Farber pulled out in February the Peters House Use Committee was formed to investigate all possible uses for the property and make a recommendation to the BOS.

The group has met several times and on Thursday was on hand at the BOS meeting to report on its progress.

Included in this update was a stabilization plan to prevent the house from falling into disrepair as the town decides its future. Committee members would complete this plan, which includes the patching of minor holes, and waterproofing the basement, through volunteer

work and donations, Moorcroft said.

The Hebron Historical Society would provide liability insurance for those volunteering on the house, a precaution the Board of Selectmen members recommended.

Moorcroft also said the Peters Use Committee is at a loss of what to do next. "We're at a standstill without a more detailed architectural study," he said. "For us to continue without a study would be an exercise in futility."

Moorcroft said one possible alternative could be for the town to consider using TLB Architects, who designed the adjacent park, to work towards tying the two properties together.

Peters House Use Committee Ray Overton, whose expertise is in historical architecture, offered to complete a feasibility study on the Peters House pro bono. Overton stated he would analyze the building in terms of accessibility, fire codes, building codes, historical impact, and an overall structure review.

The selectmen thanked Overton for his offer, and suggested the Peters House Use Committee take him up on it. "Utilizing Mr. Overton and Mr. [John] Baron [a Hebron resident and Peters House Use Committee member with historical expertise] makes a lot of sense before we start expending money," selectman Brian O'Connell said.

Selectman Jeff Watt said he is looking for the committee to provide the pros and cons to all possible uses of the property, whether it be private use, commercial use, or government owned. "You have a talented group," Watt said. "Make use of that and continue the good work and effort that's currently being put forth."

Moorcroft gave no timetable for the work of the Peters House Use Committee but the selectmen asked to be kept apprised of any news that develops.

Colchester Police News

6/3-Christopher Chapman, 32, of 351 Tuckie Rd., North Windham, was charged with second-degree failure to appear and first-degree failure to appear, State Police said.

6/4-Theodore Fuini, 19, of 21 Red Schoolhouse Rd., was charged with DWI and failure to drive right, State Police said.

6/6-Ryan Simms, 29, of 128 Hawks Nest Cir., Middletown, was charged with sixth-degree larceny, State Police said.

6/6-Peter Allen, 46, of 47 Wickham Rd., East Haddam, was charged with second-degree failure to appear, State Police said.

6/6-Matthew Christensen, 24, of Colchester, was charged with DWI, State Police said.

6/7-Joshua Hall, 20, of 31 New Britain Ave., New Britain, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to drive in proper lane and possession of controlled substances, State Police said.

Andover Police News

6/8-Billy McNamara, 33, of 43 Times Farm Rd., was charged with third-degree criminal mischief, disorderly conduct and threatening, State Police said.

Portland Police News

6/1 — Rommel Chavez, 63, of 209 Main St., S. Glastonbury, was charged with DUI, improper lane change, insufficient insurance, misuse of plates, operating motor vehicle without a license, Portland Police said.

6/5 — Raheem Dawkins, 18, of 47 Jarvis St., Cheshire, was charged with second-degree larceny and operating motor vehicle without a license, police said.

Police Investigating Reported Drowning

Police are investigating the report of a drowning that occurred Monday in town.

On Monday, June 9, at approximately 3 p.m., members of the town's police and fire departments responded to 5 Old County Way to a report of a drowning. According to police, a 74-year-old male was found unconscious in a pool in the rear of the property. Attempts by firefighters and EMS personnel to resuscitate the man were unsuccessful, and a "presumption of death was made at the scene," police said. Police would not release the identity of the victim as of press time Thursday.

An exact cause of death has not been determined, police said.

Longtime East Hampton Revenue Collector Looks Back on 35 Years

by Michael McCoy

After 35 years at Town Hall, the beloved collector of revenue has decided to call it quits.

Born and raised in Hartford, Marie Durkin graduated from Buckley High School in 1949. She immediately went on to the University of Hartford, studying business administration.

"I say I got an 'MRS.,'" Durkin joked, alluding to her leaving school to get married. Her husband, who she married in 1951, is Jack Durkin. The couple moved to East Hampton in 1953, and still live in the same Tartia Road home. The Durkins have five children, all grown (ranging in age between 43 and 56).

