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State Rep. Christie Carpino, left, recently presented a certificate from the state legislature to Portland residents Judy and John Harper, center. Pictured at right is Helen Higgins, Executive Director of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, who presented the Harpers with a \$5,000 grant to help in the restoration of a barn on the family property. See related story on page 17.

## Engel Declines to Seek Re-Election

by Joshua Anusewicz

The East Hampton Republican Town Committee endorsed its slate of candidates for the November elections at a caucus Tuesday – but more notable than any of the names on the list was one that wasn't: Town Council Chairwoman Melissa Engel.

Engel has been a member of the council for the past 12 years, and was the first female council chairperson in the history of East Hampton. While her decision not to run again may come as a surprise to many, Engel said Wednesday it was simply "time for her to try something else."

Not running again "was a difficult choice, but I think [the council] will be left in good hands," said Engel, who helped recruit some of the council candidates for the Republican Town Committee. Engel said the council "has done some great things" during her tenure, including establishing a commission to clean up Lake Pocotopaug and regionalizing and consolidating town services to save money, like the Chatham Health District and animal control.

When asked if the negativity that has surrounded the council recently had any effect on her decision, Engel said that "it has never bothered me much... I have thick skin." She said that eliminating the position of police chief last year, which led to considerable opposition from the

community, was "exactly the right thing to do."

While Engel conceded "it was not as well-handled as it could have been," she felt the whole ordeal "opened up new discussions" about reviewing the police department budget, which she said was often overlooked.

Engel said she will still remain active in the Republican Town Committee and the Old Home Days Association.

Another current council member not seeking re-election is Thom Cordeiro. He said Wednesday he opted not to run so he "could spend more time with [his] family" and "focus more on work." Cordeiro, who has served eight total years on the council starting in 2001, said he plans to "remain close" to the town political scene and stay active within the community.

"It's time to step back and let others participate," he said. "I've enjoyed serving and believe I've done it to the best of my ability. But this is the best decision for my family." He

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## Marlborough Selectmen Won't Run Again

by Bailey Seddon

Come November, the Marlborough Board of Selectmen will have a very different look to it. All three of the board's current members – including First Selectman Bill Black – confirmed this week they are not seeking re-election.

First Selectman Bill Black and selectman Joe LaBella have each been on the board for five years, and board member Riva Clark has been on for four. The members have similar reasons for why they are stepping down from their positions on the board.

Before coming on the board Black had previously been retired from the telecommunications industry. "I had changed assignments every 12 months; this was the longest assignment I had," Black said, laughing.

Black took the seat on the Board of Selectmen and was initially supposed to be there for 16 months. "I filled an unexpired term," he said. He was elected First Selectman in 2007.

Black has served on many boards and commissions in the town of Marlborough including the Board of Finance, the Board of Assessment and the Board of Selectmen multiple times. He said he has enjoyed being First Selectman but is ready to do something different.

"I had more to do than I had time," Black said, so he "evaluated all the activities in [his] life," and decided it was time to move on. He is looking forward to doing all the activities that retirement allows him to do, such as golfing, building stone walls, doing projects around his

house and traveling. "I love to travel," he said.

Clark, who works in the audio visual department at BKM Total Office, an East Hartford based Furniture Company, has enjoyed working on the board but is also looking to have a little more time for work and home life. "I like government, I truly do," she said. However, Clark said that being in government and politics can be negative at times. Clark expressed how hard it can be to run a board and how decisions are not always well-received by the public. "Elections don't run themselves," they are a lot of work, said Clark. "I want to do something that's positive and uplifting," once she is no longer on the board.

Black, La Bella and Clark talked about the positive aspects they have had on the board, such as not raising the town operations budget for three years. Black mentioned how difficult it was to be First Selectman during such a bad economy. However, the three said they felt they did the best they could for the town.

"We have had to make some hard decisions," said Black, and these decisions have "been driven by a culture that is changing dramatically."



Bill Black

La Bella agreed, saying, "extra fortitude was necessary." La Bella, a trial attorney, is leaving the board to make time for "other interests" he has. One of these will be assisting his wife Irene in coaching the Future Problem Solvers, a program that they are both part of. La Bella said he enjoyed being on the board but there was a lot he missed out on, such as family time, that he will now be able to do. His sons are in the Problem Solvers and he is looking forward to being with them. "That is a unique opportunity," La Bella said. "It means that I can do other things that I enjoy doing."

La Bella gave Black and Clark credit, saying that in the years they have worked together there were only three or four instances where they didn't vote unanimously on something; other than that, the board could always reach an agreement.

Clark also felt the three worked together well. "You need to have discussion," she said. Clark expressed how the "openness of knowledge" when she first joined the board, by LaBella and Black, helped her to be a better member of the board. Black agreed, saying each of them brought a different set of skills to the board.



Joe La Bella

"[Clark and LaBella] had the vision and they had the fortitude to get this town through the fiscal crisis of the past three years," Black said. "The town and residents are better for it."

"We will miss it," but will move on, Black said. Both La Bella and Clark mentioned that they will still have roles in Marlborough public service, just not as big as the ones they had being on the Board of Selectmen.

Republican Town Committee Chairman Ken Hjulstrom said in an e-mail, "I can understand how the fiscal challenges facing our community, along with the many ongoing projects, has been a challenge for the outgoing Board of Selectmen. I am sure it has been a drain on them both personally and professionally."

Hjulstrom added that whomever replaces the existing selectmen will have to face the same challenges. He expressed how important it will be for the new Board of Selectmen to work with the Board of Education and the Board of Finance to uphold the economic responsibilities that each board has. This can be done, Hjulstrom said, through "open dialogue"

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Riva Clark

### Engel cont. from Front Page

added that he has received “lots of support” from people in the community since announcing he wouldn’t be running last week.

Cordeiro said one of his proudest accomplishments on the council was the birth of the Arts and Cultural Commission this year. Cordeiro, who plans to continue working with the commission, said that the amount of talent in East Hampton “deserved to be recognized” and has worked to help the commission grow.

As far as this year’s current slate of Republican candidates, Cordeiro said he is “excited” and commended those who are “willing to step forward as leaders.”

The slate includes five new candidates for Town Council: Patience Anderson, Ted Hintz, Jr., Josh Piteo, Sal Nucifora, and Kim Fontaine. The candidates were voted on by the 25 members in attendance, with Anderson receiving the most votes with 23.

Two other candidates, Glenn Suprono and Andy Perruccio, were nominated from the floor but did not receive enough votes from the committee.

Anderson is currently a member of the town’s Board of Finance. She has also served on the Conservation-Lake Commission and the Economic Development Commission.

Anderson said Wednesday that she has “always wanted to run” and decided recently that the “time was right.” As her most important issue, she said that she hopes the town will work toward keeping taxes down in hopes of attracting new businesses to the town.

“In this economy, with unemployment so high, we could do better as a town,” Anderson said.

Anderson also shared her “excitement” over the slate of candidates and said she looks forward to campaigning with those running for Town Council. She particularly glowed about Fontaine, whom she said brings “a lot of energy” and has been involved in the town in “various different ways.” She added that the new candidates show that this is “the beginning of a shift” for the RTC.

Josh Piteo, who has served on the Board of

Finance and currently serves on the Board of Education, feels he is another candidate that “knows how government works” and has a familiarity with the town. (He is also the host of the monthly *Get Real* civic affairs discussion program on local public access television.) He said Wednesday the town has “many big decisions” coming up over the next year and hopes to be a “part of the conversation.”

“We need to find out how to make our town government work more efficiently,” said Piteo, who received 22 votes from the committee. He added that he hopes to “maximize the amount of money the town receives from the state” and find new ways to “keep taxes low.”

The slate also included four candidates for the Board of Education – incumbents Don Coolican and Sheila Wall, and newcomers Karen Hintz-Lee and Jim Swindal.

In the Board of Finance race, incumbent Maria Peplau will be joined by Don Martin and Jane Traceski to compete for three open positions. Also, Dale Ursin will be running for the Zoning Board of Appeals seat that begins in November 2011, Lori Wilcox will be running for the ZBA seat that begins in November 2012 and Margaret Jacobson will be running for Midstate Regional Planning Agency.

Republican Town Committee Chairman George Coshow said Wednesday that even though several political newcomers are on the slate, most of them “are well known throughout the town.”

“I think the newcomers will fare well,” Coshow said. “I don’t think the incumbents will necessarily have a leg up.” He said the Republican slate will stack up well against the Democratic and Chatham Party in the elections, simply saying, “we have better candidates and a better platform.”