Durkin was a stay-at-home mom for 22 years, but that doesn't mean she was stagnant. During that period, Durkin served as President of the Lady's Guild at St. Patrick's Church, where she and Jack have attended for more than 50 years, as well as treasurer for the Friends of the East Hampton Public Library. She was also active with the Democratic Party.

Durkin also served on the Parents Teachers Organization for a time, saying, "When you have five children, you have to be on the PTO." Those five kids have now given Durkin nine grandchildren, who range in age from seven to 24.

"People think when you're home, you don't do anything," Durkin recalled, commenting at the myriad of requests she received during those years.

In 1973, tax collector Bill Parkin, who Durkin referred to as a "very, very, very smart man," called Durkin, asking for some part-time help. Looking back, Durkin laughed that someone must have told him, "She's at home with five children and has nothing to do."

A few weeks later, Parkin suffered his third heart attack, and Durkin stepped up to fill the position. The date was Nov. 21, 1973, and, Durkin said, "my little part-time job turned into a full-time job."

However, Parkin did return part-time and was willing to work around Durkin's schedule, allowing her to come in once the kids got off to school and be home "before they got off the bus."

Durkin remembered that in those days everything was "balanced with a pencil and eraser" and that "the collection rate in East Hampton was just about the lowest in Middlesex County." (Durkin said it sat at about 84.5 percent, and has now climbed to around 99 percent.) However, this was not for lack of trying. "When [Parkin] wasn't on the phone, I was on the phone," she said.

In 1975, Durkin ran for the office of tax collector and won. She continued to win through 1987, when the town charter was revised to make the position an appointed one and not a political one. However, Durkin said she was "grandmothered" in and was not required to apply for the job.

"It's a trend throughout the state of Connecticut," Durkin said of switching tax collector from an elected position to an appointed one. She said she thinks it is for the best when it comes to positions such as town manager, assessor, town clerk, and collector of revenue.

Though Durkin did not receive a formal degree from the University of Hartford, her two

years certainly were not in vain. When asked if they prepared her for her 35 years at town hall, she responded, "Oh yeah, for sure! It goes a long way into preparing you for the world of business."

Speaking about the job in general, Durkin said, "There's a lot of pressure," and said it can be hard to collect all the delinquent taxes. But, she added, "We don't want to embarrass people into paying."

Durkin said people constantly ask her if the collection rate drops when the nation's economy wanes. Oddly enough, Durkin said, if anything, the opposite is the case. "What they find," Durkin said, "is that their home is more important than a new car or a trip to Disney World." According to Durkin, this prompts most people to line up their priorities and make sure their property tax is paid.

"I love" being tax collector, Durkin said. "It's a very straightforward way of business." She also was happy the job relies so much on logic and preordained formulas.

However, it is when people drag their feet in getting the tax in that prompts her to ask herself, "What avenue do you take?"

"That's when you have to use your brain," Durkin said, figuring, "Everybody has a different approach. Are you going to be the velvet glove or are you going to try to be the bat?"

"You don't want to take their home; you just want to shake them up," Durkin said.

Though the term "tax collector" does not typically conjure up warm feelings, Durkin said, "I think most of the people appreciate that we work hard, we're fair, and we treat everyone equally. But we've got to collect the money, which is the bottom line."

Eventually, Durkin said, obscenely delinquent taxes are referred to a marshal, or result in foreclosure or tax sales. Fortunately, Durkin said, these measures are relatively rare.

The proliferation of cell phones has proved a small hurdle for Durkin and her cohorts as of late. "Not everyone has a land line anymore," she commented, which makes people harder to track down.

However, if you think Durkin is willing to resort to tactless means, think again. "One thing I don't do is approach people in the grocery store or at church," said Durkin of a practice she has seen others employ.

Durkin said this was often not necessary anyway. She said sometimes she'd randomly make eye contact with a resident while in her travels around town during the day and, she laughed, "son of a gun, aren't they in the office the following day!"

Remembering her instruction under Parkin, Durkin said, "He taught me a lot, and I hope I've taught the ladies a lot. It's not the easiest position in the world, because you do have to make difficult decisions."

Durkin said that belligerent people storming into the office happens quite seldom. However, she did fondly recall an episode concerning Joyce Krauth, prior to her long tenure in the town manager's office. Krauth, who passed away in January, was known to all for her upbeat and warm personality, and was certainly slow to provoke a fight. However one day, when she still worked in Durkin's office, an angry



Marie Durkin, the town's longtime collector of revenue, has retired after 35 years.

resident stopped by and asked why he had late fees to pay on a delinquent tax. Krauth explained that a prior tax notice had already been sent, but the man denied this.

"How do I know you mailed it?" asked the resident

Krauth responded, "How do I know you didn't get it?"

Durkin said the man conceded at that.

Other humorous episodes included a tax payment that was sent from East Hampton, and ended up at town hall, only after taking a detour to Hawaii. Another payment spent nine months sitting in the East Hampton, NY, post office.

A less buoyant exchange happened on Sept. 12, 2001, when a livid resident in Durkin's office told her, "No wonder people want to kill tax collectors." Durkin immediately called the police, who pulled the man over, and made him return to town hall and apologize.

Another man vowed, "I'm coming back here with my shotgun," though he fortunately never did.

However, these incidents are not representative of her 35 years in Town Hall, promised Durkin. "Most people are very nice," she said, as for her coworkers, she said, "I've been the benefit of a lot of good will." Speaking of Town Hall, she said, "This really is the best place to work. People love to work here. It's been a good run for me."

In the end, Durkin did not so much mention reasons for wanting to leave, but simply showed confidence in the other members of the office, and seemed to feel it was time to turn it over to them.

"I've worked so long," Durkin said, "that I really don't know what I'll be into." Thus, she has no concrete retirement plans. However, she and Jack, also retired, do plan to spend time at

their house at Hawk's Nest Beach in Old Lyme.

Durkin's last day at Town Hall was May 30. Nancy Hasselman, who worked alongside Durkin for 12 years, is currently serving as the interim collector of revenue, and could potentially be asked to fill the position permanently. Melanie Jump, who came on about a year ago, is the Tax Clerk, and two part-time positions have been temporarily added to help fill Durkin's void.

"It's been an extreme pleasure," Hasselman said of her time with Durkin. "She has been an excellent tax collector. She has been fair, equitable, and compassionate. She's been a boss, a coworker, and a friend."

She even went so far to say, "She taught me everything I know."

Hasselman went on to call her a "sweetheart" who "would go to bat for anybody." Hasselman also remembered that Durkin sometimes referred to her as "Xena: Warrior Princess" to inspire her to be aggressive.

Assistant Assessor Carol Ann Tyler, who has known Durkin since 2005, commented, "She is a kind, generous woman who is there to help you when you need help."

She continued, "I have quite an affection for Marie Durkin...She made me feel like part of the family."

Circumstances forced Tyler to take off during Durkin's last week, prompting her to say, "I miss her right now."

During Tuesday's Town Council meeting, the council recognized Durkin's "professionalism, respect, humor and dedicated public service," and honored her for going "above and beyond the call of duty in serving the needs of all the citizens of East Hampton."

The council also declared Monday, June 18, "Maria B. Durkin Day."

Obituaries

East Hampton

Nancy Eck

Nancy (Baro) Eck, 64, of East Hampton, died surrounded by her loving family, Sunday, June 8, at her home. Born Jan. 11, 1944 in Cambridge, MA, the daughter of the late Robert and Lillian (McCrory) Baro, she spent her childhood in Durham where she graduated from Durham High. In 1964, she married James Eck and spent the next 20 years in Higganum/Haddam lovingly raising their sons, David and Michael.

Nancy worked many years at Middlesex Hospital in a variety of positions and devoted her spare time to her family and sharing wonderful moments with good friends. In 1983, Nancy and Jim moved to a cottage on Lake Pocotopaug which they renovated and enjoyed for many years. Most of those years were spent entertaining family and friends on the lake and spending time with her six beautiful granddaughters.

In later years, Nancy enjoyed spending winters in the sunshine of Englewood, Florida where she and Jim kept a home. She always looked forward to visits from her granddaughters, taking them to all the local amusement parks, shopping malls and beaches. Jim and Nancy, along with their cat Boris then had the opportunity to travel extensively throughout the country in their motor home. These were some of her favorite years. Most recently they settled quietly again in East Hampton where Nancy worked part-time at Pro Health in Marlborough. Her battle with cancer was brief but courageous. She was an inspiration to all those that loved her.