As for the Democratic Town Committee, they held their caucus Thursday night after press time; the DTC already announced their candidates in June, but will be formally endorsing them at the caucus. The Chatham Party will be announcing their slate in August.

### Selectmen cont. from Front Page

between each of the three boards. Hjulstrom brought up the first two failed budget attempts stating that they “demonstrated that the public is demanding more information and is becoming more involved in the budget process than they were in past decades.”

Russell West, chairman of the Democratic Town Committee said he is looking forward to the upcoming election. “It should be an interesting election cycle,” he said, “we are looking forward to it.” West said the Democratic Party is “dealing with the reality of the situation,” and is busy getting ready for the upcoming elections.

The Democratic Town Committee caucus will be held Monday, July 25, at 6 p.m., at Liberty Bank. The Republicans will caucus Tuesday, July 26, at 7 p.m., at Marlborough Tavern.

## Car Flips on Route 2 in Marlborough

A car flipped over and landed on its roof Thursday after the driver lost control of the vehicle.

Jean Buxton, 19, of 161 Tolland St., East Hartford was traveling west on Route 2 on June 14, when she lost control of her vehicle. She had been traveling in the right lane when she crossed over all three lanes and entered the center median. The 1992 Ford Mustang she was driving rolled over onto its roof.

There were only minor injuries reported for Buxton and her passenger, but no hospital visit was needed. She was charged with failure to maintain lane.

### From the Editor’s Desk

## Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

I found myself in Colchester Monday evening, around dinnertime, and did something I, believe it or not, had never done before: I ate at Harry’s Place.

Now, while Colchester was never one of the towns I covered as a reporter, I’ve still been there a bunch of times over the years on various *Rivereast*-related matters. And while I’d passed Harry’s Place several times, before Monday I had never actually stopped by. I’m not exactly sure why; perhaps when I’d drive past it I wasn’t hungry – that occasionally does happen – or I needed to eat something quick and didn’t know how long Harry’s would take. (As it turned out, the service was pretty fast.) But for whatever reason, I’d never paid them a visit. Boy, was I missing out.

I ordered a bacon cheeseburger and large fries. When the order came up, I discovered Harry’s wasn’t joking with the “large” part. It was a ton of fries; more than I could eat, as it turned out. While the fries were crispy and piping hot, they were also pretty much just basic crinkle-cut French fries. I definitely appreciated the fact they were made-to-order, and hadn’t been sitting under a heat lamp losing their crispness, but at the same time they reminded me of standard freshly-fried crinkle-cut fries you could get at, say, the Hebron Harvest Fair. I wasn’t disappointed – they were better than many chain fast food fries – I just wasn’t overly wowed.

The burger, however, was a different story. It was plump, juicy and delicious. I was in a “bacony” mood that evening, but after biting into the burger part of me wished I’d left the bacon off. Oh, the bacon was good, don’t get me wrong; it wasn’t limp and soggy, nor was there too much of it (I love bacon, but I’ve sometimes had bacon cheeseburgers where there’s more bacon than there is burger). But I also didn’t want anything inhibiting the taste of that hamburger patty. It was outstanding, one of the best burgers I’ve ever had, particularly from a quick-serve place like Harry’s. (And trust me, I know my burgers.)

The price was right, too; the bacon cheeseburger, large fries and a medium Pepsi came to a little more than \$8. It wasn’t a whole lot more than what the Bacon Deluxe combo meal at Wendy’s would have cost (which is the meal I had been considering before I decided to take the Harry’s plunge).

I’m definitely glad I paid Harry’s a visit Monday night, and I plan to do so again. I imagine many of you have already discovered Harry’s awesome-ness, but in case you haven’t, I definitely encourage you to stop by the next time you’re in the mood for a quick, but delicious, bite to eat. It’s located right on Route 85 in Colchester, near the intersection of Broadway and Amston Road.

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I’m a big supporter of gay marriage, and

am immensely proud that our state was one of the first in the country to legalize it, nearly three years ago. I don’t agree with the arguments against it, and I *really* don’t agree with the protests against it. People get so angry, but why should they care? Does somebody else’s gay marriage make your straight marriage less valid, less meaningful? Gee, didn’t know your relationship was on such shaky ground.

But, really, one of my favorites is that gay people marrying somehow makes a mockery of the institution. Really, and the straight guy who marries and divorces like five or six different times doesn’t? And the heterosexual couple in Las Vegas that gets drunk and runs off and gets married by an Elvis impersonator in the “Chapel of Love,” that’s all fine and dandy? But two people declaring their love for one another in a stoic ceremony in front of their friends and loved ones...if those two people happen to be gay, well then, they’re making marriage a joke?

Anyway, fortunately many gay marriage supporters seem to have chosen a positive way to combat these protestors: when you come across an anti-gay marriage rally, just make your own signs, laughing at the protestors, having fun at their expense. And at the same time, a few of them also poked fun at the gay stereotypes. I recently came across a webpage that cracked me up: “The Most Hilariously Effective Signs Supporting Gay Marriage.” Here are some highlights, in no real order, and some sanitized because, well, this is a family newspaper:

- 1.: “Three Words That Will Save the Economy: Gay Bridal Registry.”
- 2.: “If God Hates [a derogatory four-letter word for gay people], Why Are We So Cute?”
3. [A caption underneath a picture of Liza Minelli]: “If Liza Can Marry Two Gay People, Why Can’t I Marry One?”
- 4.: “If You Don’t Like Gay Marriage, Blame Straight People. They’re the Ones Who Keep Having Gay Babies.”
5. [A sign held up by a presumably gay man who has already wed]: “Married Four Years; Longer than Britney Spears.”
6. [Another sign held up by a presumably gay guy]: “Would You Rather I Marry Your Daughter?”
- 7.: “We’ll Redecorate the F— Outta You!”
- 8.: “I Liked It But I *Couldn’t* Put a Ring on It!”
9. [This one was held by a guy who was standing next to a woman clad in a long brown corduroy skirt and holding a sign that said “Homosexuality is sin. Christ can set you free.”]: “Corduroy Skirts are a Sin.”
- And lastly, one of my favorites:  
10.: “Did I Vote on *Your* Marriage?”

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See you next week.

## Portland Man Killed in ATV Crash

by Joshua Anusewicz

A Portland man was killed last week when he crashed an all-terrain vehicle and landed on the roadway, police said.

Heribeto Rivera, 35, 165 Airline Ave., was taking turns riding the vehicle up and down Airline Ave. last Wednesday night, said Lt. Ron Milardo, when he lost control and struck a railroad tie that was being used as a garden border. Rivera, who was not wearing a helmet, went airborne with the vehicle and landed on the pavement.

Witnesses to the accident immediately

called 911 and Rivera was transported via LifeStar helicopter to Hartford Hospital with “serious injuries” to his head, Milardo said. Milardo said Tuesday that Rivera had died from the injuries.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation, but Milardo said witnesses reported the vehicle, which was unregistered, traveling at high rates of speed. There had also been several complaints about the vehicle from neighbors in the days leading up to accident, Milardo said.

## Police Investigating Rash of Car Break-Ins in Portland

by Joshua Anusewicz

There have been roughly 20 car break-ins in the downtown area of Portland in the last month, police said Tuesday.

According to Lt. Ron Milardo, these break-ins are “happening randomly” in the area between Main Street and High Street. Milardo said the thieves are targeting unlocked cars and stealing “things like computers, jewelry and even change.”

Milardo said that on Monday night alone, seven car break-ins were reported.

Police presence has been increased in the area, Milardo said, and one officer has been

“taken off the road” and is investigating the larcenies. The police are currently working on a few leads, but Milardo did not say if there were any suspects.

Milardo asked that residents do a “better job of securing [their] vehicles” and advised them to report any unfamiliar people in the neighborhood. He added that, although the larcenies have been happening in the downtown area, residents in other parts of town should also take the proper precautions to prevent break-ins.

# Possible Park Dedication Stirs Controversy in Andover

by Courtney Parent

Emotions erupted at a July 6 Board of Selectmen meeting when the board and one local resident found themselves amidst a cobweb of confusion when discussing the possible dedication of Veterans Monument Park.

With many recent improvements to the park and with the upcoming Veterans Day holiday falling on “11/11/11,” resident and Beautification Committee member Dianne Grenier said it seemed like a “no-brainer” to formally dedicate the park to the veterans this year.

Grenier, though, found out that the “no-brainer” was no such thing as selectmen raised questions and concerns about the potential park dedication ceremony.