Nancy is predeceased by her sisters Patricia Brailard, Roberta Baro and brother Edward Baro. She is survived by her first, second and forever husband, James Eck; her son David and his wife Theresa and three granddaughters Amber, Cayla and Sara of Keene, NH; her son Michael of Hartford and three granddaughters Jordan, Kyrsten and Taylor along with their mother Diane Eck of Hebron; her loving sister Dr. Agnes Baro of Inverness, FL; her loving and caring sister Helene and beloved brother-in-law Donald Hill of East Hampton; her adoring brother Robert Baro of Fort Myers, FL; and her great friends Ginny Treadwell of Troy, CT and Georgie Rosa of Haddam along with many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, June 21, at 10 a.m. in St. Patrick Church, 47 West High St., East Hampton. Burial will follow in St. Patrick Cemetery with a reception immediately following at the Church Community Center. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the National Hemophilia Foundation, 116 West 32nd Street, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10001. Share a memory or note of sympathy at www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com. The Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, has care of arrangements.

Colchester

Jerome R. Wisneski

Jerome R. "Harry" Wisneski, 88, of Colchester, died in his sleep at St. Francis Hospital after a short illness. He is survived by his best friend and love of his life, his wife of 60 years, Lenore "Babe" (Mijeski) Wisneski. He served as a chief warrant officer for six years in the U.S. Marines. He was a faithful member of the St. Joseph's Polish Club in Colchester and the VFW of Hartford and Colchester. He worked 32 years at Hamilton Standard and retired in 1982. Harry was a die hard Red Sox fan and an avid fisherman.

Besides his wife he leaves several nieces and nephews, including John Orlovski of Maine, Paul "Skip" Orlovski of Colebrook, Edward Orlovski of New Hampshire, Richard Orlovski of Avon, Rick Wisneski of Enfield, Bonnie Brasher of Kentucky, Valerie Barlok of Bristol, Lois Foley of California and Darlene Degumbia of Georgia. He also leaves other loving family members, devoted friends and many great nieces and nephews. That shared many happy memories with their "favorite Uncle Harry." He was predeceased by his siblings Pauline F. Orlovski, Henry Wisneski, Robert Wisneski and Walter Wisneski.

A graveside service was held Thursday, June 12, in Rose Hill Memorial Park, Rocky Hill. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the charity of the donor's choice.



Portland

Linda L. Shafman

On Saturday, June 7, Linda L. (Waldeck) Shafman, 63, passed away at the Middlesex Hospital in Middletown. Born in California on Jan. 4, 1945, she was the daughter of the late Robert and Mildred (Swisher) Waldeck. She had lived many years in Newington and Groton before settling to Portland. Prior to retirement, she was employed with Hartford Hospital as a personal care assistant.

Besides her parents, Mrs. Shafman was predeceased by her husband Joel J. Shafman and a sister Barbara Waldeck. She is survived by her son, Martin J. Shafman and his wife Carol, a daughter Carrie Ann Hyman and her husband Ryan, her stepchildren Billy, Peter, and Timothy Shafman, and Nancy Kramer, a sister Mary Ann Hebrink and her husband Leon, five grandchildren and seven step-grandchildren.

A funeral service was celebrated in Linda's memory on Wednesday, June 11, at the Newington Memorial Funeral Home, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington, CT 06111, with interment services following at West Meadow Cemetery. Calling hours preceded the service on Wednesday at Newington Memorial. To share a memory with the Shafman family, visit www.newingtonmemorial.com.

East Hampton

Robert P. Sherman

Robert P. Sherman, 58, of Crestwood Drive, East Hampton, died Wednesday, June 4. Born in South Attleboro, MA, he was the son of the late Hyman J. and Belle (Seplovitz) Sherman. A graduate of Nichols College, he worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a commodities grader.

He leaves his wife, Barbara (Brandon) Sherman; a brother Leonard H. Sherman and his wife Kathy of Los Altos Hills, CA; two nephews, Nathan and Max Sherman; and his mother-in-law Madlyn Brandon of Middletown.

Funeral services were held Sunday, June 8, in the Sanctuary of Temple B'nai Israel, 345 Jackson St., Willimantic. Interment followed in the Temple B'nai Israel Cemetery, Mansfield. A memorial period was observed at his home through Tuesday. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. Arrangements entrusted to Weinstein Mortuary, Hartford. For more information or to share memories of Robert with his family, visit www.weinsteinmortuary.com.

Portland

Stanley J. Bankowski

Stanley J. Bankowski, 77, of Prospect Street, Portland, beloved husband of 53 years of Joan (Pinunsky) Bankowski, died Sunday, June 8, peacefully at home. He was born in Middletown, the son of the late Stanley P. and Stella (Bish) Bankoski. Stanley was a veteran of the Korean War serving with the US Army. Prior to his retirement, he was owner of B&B Equipment in Portland for nearly 30 years, after working at Standard Knapp for 25 years. Stanley was a trustee and Eucharistic minister at St. Mary's Church in Portland and also a member of the Knights of Columbus, B.P.O. Elks, and Catholic War Veterans.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his three sons, Stephen Bankowski and his wife Lori, and Peter Bankowski, all of Portland, and James Bankowski and his wife Rita of Middletown; his daughter, Linda Saypalia of Reno, NV; a brother, Raymond Bankoski of Portland; his grandchildren, Michael, Stephen, and Tyler; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Stanley was a devoted husband, father, brother, and friend and will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. The family would like to give special thanks to his caretakers, Margaret and Rosa, and everyone involved in his care.

Funeral services will be held today, Friday, June 13, at 12:15 p.m., from the Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown, followed by a 1 p.m. Funeral Liturgy in St. Mary Church, Portland. Burial with military honors will be in Calvary Cemetery. Friends called at the Biega Funeral Home Thursday from 6-8 p.m. Those who wish may send memorial contributions to St. Mary's Church, 51 Freestone Ave., Portland, CT 06480.

Marlborough

Rose M. Rubano

Rose M. Rubano, 69, of Marlborough, formerly of Florida, loving wife of Charles J. Rubano, died peacefully Friday, June 6, at Hartford Hospital with her loving and devoted family by her side. She was born Dec. 10, 1938, in Boston, MA, and was the daughter of the late Joseph and Elizabeth (Kelly) Puglisi. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Angela Hartman and Jenny Hamilton.

Rose was a devout Christian, enjoyed time traveling, gardening, cooking and spending time with her grandchildren. She owned and operated the La Vie en Rose Restaurant on the Berlin Turnpike in Meriden for many years before retiring and moving to Florida. Prior to the restaurant Rose was the floor manager at the former Marc Antony's on Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford for many years. Rose was a member of the Beverly Hills Community Church, Florida where she served as a Deacon and taught Sunday School. She will be sadly missed by her loving family and many friends.

Besides her husband, she is survived by a son, Robert Rudolph and his wife, Laura of Glastonbury; three daughters, Donna Getchell and her husband, David of Beverly Hills, FL, Patti Schaefer and her husband, Thomas of Killingworth and Linda Fisher and her husband, Shawn of Marlborough; a sister, Barbara Sauchuk of Danvers, MA; two brothers, Len Elwin and his wife, Dorothy of Groveland, MA., and David Elwin and his wife, Barbara of Beverly, MA., and 12 grandchildren, Garrett Fisher, Alexander Fleischmann, Nathan Fleischmann, Jeremiah Rudolph, Joshua Rudolph, Matthew Rudolph, Robert Rudolph, Rebecca Rudolph, Thomas Schaefer, Jr. and his wife, Kari, Jennifer Schaefer and Kristina Schaefer as well as many nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was Tuesday at noon at the Congregational Church of Marlborough, 35 South Main St., Marlborough, with Pastor Bob Faulhaber officiating. The burial will follow at Rose Hill Memorial, Rocky Hill. Calling hours are Monday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, 277 Folly Brook Blvd. Wethersfield. Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 538 Preston Avenue, P.O. Box 1004, Meriden, CT. 06450-1004 or to the St. Jude's Children Hospital, P.O. Box 50, Memphis, TN 38101. For online expressions of sympathy, visit www.desopo.com.