Grenier said that when she originally brought the idea forward to the board earlier this year, members suggested forming a committee and asked her to come back to them with names of possible members. However, she said, when she returned at the July meeting equipped with the names of former selectwoman Linda Knowlton, selectwoman Julie Haverl and Memorial Day Committee member Gerry Wright; selectmen expressed further concern and no committee was formed.

“It’s really a very frustrating situation here,” Grenier said. “As a volunteer. I’m just not get-

ting a warm and fuzzy feeling.”

However, First Selectman Bob Burbank said the “original format” was that there would be a sign unveiling and that there would be a committee for that. Burbank also said there was concern over the ceremony focusing on a place or an object, rather than placing the proper emphasis on the town’s veterans.

“I certainly respect the veterans, but I don’t want them overshadowed,” said Burbank. “Any ceremony should be a dedication to the vets and not to a park or to a sign—to the individuals who gave their service to the country. That was my basic concern.”

According to Grenier, the monument park area was formed in 1992 when the state Department of Transportation (DOT) realigned routes 6 and 316. After the realigning was complete, local resident Bruce Goulet was “instrumental” in the efforts to move war monuments from various locations in town to the current location.

In 2002, the area was expanded when the DOT conducted a Route 6 safety improvement project which essentially allowed for an additional piece of property adjacent to the current piece to be joined, said Grenier.

It was not until November 2009 that the state

turned over the two aforementioned pieces of property to the town. Then in December 2009, Grenier said, the Board of Selectmen officially named the area Andover Veterans Monument Park.

At this time, the main concerns of selectmen revolve around a prior dedication at the park and the possibility of the dedication overshadowing the initial work of other individuals in years past.

Specifically, Burbank pointed to Goulet who he said was responsible for the formation of and most of the original work completed at the park.

“My comment was the Veterans Park was dedicated years ago,” Burbank said. “And we had a couple individuals that worked tirelessly for years to get that park in the monumented place and one individual who actually built the flagpole himself and worked awful hard for that.”

In contrast, Grenier said that while there may have been a dedication to the memorial when the war monuments were originally set in place, there had never been a dedication to the park since its inception in 2009.

Since the area was officially deeded over to the town and named in 2009, there have been

multiple improvements made to help the site look as presentable as possible. Among the most recent of these was the installation of a sign officially naming the land “Andover Veterans Monument Park.”

A fundraising campaign for a sign at the park began in December 2009. According to Grenier, over \$5,000 was raised and the sign has finally been completed.

“While I appreciate the work that went into getting donations for the sign and additional work and improvements that were made to the park itself,” said Burbank. “This doesn’t qualify somebody to go in and say I am responsible for this new park dedication and take credit away from the individual who put all the work in. I didn’t want that credit to be taken away from Bruce Goulet.”

Along similar lines, Grenier acknowledged Goulet for a “great job” as well as for serving as the “spearhead to make the whole memorial happen.”

At this time, there is no scheduled dedication ceremony on Veterans Day. However, there will be an “unveiling ceremony” for the new sign at Veterans Monument Park this Sunday, July 24 at 6 p.m.

## Colchester Business Gets TV Time

by Bailey Seddon

Steve Roberts has been in the garage door business for 20 years – and on Wednesday, he also had a brush with show business.

Roberts, who owns A-1 Overhead Door LLC, was interviewed by WFSB-TV Channel 3 news reporter Melissa Cole, for a segment on the channel’s *Better Connecticut* series.

Before owning his own business Roberts, who has lived in Colchester for 12 years, worked for United Nuclear for seven years. The business eventually closed, and the property is now the site of the Mohegan Sun casino. After United Nuclear, Roberts started working in his current trade for other companies and decided he wanted to go off on his own. He is now the sole owner and operator of A-1 Overhead Door LLC. “It was good from the get-go,” Roberts said. “I never really run into any problems.”

Roberts tried to get into business with a partner, but in the end it just didn’t work out. “A [business] partnership is like a marriage,” Roberts said; it is a lot of work. Roberts does all the sales, installation, repairs and answers the phone himself – this last part is a good thing, since one of his slogans is “we answer the phone.” Roberts was proud to say that he always makes sure he gets back to people right away if he missed their call.

Roberts said he likes owning his own business, and being the only person to install the doors. He enjoys being able to meet with all his customers; then if a customer has a problem, he has already been there and installed it himself, making it easier for the customer and Roberts.

“I have some great customers,” he said.

And he wants more of them. Roberts contacted Channel 3 and asked them for the interview because he was hoping to get to more of Connecticut. He travels around most of the state, he said, but there are still many people who don’t know about him. Roberts used the garage of a friend for the interview. Inside, there were four different models of garage doors, a poster board with pictures of different houses and their garages, a banner with the name of his business and contact information and chairs for Cole and Roberts to sit on during the inter-

view.

Channel 3 isn’t the only way Roberts is getting his business out there. He currently advertises in the *Rivereast*, its sister paper *The Glastonbury Citizen*, on the website [servicemagic.com](http://servicemagic.com) and he is hoping to soon get his business advertised on the “ticker” that runs across the bottom of the screen on Channel 3 morning newscasts.

Roberts said he was very excited to be getting the word out about his business to more people in the state.

“It’s the market that I haven’t captured,” he said. “I’m trying to educate the consumer on what’s out there.”

While waiting for the cameraman to set up Wednesday, Cole told Roberts about her broken garage door, laughing as she explained that she has to do it manually everyday. Roberts laughed and said, “You should have called me!” They both laughed and then the interview began.

Roberts was quick to talk about his main distributor, Wayne-Dalton, whom he trusts and uses more than any other. “They really stand behind their products,” Roberts said of the company. If he ever has anything he needs, “They just take care of it,” he said. Roberts does not have a showroom, but anyone looking to pick out a garage door can go to Wayne-Dalton’s website, [wayne-dalton.com](http://wayne-dalton.com). Potential customers can even take a picture of their own house and upload it onto the site and it will allow them to see what different doors would look like on their garage. Roberts also had good things to say about Genie, the company he gets most of his garage door openers from.

There are many types of options for garage doors, and garage door openers, that people can look into purchasing. Different types of doors could be wood, insulated steel doors and have pinch proof joints, motion-activated lights, wind-load for high wind areas, privacy glass, and many more options. Not to mention all the different colors and styles to choose from. The most popular door, Roberts said, is the Wayne-Dalton 8300, which was the door for the garage he was being filmed in. This is a high-insulated door with a lifetime warranty and is



A-1 Overhead Door owner Steve Roberts, right, was recently interviewed by Channel 3 news reporter Melissa Cole for a segment of the channel’s *Better Connecticut* series. The installment will air next Thursday, July 28.

Energy Star rated. Roberts mentioned that good garage doors can help sell a home. “I have had realtors who have sold a house because I changed the doors,” he said.

Roberts was hesitant about saying how much an installation can cost. “I don’t really like to go on prices because every house differs,” he said. For instance, a door on a new garage can be relatively easy to install, while one on an older or more beat-up garage might take more work. The standard garage door size, Roberts said, is usually nine feet wide by seven feet high; this can cost anywhere from \$575 to \$800, depending on the house. However, Roberts does not like to estimate the cost until he has seen the house. “You can’t do it off the cuff,” he said.

Roberts mentioned one of his busiest times,

last year, when everyone wanted to order their garage doors, before a cut-off date, in order to get a 30 percent tax rebate. “I was never so busy,” Roberts said smiling. He went on vacation to Jamaica soon after. Besides motorcycles, going to Jamaica is one of his favorite things to do, which explains why he goes two or three times a year.

Roberts had many thanks to the people that helped him to make the filming possible. “I want to thank Jeff Naples for letting us use his house,” also “Colchester Pizza for supplying food for us.”

The *Better Connecticut* featuring Roberts and A-1 Overhead Door will air Thursday, July 28, at 3 p.m., on WFSB-TV Channel 3.

# Social Networking Policy Proposed in Colchester

by Courtney Parent

With new social media sites popping up left and right with every click of the mouse, many school boards are implementing social networking policies to set specific guidelines that staff must adhere to. The Colchester Board of Education is no exception, as it seeks to protect the social butterflies in the community.

The proposal for a social networking policy was introduced at the board's meeting last Tuesday, July 12. Board of Education Chairman Ron Goldstein said that establishing such a policy is "something that a lot of districts are tending to" because it is "something that is important to people."

Superintendent of Schools Karen Loiselle said the idea for a social networking policy came from the guidance of both lawyers and the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE).

Loiselle also pointed to instances in the news where administrators had been caught using different media outlets in an unprofessional manner as an additional push to implement such a policy.

"We've all seen stories in the media where educators are not appropriately utilizing it," Loiselle said. "We wanted to make sure there was no confusion. We have an employee handbook and the policy will go in it."

One of those instances was when former Windsor Locks Superintendent of Schools Dave Telesca was terminated after posting inappropriate comments on Facebook during his first

few days on the job last August. The comments centered on how easy his position was and his forcing a staff member to resign.

According to Loiselle, while the Board of Education does not want to limit any individual's freedom of speech, board members do want to ensure that staff and administrators are "acting appropriately."

Outlined in the proposed social networking policy are instances when the board will respond to the use of social media by employees, rules concerning personal social networking and guidelines concerning social media activity sponsored by Colchester Public Schools.

A few specific instances when the board will respond to the use of media include: when an employee use interferes with the work of the school district, when social media is used to harass co-workers or other members of the school community, and when it breaches confidentiality obligations of school district employees and violates school rules and regulations or state and federal laws.

According to Loiselle, in the prospective policy, student and staff online communication is not "disallowed." However, there are very clear guidelines set for what the subject matter of the communication can be and the professional standards that must be adhered to.

In regards to personal social networking, one of the main rules of the proposed policy states that employees are required to maintain "appropriate professional boundaries" with stu-

dents, parents and guardians, as well as colleagues.

And while an additional rule states that "employees are individually responsible for their personal posts on social media," the proposed policy does acknowledge that users are not always in control of what others may post, including tagged photos.

Another rule lumps the proposed social networking policy with all general Board of Education policies and state and federal laws which regulate off-duty conduct applying to social media activity, including policies related to public trust, illegal harassment, code of conduct, mandated reporting and protecting confidential information.

"Sometimes people are more informal in their private lives," Loiselle said. "We wanted them to be mindful of the fact that when communicating with students and parents they need to be professional."

Also included in the proposed policy are guidelines for any employees who choose to use social media for the purpose of instruction, communication of activities, games or responsibilities for a school-based club, activity or sports team.

These rules include, among others: requiring an employee to inform a supervisor prior to setting up a school-related site; permitting parents and guardians to access any school-related site their child has been invited to join; and allowing any employee's supervisor access to any

site established by the employee for a school-related purpose.

In regards to any possible problems arising, Loiselle said that similarly to any other rare instances when they hear an employee has not conducted themselves in an appropriate manner, it is generally brought to attention by a parent.

Board of Education Chairman Ron Goldstein added that though social networking activity would be in no way monitored, any problems that presented themselves would be handled appropriately.

"We don't intend to be actively monitoring," Goldstein said. "We don't even have the resources to do that. If something were to arise we would respond to it."

Goldstein went on to say that with any school policy, there is a general expectation that employees will comply to the guidelines.

In regards to disciplinary consequences, the policy states that "violation of this policy may lead to discipline up to and including the termination of employment consistent with state and federal law and union contracts."

According to Loiselle, all school policies are required to have two readings, the first of which took place at the Board of Education's meeting last week. The policy will next be discussed at the board's Sept. 13 meeting. (The board will not meet in August.) If the policy passes, which Loiselle anticipates it will, the policy will take effect immediately.

## Colchester Vet Had Great Time at Annual Golden Age Games

by Bailey Seddon

Martin Lopez was thrilled to be in Honolulu, HI, for the 25th annual National Veterans Golden Age Games in May. This was Lopez's ninth year participating in the games, and he couldn't have been happier about its location.

"Once we got to Hawaii the fun and excitement began," Lopez said. His wife, Connie, joined him on the trip.

Lopez suffered a stroke when he was 50 and then again when he was 54. The strokes left him without the ability to speak and restricted use of his right hand. He communicates by typing with his left hand either into a computer or a computer-aided voice generator. This is why the games are so important to him; they allow him to interact and enjoy sports with other veterans.

"Sports were a very big part of my life," Lopez said. "I did find out about the games; thank heaven they have a handicapped division."

Lopez qualifies for the games, not just because of his handicap but because he is a veteran of the Vietnam War; he was in the Air Force from 1966 to 1970, where he flew B-52 Stratofortress, a heavy bombing aircraft.

Lopez raises money for the trip by selling raffle tickets for food gift certificates outside Tri Town, Noel's and the East Hampton and Colchester Stop & Shop stores. He was at the Colchester location last August when he was robbed. Lopez said he stepped into the Stop & Shop momentarily and three men stole his collection box. Lopez said there was only change

in his box at the time, but since his fundraising was temporarily halted, he estimated he missed out on making about \$200. State Police listed his loss at \$280.

Lopez was, understandably, upset by the robbery, but the way the community supported him made a tough situation better.

"This community really got behind me," Lopez said, "[the] community was taken by [the robbery]...they just came and bought tickets from me."

Despite the robbery, Lopez raised enough to get to the games and is very grateful to the people that helped him get there.

"I had dedicated these games to all who had helped me go, all those customers at Stop & Shop in Colchester and East Hampton, Tri Town, Noel's, everyone who donated to my team, you all made this trip to paradise great," Lopez said.

Martin is the president/team captain of the CT Mullet's Marauders. The team has monthly meetings and is constantly holding bake sales and fund raisers to ensure they get to the games each year.

"I try to get more vets to take part," Lopez said. As of now, all the members of the team are men. However, Lopez was pleased to say that next year there will be a woman added to the team.

This year, there were 12 members of the team who went to Hawaii for the games. Four of the members, unfortunately, could not make it as their doctors did not deem the long trip safe

enough for them to make.

The games started off with a unique opening ceremony. That is, unique to New Englanders, but not so much for native Hawaiians. There was a traditional blowing of the horns, then speeches by a tribal leader, Secretary of Veterans Affairs (and Hawaiian native) Erik K. Shinseki and a four-star general.

Last year Martin, and his team, competed against 700 other veterans; this year he was competing against 950. Despite this increase in competition the team still came home with 12 medals. These included a bronze in nine-ball, shuffleboard and cycling, and gold medals in table tennis, discus and javelin.

One of the most impressive wins, said Lopez, was by a man from California, Jack Faust. Faust turned 100 during the trip and won two gold medals.

Besides the games Lopez and teammates enjoyed a number of trips after they were through with the competitions for the day. These included a trip to the USS Arizona Memorial, the Hale Koa Luau Gardens and the National Cemetery of the Pacific.

"This was a very special outing for us all...so moving...as Hawaii remembers Dec. 7, 1941," Lopez said. During this ceremony there was a Lantern Floating Ceremony where 3,000 lanterns were lit.

Next year's games will take place in St. Louis Missouri from May 30-June 12, 2012. For more information visit, [veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov](http://veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov).



**Local veteran Martin Lopez recently returned from Hawaii, where he participated in the National Veteran Golden Age Games. He's shown here wearing around his neck one of the medals he won at this year's event.**

# Abundant Life Missionaries in Colchester Collecting for Haiti Trip

by Bailey Seddon

The Abundant Life of the Assemblies of God has already built two orphanages in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and parishioners are planning to build another one next month.

While building this orphanage, they are also going to have the young men and women in the current orphanages, soon to turn 18, help them build to learn basic skills for life.

Church leaders feel it is important for the young adults to have such skills as welding, carpentry and electrical work. This way they will have a trade when they leave the orphanage and need to have a way to live. Once they turn 18, these new adults have no options for jobs and therefore for survival, said Rev. Shirley Ellis, associate pastor at Abundant Life.

Ellis has been a member of her church for 30 years and has been involved in Haiti for 22 of them. "Haiti is my first love when it comes to missions," she said. Ellis had been a business process consultant at Pratt and Whitney but retired in 2008 so she could devote herself completely to her church and its missions.

David Ojeda, who has been a member of Abundant Life since the early 2000s, is also a retired employee of Pratt and Whitney. He retired in 2008 and had worked in research and development. He went on his first mission to Haiti last year and realized how much he enjoyed helping people in need.

Ojeda decided to go on the mission to Haiti because of Kim Cornell, a woman he knew from a previous church. Cornell had gone to Africa with Ellis' brother-in-law on a mission and enjoyed the work so much that she went to Haiti. While in Haiti, the devastating 2010 earthquake hit.

"When she saw the bodies, the devastation, that really put it in her heart that she had to come back and do something," Ellis said. "The earthquake left a deep impression on her." Seeing the toll this took on people, and being part of it, prompted Cornell to quit her job and become a nurse so she could better help the people in Haiti.