Colchester

Claire H. Murdoch

Claire H. Murdoch, 96, wife of the late John D. Murdoch, died Saturday, June 7, in Colchester. Born in West Hartford, daughter of the late David W. and Margaret B. (Riddell) Higgins, Claire lived in West Hartford for most of her life. She was employed as a typist for the former Connecticut General Life Insurance Co. for more than 15 years.

Claire is survived by a son, Peter R. Murdoch and his wife Eileen of Salem, and three grandsons: John and his fiancée, Samantha of Columbia, Chris and his wife Nicole of Ft. Campbell, KY and Ryan of Salem. Funeral services will be Saturday, June 14, at 11 a.m., at the James T. Pratt Co, 277 Folly Brook Blvd., Wethersfield, with the Rev. William Zito officiating. Burial will be at the convenience of the family in Fairview Cemetery in West Hartford. Friends and relatives may call at the funeral home today, Friday, June 13, from 3-7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Gardener Lake Volunteer Ambulance Association, 429 Old Colchester Rd., Salem, CT 06420. For online expressions of sympathy to the family visit www.desopo.com.

Portland

Richard A. Krivanec

Richard "Dick" A. Krivanec, 74, of Susan Cr., Portland, formerly of Higganum, beloved husband of 47 years to Marion (Rode) Krivanec, died suddenly on Monday, June 9, at his home. He was born in Hartford, the son of the late Frank and Erma (Hanson) Krivanec. Prior to his retirement, he was employed with CL&P as a lineman. Richard was a member of the B.P.O. Elks No. 771 and a pitcher for the former Middlesex County Baseball League. He was an avid sports fan, enjoyed his grandchildren, and lived for his family.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his son, Daryl Krivanec of Glastonbury; his daughter, Cheryl Zalewski and her husband, William of Portland; two grandchildren, Nicole and Dillon; and his brother, Earle Krivanec of Walnut Creek, CA. He was predeceased by a brother, Raymond Krivanec. Funeral services will be held Saturday, June 14, at 9 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 1055 Randolph Rd., Middletown. Burial will be in the Swedish Cemetery, Portland.

Friends may call at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown Friday from 6-8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 5 Brookside Dr., PO Box 5022, Wallingford, CT 06492 or to Grace Lutheran Church.

Marlborough

James Michael Purcell

James Michael Joseph Purcell passed away quietly in his sleep on June 10. He was surrounded by his family and loved ones up until the end. He leaves behind his closest loved ones, Danni, Welles and Jeanne, as well as numerous family members and friends. Born in Granby, he moved to Marlborough where he lived for 34 years, a lifelong resident of Connecticut. Father, brother, husband, uncle and friend, he will be greatly missed but never forgotten.

Friends may call tomorrow, Saturday, June 14, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., followed immediately by the memorial service at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, Michael has asked that donations be made to the Educational Trust Fund of the Connecticut Society of CPAs, 845 Brook St., Rocky Hill 06067. For online condolences, visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton Police News

5/19 — John A. Cosgrove, Jr., 24, of 40 Oakum Dock Rd., Cobalt, was arrested for disorderly conduct, third-degree criminal mischief and unnecessary noise, East Hampton Police said.

5/22 — Andrea L. Trotochaud, 21, of 28 Comstock Tr., was arrested for failure to renew registration and failure to have insurance, police said.

5/23 — Robert J. Deschaine, 61, of 56 Edgerton St., and Peter G. Standley, 75, of East Hayes Road, were issued tickets for failure to wear seatbelts, police said.

5/23 — Jason Kinney, 40, of 32 Champion Hill Rd., was involved in a one-vehicle accident on Abbey Road, police said, adding that Kinney was arrested for evading responsibility and failure to drive right.

5/24 — Russell J. Baker, 20, of 107 Quarry Rd., Haddam Neck, was arrested for failure to obey a stop sign, failure to wear a seatbelt, unnecessary noise, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, improper plates and no insurance, police said.

5/24 — Stephanie A. Hoffman, 43, of 21 Old Marlborough Tpke., Portland, Charles W. Nebley, Jr., 65, of 258 Thompson Hill Rd., Portland, and Robert H. Hein, 59, of 19 Birchwood Dr., were issued tickets for failure to wear a seatbelt, police said.