Cornell's devotion pushed Ojeda into going to Haiti, and once he started helping, he found he didn't want to stop. He is a perfect candidate to go, said Ellis, because of his work at Pratt and Whitney; he has the knowledge and skills the people need to help build houses, install plumbing and other such necessary work.

"They need somebody with knowledge...to supervise," Ojeda said. "The need is overwhelming."

Ojeda, Ellis and two other members of their church, along with members from various other churches, are going to Port-au-Prince in August and hope that the building of the orphanage will be a kind of trade school for the men and women, and can help them to find jobs in the future. Including the four from Abundant Life, there are 30 missionaries from various churches going to Haiti next month.

The most important part of this trip is getting the tools that are needed down to Haiti with them. Once there, the tools are too expensive to buy, Ojeda said. He and a colleague went to Eko Depot, Haiti's version of Home Depot, and tried to buy a screwdriver and an aluminum ladder. The screwdriver was \$60 and the ladder was \$260. These kinds of prices are not an option for people who are using donations or their own money to build an orphanage.

This is why donations are so important for the church. Ellis and Ojeda are grateful to the people that have donated, but more tools are needed for the trip, such as circular saws, extension cords, drill bits, hammers, measurement tapes, jig saw, "C" clamps and many more such tools.

"It's essential to have these tools," Ojeda said.

The missionaries bring these tools in suitcases and check them into the plane. This serves not only to bring the tools but also to provide people in need with another place to put their things. The missionaries leave almost everything they bring, Ellis said, and come home with essentially just the clothes on their backs.

Besides tools, the missionaries bring food, clothing and medicine.

The people of Haiti will sometimes wait for hours in tents to get these essentials, especially for medicine they need for themselves or their families. "It's sad to see all the young mothers with their kids," Ojeda said. The missionaries bring such medicine as Tylenol, Advil and other over-the-counter medications. There is also a dentist who comes to provide toothpaste and toothbrushes and tries to teach the people how important dental hygiene is.

While there, the missionaries also make water filters for people. Two bins are taken and a hole is drilled into the bottom of one and the



Abundant Life of the Assemblies of God member David Ojeda, left, and the church's associate pastor, Rev. Shirley Ellis, are traveling to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, next month to help build an orphanage.

top of another. The bin with the hole on the bottom sits on the bin with the hole on the top. A filter is put into the bin with the hole on the bottom and goes through the first bin and into the other.

A table saw was also made from scratch, called a "Franko Saw" by the group, after one of the doctors who used to be an orphan in Haiti. The group also made a garden, about one acre in size, digging it all by hand.

"This is what Jesus would do," Ellis said. "We are concerned about their souls but also about the physical aspect."

Ojeda agreed, saying, "You volunteer everything...your time, your money, your skill."

Members of the church, Ellis and Ojeda included, go on mission trips every two or three months. Extra missionaries are always welcome; for this trip in particular, Ojeda said, two

or more welders are needed, who could be essential to the construction. However, anyone who is not able to donate or join them on this trip is welcome to do so the next time around.

The people of Haiti are in desperate need of basic human essentials. Many of them live in tents and those who are lucky enough to have electricity don't even get it 24/7; it comes and goes in waves.

"It's sad to see a family of four living in this little tent," says Ojeda while looking at pictures from his Haiti mission. Ellis added that the tent is even better than what other people have – cardboard boxes.

"We want to make a difference," Ellis said.

To donate for the trip, stop by the Abundant Life of the Assemblies of God, on 85 Skinner Rd., during the week or call Ellis at 860-965-7728.

# East Hampton YPCCA Presenting Summer Musical

by Joshua Anusewicz

The Young People's Center for Creative Arts (YPCCA) is back with another summer show, bringing the hit musical *Rent* to the East Hampton High School auditorium this month.

The group will use 87 kids, ranging from seventh grade to recently-graduated high school seniors, to put on the show that director Rachel Mansfield said she has hoped to put on for years.

"If you told me we could put this on 10 years ago, I would have said 'no chance,'" Mansfield said. "But we have an exceptionally talented group of kids, so we decided that this was the year to go for it."

Mansfield said that when the kids found out they would be performing *Rent*, "they freaked" because the kids "know the show just as well as [the staff] does." Mansfield, who was in theater school when the show debuted in 1996, said it is also one of her favorites.

*Rent* is classified as an operetta and takes place in New York City in 1989. The story, which is entirely sung, follows eight artists over the course of one year, as they become friends through love and loss. Mansfield said that other recurring themes, like AIDS and same-sex relationships, have kept theater groups, particularly young groups, from performing the show.

"It's different than what you would usually see from a youth theater group," said Mansfield, who admitted that she expected "some backlash" from parents when the staff decided to approve the show. She said she has yet to hear any complaints, but did say that sessions have been planned to speak with the performers "about things like AIDS and addiction" so they

have a better understanding of the topics.

The version that YPCCA will be performing is the "school edition," which Mansfield described as a "tamed down" version – featuring less-harsh language and the removal of one particularly explicit song, "Contact" – that is tailored to high-school-aged performers, and is intended for ages 13 and older. She said YPCCA will be only the fifth youth group in Connecticut to perform the show because the show is "so difficult."

Music director Matt Campisi, who will be playing piano during the show, said that even though the show is difficult, the kids are "rising to the challenge." He commended the younger performers, saying that they have "stepped in" and done a great job dealing with the serious issues of the story.

Campisi added that the shows most well-known musical numbers, like "Seasons of Love" and "I'll Cover You," will all be included. He said that "I'll Cover You" will include all 87 members of the group.

Mansfield said that the production is "ahead of schedule" and that the kids are "focused on the show." She promises that the show will be performed "with higher quality" than the audience would be used to. The set is in the process of being constructed, with staging already set up to mimic the authentic New York City feel.

She describes the theme of the show as "living each day as if it's your last" and "loving each moment," ideals that she hopes will translate to the kids and the audience.

The show will premiere Thursday, July 28,



The Young People's Center for Creative Arts will perform *Rent* later this month. The cast of the musical is shown rehearsing the song "Seasons of Love" earlier this week.

at 7 p.m. and will be performed on Friday and Saturday, also at 7 p.m. The Sunday, July 31, show will be held at 2 p.m.

Tickets will be \$12 for adults and \$10 for

seniors and students under 12. Tickets will be available at the door, or you can visit [ypcca.org](http://ypcca.org) or call Mansfield at 860-267-2911 for more information.

# Settlement Details Released in East Hampton; Reimondo Gets \$275,000

by Joshua Anusewicz

After a few weeks of suspense, the town manager's office released the details of the settlement agreement between Police Chief Matthew Reimondo and the Town of East Hampton, Town Council Chair Melissa Engel, Vice Chair John Tuttle, and former Town Manager Jeffery O'Keefe on Wednesday.

According to the agreement, the town "and/or its insurers" have agreed to pay Reimondo a total of \$275,000 - \$75,000 to Leon Rosenblatt, Reimondo's attorney, and \$200,000 to Reimondo. The agreement will settle all claims against the "East Hampton Released Parties."

The agreement also states that the signing of the agreement by the "East Hampton Released Parties" does not constitute "admission that any of [the parties] has violated or failed to comply with the law in any manner." It also states that the parties "specifically deny that they violated any of Mr. Reimondo's rights in connection with his employment or separation from employment with East Hampton."

The agreement also withdraws four pending Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) complaints against Engel, Tuttle,

O'Keefe, and Sgt. Michael Green of the East Hampton Police. The agreement states that the lawsuit against Green, who was promoted to a new lieutenant position when Reimondo was fired, was "withdrawn with prejudice and without costs."

According to a statement from Interim Town Manager John Weichsel, the town's insurance company will pay \$237,500 of the settlement, while the town will be responsible for the remaining \$37,500. Weichsel added that the settlement was "very favorable."

The approval of the agreement came after an executive session on June 28, when the Town Council voted 5-0 - with Engel and Tuttle recused - to ratify the settlement. The agreement, which was hashed out May 31 in an eight-hour session in Hartford, had to be approved by June 30 as the terms of the deal would have expired after 30 days. The original council vote to make a compromise offer to Reimondo to settle the legal claims took place in April.

Reimondo did not comment on the details of the settlement on Wednesday, but did release an official statement.

"It's taken over a year to bring these issues to

a close, but I'm pleased to finally put this chapter of my professional life behind me and continue to proudly serve the citizens of East Hampton - free of legal and political distractions," the statement read. "On behalf of myself and my family, I once again thank the citizens of East Hampton for their continued support."

The finalizing of the settlement brings an end to the saga that has stretched over the past year. Last June, then-Town Manager O'Keefe made the decision to eliminate the police chief position, citing "budgetary reasons." Many residents felt that O'Keefe was retaliating against Reimondo, who had forwarded three sexual harassment complaints against O'Keefe to the town attorney.

Several heated town meetings were held throughout the summer, with residents protesting to reinstate Reimondo back to his position. O'Keefe resigned amid mounting pressure from residents, who voted to reinstate Reimondo at a referendum in November.

Engel said Thursday that "although I am not able to discuss the original amount that was requested by Reimondo, obviously [based on the length of the negotiations] it was a greater

amount than what was negotiated." She did say, however, that she believes the figure agreed upon was still "too high," citing the standard practices of municipal insurance companies as the reason for the settlement figure.

"When you sue a municipality, they always want to settle," Engel said. "They say that it ends up costing the town more in the long run. That's the reality."

Engel said that the \$37,500 that the town owes from the settlement will come from the town's contingency fund. Engel also added that during the negotiations, both sides requested that there be no gag order, which allows all information and comments to be made public.

Rosenblatt said Thursday he was "satisfied" with the amount from the settlement, but would not comment on the negotiations. He added that the settlement is "as complete a victory as could possibly happen" and thanked town residents for all of their support.

"As well as Matt and I played our roles, the people won this are the people of East Hampton," Rosenblatt said. "Their showing up to meetings and forcing their opinions had the biggest impact."

## Nine Troop K Positions to be Cut

by Courtney Parent

While Governor Dannel Malloy's recently-released Budget Balancing Plan might include the elimination of \$1.6 million in debt, it also includes the elimination of 57 state trooper positions.

According to State Police Lt. Paul Vance the 57 troopers included in the round of layoffs are from all across the state and are from the 121st training troop: the most recent graduates and newest members of the force.

Nine of those cut trooper positions will come from Troop K in Colchester, the state police barracks that covers Colchester, Hebron, Andover and Marlborough, as well as other area towns.

According to Vance, public safety is the primary concern in regards to the layoffs, and state police will be making changes to ensure that public safety is not sacrificed.

"We're making plans for transfers to ensure that the deliverance of public safety is not affected," said Vance.

According to Vance, the layoffs will not affect the resident state trooper operations. Vance went on to say that if two troopers were "taken out," then two would be "put back in." When asked to elaborate, Vance explained that if there were three detectives working in the sex offender unit then one of those may return to uni-

form so that there would be an adequate response team.

"We've got to consolidate and move people around," said Vance, "meaning some people may be doing two jobs instead of one job."

According to Troopers Union President Andrew Matthews in addition to the 57 state trooper positions being cut, there are additional 40 civilian positions being eliminated for a total of 97. The layoffs will take effect on August 24, as six weeks' notice is required by contract.

Matthews shared similar concerns over public safety, as well as trooper safety. He said homicides and violent crimes are on the rise, adding that people can see this for themselves simply by turning on the evening news and seeing a straight 10-15 minutes of nothing but police news.

"Public safety isn't about balancing a budget," said Matthews, "It's about preserving life and property, right? When you go to preserving peoples' lives I don't know that we want to have response time diminished."

Matthews continued on to say that while there may be plans to consolidate and move people around in order to keep enough troopers on the street for response, some of the "most serious stuff" won't be getting done "behind the scenes" or will be done by smaller

numbers.

In addition, Matthews pointed to the costs incurred through putting the 57 recent troopers who just graduated training in November of 2010 through that training class and then laying them off. He said the troopers would receive four months of medical and would collect unemployment, which are both paid for by the state. Matthews also said that with the decreased numbers, overtime costs within the agency will "go through the roof."

Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman said Monday that while the decision was an "extremely difficult" one, it was necessary in order to balance the budget. Wyman also said that with the \$1.6 billion deficit, there were not many "pain-free options" to choose from.

"As unfortunate as these layoffs are, the governor and I do not believe they will jeopardize public safety," said Wyman. "We are fully confident Commissioner Bradford will be able to effectively manage his agency and deliver the same level of service and professionalism that the citizens of Connecticut have come to expect from state police."

A summary of the Budget Balancing Plan outlines the changes in budgeted positions including layoffs, retirements, and vacancies in permanent full-time positions. Including the

loss incurred within the police force there are 6,560 changes to full-time positions. Total savings found in the summary include \$704,053,681 during fiscal year 2012 and \$905,043,356 in 2013 for a total of \$1.6 billion to completely eliminate the current budget deficit.

Despite, the government's attempts to defeat the deficit and ensuring that public safety will not be compromised, Matthews expressed concern. Specifically, he pointed to continually decreasing numbers of total members on the force, addressing the statutory mandate passed in 1998 by then-Governor John Rowland that requires that the state employ 1,248 troopers. However, Matthews said the last time the state exceeded that number was in 2009 when there were 1,283 troopers. Currently, Matthews said, there are just 1,127 troopers, which will be reduced to 1,070 after the layoffs take effect.

"They will tell you that they aren't risking public safety," said Matthews, "but we're down 156 troopers from our high in 2009. Those troopers provided a vital service. Most of the units are already stripped down... what are we going to do now? Strip the sex offender unit or the organized crime unit or the gang unit. Basically we're going to let the bad guys know publicly that we are stripping our units."

## Area Towns Do Well on CMTs, CAPTs

by Joshua Anusewicz

The results of the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) have been released, and the *Rivereast* towns scored above state averages in almost every area.

The tests were taken in all Connecticut school districts this March and the results were released earlier this month. The scores are broken into five scoring categories: below basic, basic, proficient, goal, and advanced.

The best results came from grades five through eight, where every town scored above the state average in terms of average scale score, percentage at/above goal, and percentage at/above proficiency on the CMT. In four cases, students scored 100 percent proficiency - math for Andover fifth-graders, math for Marlborough and Portland sixth-graders and reading for Andover sixth-graders.

In third-grade results, all districts were above state averages in reading and writing, but Colchester was below the state average in percentage at/above goal and proficiency in math. In fourth-grade results, math and reading scores were all above state averages, but East Hampton was below percentage at/above goal.

Fifth- and eighth-grade students took CMTs that included science portions, and all districts scored well above state averages.

The CAPT results show that all 10th-grad-

ers from the four area high schools are above the state level in math, science, and reading. In writing, Colchester was below the state level in average scale and percentage at/above goal; however, 91 percent of Colchester 10th-graders are still at/above proficiency.

Although the RHAM district scored above 90 percent proficiency in seventh, eighth and 10th grade, Superintendent of Schools Bob Siminski said Tuesday he thinks "[the district] can do better." He said that one of the goals of the district is to make a "connection" to show the relevancy of the tests to what the students are learning.

"We need some extra motivation to boost our scores," Siminski said. He said that starting with this year's test results, students must be "goal" level to achieve high school graduation requirement. He added that those students who do not reach the goal can complete a "portfolio" to achieve the requirements.

According to the results, RHAM sophomores were 72 percent at/above goal in math, 67 percent in science, 64 percent in reading and 71 in writing.

Portland Superintendent of Schools Sally Doyen said Wednesday she was "extremely pleased" with the results. She also recognized the 100 percent proficiency in sixth-grade math, which she said was a first for the district.

"This accomplishment shows how hard all of our teachers and students work," Doyen said. "Students continue to make progress in their learning as they progress through the grades."

Doyen said the principals of the Portland schools are currently analyzing the results, which will be presented to the Board of Education in the fall.

Barb Gilbert, director of curriculum for Colchester schools, said Wednesday she is "delighted with the growth" that is happening as students progress through the school system, adding that Colchester is "exceeding state averages in growth."

"It shows that the program is good and we're doing a good job preparing kids," Gilbert said. She said there were concerns for the low scores for third grade, adding that it was something the Board of Education would be focusing on.

Gilbert also said the district would be implementing "benchmarks" in reading and math for ninth- and 10th-graders at Bacon Academy to improve the district's CAPT scores, which went down this year. She said the benchmarks would be used to find out where students are struggling and better addressing the needs of the students in these subjects.

The administration will meet next week, Gilbert said, to establish goals for the upcoming year and deciding where the district would

be "targeting professional development."

Hebron Superintendent of Schools Ellie Cruz said Wednesday the district had only taken "a preliminary look" at the results, but said she was most "pleased" by the results in reading for grades three through six. Cruz said that over the last two years, the number of students proficient in reading had gone up 8 percent.