5/24 — Brian Heslin, 25, of 56 Wellswood Rd., Amston, was issued a ticket for failure to renew registration, police said.

5/24 — Laura Panebianco, 21, of 52 Ivy Ct., Colchester, was arrested for operating under suspension, operating an unregistered motor vehicle and making an improper turn, police said.

5/24 — Patrick Duteau, 44, of 8 Barbara Ave., was arrested for operating under suspension, operating without insurance, operating an unregistered motor vehicle and loud exhaust, police said.

5/25 — Robert T. Andrychowski, 55, of 253 Bricktop Rd., Windham, Michelle Lanzi, 39, of 7 Jonathan Dr., Ellington, Marc R. Sanchez, Jr., 26, of 2 Whittier Rd., and Joseph E. Johnson, 31, of 353 Main St., Middlefield, were issued tickets for failure to wear seatbelts, police said.

5/25 — Matthew McArthur, 28, of 33 South Main St., was issued a ticket for operating an unregistered motor vehicle, police said.

5/26 — Michael W. Chatterton, 44, of 146 Jan Dr., Hebron, was issued a ticket for operating an unregistered motor vehicle, police said.

5/26 — Mildred L. Binezski, 20, of 120 Mountain View Rd., was issued a ticket for failure to wear a seatbelt, police said.

5/27 — Amanda Lavigne, 21, of 193 Lake Dr., was issued a ticket for failure to wear a seatbelt, police said.

5/27 — Two 14-year-old male juveniles were referred to juvenile court on the following charges: three counts of third-degree burglary, three counts of third-degree conspiracy to commit burglary, third-degree larceny, third-degree conspiracy to commit larceny, second-degree

criminal mischief and second-degree conspiracy to commit criminal mischief, police said.

5/28 — A 17-year-old male juvenile was arrested pursuant to two warrants on charges of possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana within 1500 feet of school property and sixth-degree larceny, police said.

5/28 — Deborah C. Lanzi, 44, of 16 Dogwood Dr., was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia, police said.

5/30 — Raymond J. Cromwell, Jr., 34, of 72 Skinner St., was issued a ticket for failure to wear a seatbelt, police said.

5/30 — Benjamin G. Niver, 19, of 39 Old Middletown Ave., was arrested for disorderly conduct and first-degree criminal mischief, police said.

5/31 — Jason M. Augeri, 35, of 309 South Main St., Middletown, was arrested for failure to drive right, operating without insurance and operating under the influence of alcohol, police said.

5/31 — Rita E. Jenson, 54, of 48 Mallard Cove, was issued a ticket for failure to wear a seatbelt, police said.

6/1 — Kasey Flanagan, 29, of 15 Bay Rd., was arrested for operating a vehicle while using a cell phone, operating without a license and operating without insurance, police said.

6/1 — Andrew J. Tierney, 45, of 85 North Main St., was issued a ticket for failure to obey traffic control, police said.

6/4 — James A. Brown, 48, of 229 Cross Rd., Colchester, was arrested pursuant to warrants on charges of operating under the influence of alcohol, probation violation, third-degree larceny and third-degree burglary, police said.

6/4 — Arthur Thomas III, 48, of 2 Cobalt Rd., was issued a ticket for traveling unreasonably fast, police said.

6/5 — Tasha Saltus, 23, of 24 Middletown Ave., was arrested for violation of probation, police said.

6/5 — Edmond Geyson, 49, of 123 Wesley Inn & Suites, Middletown, was arrested for violation of a restraining order, police said.

6/6 — Paul J. Gregory, 25, of 36 Jones Hollow Rd., Marlborough, was issued a ticket for using a cell phone while operating a motor vehicle, police said.

6/7 — Eddie A. Pacholski, 17, of 231 Woodbury Circle, Middletown, was arrested for making an unsafe turn and operating under suspension, police said.

6/7 — Barry J. Lockwood, 45, of 46 Wellwyn Dr., Portland, was issued a ticket for traveling too fast and operating an unregistered motor vehicle, police said.

6/8 — Tasha M. Saltus, 23, of 24 Middletown Ave., was arrested pursuant to two warrants, police said, adding that both warrants were for violation of probation.