Cruz said Hebron has "set [their] bar higher" than state and national levels in hopes of improving district-wide education. She said that the test results not only give the district a "benchmark" to work towards, but also help "align" what is being taught to get the most out of the students.

"We ask, 'are we aligning our instruction and curriculum to higher standards?'" Cruz said. "If we are reaching those standards, we feel we are preparing our students the best we can."

Cruz said district staff will analyze the results in August and will present the results at a community presentation in October.

Hebron won't be the only town making a community presentation about the CMTs and CAPTs. In each of the *Rivereast* towns, the test results will be discussed more in-depth at Board of Education meetings this fall.

To find the results for your district, visit [cmtreports.com](http://cmtreports.com) for CMT scores or visit [captreports.com](http://captreports.com) for CAPT scores.



Members of Boy Scout Troop 39 recently flocked the troop's founding scoutmaster, Harry Kinghorn at his daughter's home in Marlborough. Pictured from left are Kinghorn, current scoutmaster Richard Barstow and scouts Rob Barstow, C.J. Alessandro, Andrew Ketchum, Steven Pampreen and Michael Pampreen.



Jack Cantin of Schneider Electric was so impressed with how hard the scouts were working to raise money for their Sweden trip, he told them if they collected \$1,000, he would give them \$500. When Cantin found out that they had raised \$3,800, he raised that number to \$1,500. He recently presented the boys with a check.

## Marlborough Boy Scouts Raise Money for Sweden Trip

by Bailey Seddon

Boy Scout Troop 39 got a special treat Wednesday night, when they got to "flock" their founding scoutmaster, Harry Kinghorn, when he came home to visit his daughter. Flocking is just one of the many ways in which the scouts have raised money to go on their jamboree trip to Sweden.

Kinghorn started the troop in 1942, when his brother-in-law, then in eighth grade, came home and said he wanted to start a troop and Kinghorn was going to be the leader. Kinghorn agreed and got 12 boys, each 12 years or over, and Troop 39 was born. "My dad is all about the kids," said his daughter Bonnie Anderson. Kinghorn and the original Troop 39 learned swimming on Gardner Lake, tracking, cooking (which his wife judged), camping and building fires.

That same year, Kinghorn went into the service; he served in the Navy during WWII, from 1942-45. When he got back, he took over his duties as scout master and stayed until he retired and handed it off to the next master, Ernie Thompson. Kinghorn is happy with what the troop has done since he was master. "They were all good Scout Masters, which is why the troop has done as well as it has," he said.

Troop 39 is leaving Aug. 1 to go to the jamboree, and will come back Aug. 11. At the jamboree they will get to meet other scouts from all over the world and participate in numerous activities with them. These activities include rope tying, nature activity, camping, zip lining, fire building, climbing walls and many more such activities. These activities are competitions between the scouts to try to win some of the 147 merit badges they need to obtain to become an Eagle Scout.

One of the more interesting of these is geocaching, a global GPS treasure hunt. The boys learn how to find the treasures using GPS-enabled devices. "There are actually quite a few hidden around Marlborough," said Margaret Hannon, the chair of fundraising.

In order to get to the jamboree the boys had to raise \$15,000. They raised money through, bake sales, yard cleaning, selling wreaths, bottle drives, a silent auction and flocking. "Yard work was the worst," said scout C.J. Alessandro. The "flocking" involves the scouts going to a resident's house and placing plastic flamingos all over that person's yard. Any town resident can call and have someone they know flocked for \$25, or buy flocking insurance for \$25 to ensure they do not get flocked themselves. Kinghorn was flocked by his daughter, Anderson. The boys also held "teen nights," which was their favorite way to raise money. Asked what they did on teen nights scout Andrew Ketchum said they "just kind of hung around playing X-Box and PlayStation...have some snacks."

Perhaps most important about this troop's fundraising was that the kids did the work themselves. They went to the houses to do all the yard cleaning, or flocking and were there for all the bottle drives and bake sales. "These boys have worked tirelessly for this trip," said scoutmaster Richard Barstow. Jack Cantin, who works for Schneider Electric, was so impressed with how hard the boys were working that he told them if they raised \$1,000, he would give them \$500. When Cantin found out that they had raised \$3,800, he raised that number to \$1,500. "He was so impressed," Hannon said. "It taught the kids a valuable lesson."

The boys started fundraising this past October. After coming back last summer from a jamboree in Virginia celebrating the 100th anniversary of Boy Scouts, Sean Pampreen found out about the international trip to Sweden. He jokingly told the boys that if they could raise the money for the trip he would go with them, and was soon surprised to find out the boys were in fact raising money for the trip. "I have been in the Scouts for most of my life," said Pampreen. He was happy to share the experience of the national jamboree with his children and now the international one with them. "It should be a fun time," he said. He is looking forward to letting the "kids see what scouting is around the rest of the world."

There are certain skills the boys must already have for going on the trip, such as camping. Since the boys will be camping while they are there it is important that they already have this skill. However there are many things they will be learning there through the competitions and meeting with scouts from all over the world. "Nothing like learning by doing," said Barstow. Barstow commented on not only the wilderness skills the boys will learn but how they will see the difference between scouts from their country and scouts from other countries.

There will be 48 scouts from the state of Connecticut going to Sweden, and around 30,000 scouts, boys and girls, are expected to come from all over the world. Several parents are going as chaperones including, John Tomanelli, Lori Alessandro (co-chairman of fundraising), Sean Pampreen, Hannon and Scout Master Barstow. After all their hard work the boys are very excited for their upcoming

trip. Michael Pampreen said he was looking forward to "trading patches with other scouts," from all over the world. Steven Pampreen jokingly said he would "rather go for the Swedish Fish," than anything else.

"Just the point of seeing a different country," is what C.J. is eager about. Rob Barstow is also excited to see what a foreign country has to offer. "I'm looking forward to the beach and also the museums," he said. Ross and Addison Tomanelli could not make it to the flocking, but will also be joining the scouts on the trip.

The boys have worked hard and have risen more than enough money, almost \$16,000, and are looking forward to their trip to Sweden from Aug. 1-11.

Troop 39 thanked the following organizations for helping them raise the money for their trip: Boy Scouts of America, CT Rivers Council Hockanum District, Coca Cola Bottling Company, Cub Scout Pack 39, CVS (several locations), Dunkin' Donuts (Cary Gagnon), Liberty Bank - Marlborough, Marlborough Congregational Church, Marlborough Lions Club, Marlborough Moose Club, Marlborough Women's Club, Marlborough Youth Athletic League, Schneider Electric Motion USA, Stop & Shop in East Hampton, Stop & Shop in Glastonbury, Schneider Electrical Motion USA and Ted's IGA in Hebron.

Hannon also thanked Kinghorn, former scoutmaster Gordon Isleib, and the "numerous families in Marlborough and Hebron who hired the boys to do yard work." She also thanked the "countless families" in the community who supported the boys and their various fundraising efforts.

## Hebron Democrats Announce Slate of Candidates

by Courtney Parent

The Democratic Town Committee held its caucus this Tuesday, July 19, announcing its endorsed candidates for the upcoming November elections.

Beginning with the Board of Selectmen, seeking re-election is Brian O'Connell. O'Connell has served on several different municipal committees in past years and is the sole Democrat running for a position on the board.

There were two Democrats endorsed for the local Board of Education: Stephanie Raymond and Maryanne Leichter. Raymond is running for re-election and according to Democratic Town Committee (DTC) Chairman Bill Rudis "is concerned that our community's children receive the best education possible considering today's economic challenges."

Leichter is currently serving on the RHAM Board of Education and is interested in working with local Board of Education members to address and resolve educational and academic excellence issues.

Running for the RHAM Board of Education as a first-year candidate is Amy D'Amaddio.

According to Rudis, D'Amaddio has "worked with RHAM leaders to aid in addressing and diminishing the school/student dropout rate in the recent past and is hopeful that when elected she may assist the RHAM Board of Education with this and other issues confronting our educational and student community."

Turning to the Zoning Board of Appeals, it looks like a field of familiar faces on the Democratic ticket: Cathleen Murphy and Cynthia Grinnell are all running for re-election. Murphy is currently serving as chairwoman. Grinnell is currently serving as the board's secretary and has previous experience on the Board of Selectmen and as the town treasurer.

The other two running for re-election as alternates on the Zoning Board of Appeals are Anthony Novak and Donald Masters. According to Rudis, Novak is a "longtime member of the community and is very much interested in the Zoning Board of Appeal's work and its appropriate application of the zoning regulations as they apply to our community."

Also running for re-election is Frank Zitkus,

currently serving as secretary of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Zitkus is hoping to return to his spot on the board because he is concerned with the "quality of land use" and the "proper application of the zoning regulations as they apply to our community," Rudis said.

Following suit with many of his fellow residents is Gilbert Salk, hoping to retain his position as Planning and Zoning Commission alternate. Rudis described Salk as an advocate of the use of "green" methods and is interested in the "quality of living and the preservation of the land and space and its proper utilization."

Coming forward on Tuesday evening as a "placeholder" for an opening on the Board of Finance was Paula Verrier. According to Rudis, Verrier is the town's former probate clerk, has served on the Board of Assessment Appeals and is an active Amston community member.

According to Rudis, no one from the community sought endorsement for the vacancy on the Board of Assessment Appeals, nor did any-

one step forward as a placeholder.

"We have pursued vigorously," said Rudis. "Our townspeople are engaged in many, many things and to be able to commit to these positions you have to invest a significant amount of time."

While these are the boards and commissions that will be up for election this fall, there are several appointed commissions in town that have vacancies, including the Conservation Commission and Conservation Commission alternate, Parks and Recreation Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission alternate, Tricentennial Commission, Open Lands Acquisition Committee and the Green Committee.

Anyone interested in serving in one of the aforementioned appointive positions should submit a written request to Town Manager Bonnie Therrien and to the Board of Selectmen requesting consideration. For more information, call Therrien's office at 860-228-5971.

# Asklar Scraps Sewer Extension Plan in Marlborough

by Bailey Seddon

Resident Joe Asklar has withdrawn his request for a private sewer extension, First Selectman Bill Black revealed at a Tuesday meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

During the correspondence portion of the meeting Black discussed a letter sent from Asklar, owner of Marlborough Plastics Inc. and also the town's fire marshal, stating that he would be withdrawing his request for the private sewer extension, which he and his wife Carol had already been approved for. The sewer extension was going to be from Pettengill Road/North Main Street to 152 North Main St.

In a phone interview, Asklar stated that he had withdrawn from the extension because of additional expenses that the town had levied on his project. These expenses, Asklar said, were greater than 25 percent of the project's cost. The reason for these added fees, Asklar was told, was for an inspection fee and for a flag person and a traffic patrol car for policeman for traffic control during the time of the work.

Asklar seemed confused as to why he was not told about these fees while he was in the process of applying; if that had happened, he said, "the project could have been budgeted properly."

Asklar said halting the sewer extension was not only a loss for him but for the town, as it had asked him to put in pipes for four additional projects, which Asklar was willing to do. He said the town could have gained additional houses on the system – including a "very nice house" on the lake, in what is now just an empty lot, which could have contributed considerable real estate taxes, he said.

"We continued to try to work with the town to try to lower the fees," but as of now the project will not be moving forward, Asklar said. He

said that when he asked if he would be reimbursed for these projects, were the town to take them over anytime in the future, he was told he would be reimbursed one third of the costs. Asklar seemed frustrated with the fact that he has had to withdraw as he has been working on this project for ten months to a year.

At the meeting, Black seemed disappointed by the time that had been spent by the board trying to get this project through. Black said in a phone interview that Asklar "has got a lot on his plate right now," one of these being the expansion of Marlborough Plastics Inc. He said it was disappointing not only to the board but to the Askklars because the expansion would have benefited the property they own on North Main Street. However, Black said the information of the costs of the project had always been available to Asklar and that the fees should not have come as a surprise. "It is not up to the town, nor the WPCA" to sit there and figure out the fees, Black said. "The information is there and available."

"We have always had a requirement for traffic control," Black said. "That information was available to him in the sewer bid documents or to his contractor." The Board of Selectmen also verbalized this to Asklar at a special selectmen's meeting to make sure he had read all the information. Black said that Asklar could have looked at any time; there is information on all the requirements that the Askklar's have to meet. Such information includes requirements on traffic control, disposal of spoils, construction requirements and flagging requirements. Black said Asklar was a well-respected member of the town and plays a big role as the owner of his business and as fire marshal.

Selectwoman Riva Clark admitted that she

was surprised at some of the fees that were discussed between the board and Asklar at that June 29 special meeting. However, Clark agreed with Black that the information is there to read; one just has to read carefully. "This really wasn't the first time the concept has been discussed," Clark said. However, Clark admitted that because some of the policies are so new, they need to be structured in a way that is more understandable. "These are different things that need to be thought of and written down," Clark said.

\* \* \*

Also at Tuesday's meeting, the board approved the motion to hire an assistant building inspector on an as-needed basis. The original proposal was going to be for a job shared between part-time building officials Earl Deane and Claude Jean but this brought up the debate of whether or not their jobs should be classified as job-sharing. It was discussed as to whether their jobs should be classified as "job-sharing" or "as-needed."

Board member Riva Clark felt that job sharing and "as-needed" were not the same thing. The two men, together, work up to 20 hours a week; it was speculated that if they were considered to be job-sharing and not just called in on an as-needed basis that the two might accumulate more hours. "Does this mean that the 20 hours a week...do they need more?" Clark asked. Black, however, reassured the board that they are still only working up to 20 hours a week. In fact their hours usually accumulated to a little more than that. He said that one man might work for a few hours once or twice a week; the other might work a couple hours once or twice a week.

Black felt that what they did for the town

was technically job-sharing, "in the full sense of the word," since they share responsibilities. Black seemed happy with the work they had previously done. "They work well together, [their partnership has] been well-received," he said.

Board member Joseph LaBella agreed with Clark, saying he did not feel their positions could be considered job sharing. However, like Black and Clark, he felt that the men did a good job. LaBella said he felt that Deane should be considered the building official, because of the work he does, and Jean should be considered the assistant. "[Deane] is out there to do his inspections and tells everyone what they need," LaBella said.

Black agreed, stating that Earl takes the lead, doing the office work and having discussions with residents while Claude does more of the inspections, on a regular basis. The board liked that both men expressed flexibility for their jobs.

"If they want to go to a true job share...that might be something we want to revisit at some point," LaBella said.

Before they could extend the part time hire of Deane and Jean, the board needed to make sure the wording was such that the two men knew they would be working on an as-needed basis, and not a job-share, with Claude as the assistant to Deane.

The board expressed confidence in the men's continued work for the town. "They are both professionals...two qualified people," LaBella said.

\* \* \*

The next Board of Selectmen meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 16, at 7 p.m., at Town Hall.

# Culvert Problems Arise at Portland Selectmen Meeting

by Joshua Anusewicz

A culvert at St. Mary's Cemetery on Marlborough Street (Route 66) was discussed once again at Wednesday's Board of Selectmen meeting; this time, however, the selectmen learned the project has taken a considerable step backwards.

Several days after the last board meeting held on July 6, First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield met with Director of Public Works Rick Kelsey, the town's engineer Jacobson Engineering of Chester, and Richard Faraci of Faraci Concrete – the only company to bid on the project – to discuss changes to the construction plan and possibly negotiate lower costs. According to Kelsey at the July 6 meeting, the project was originally estimated at \$25,000, but Faraci's bid came in at \$47,000.

Kelsey said Wednesday that the meeting was "productive" and that after discussing possible changes to the construction plan, a lower price "looked possible." According to Bransfield, the plan after the meeting was for Faraci to contact Jacobson with a description and cost of the project plan.

Instead, Faraci sent a sketch of the project but never sent a cost.

"They didn't finish what we asked for," Bransfield said Thursday.

Rather, Faraci provided a rough estimate at Wednesday's board meeting, saying that the plans for the project would still be "over budget" by at least 200 percent. According to Faraci, the plans that were proposed by the town – which would include "wing walls," extensions of the culvert that direct water into the culvert – would require larger walls and more labor,

raising the costs.

The project would also require a dry stream bed, but Faraci said there is currently a "steady six-inch flow" due to recent rains. The town had hoped to begin work on the project this summer, when the stream is usually dry.

Kelsey said the wing walls were "never asked for" in the sketch of the project and said they were only "suggested" by the town's engineer.

The culvert has been deteriorating more rapidly over the past few months according to Terri Larson, a representative of St. Mary's Cemetery. Larson said that the recent storm overtopped the culvert and "[the town was] lucky" that the culvert handled the water as well as it did.

Board member Mark Finkelstein said he was "disappointed" the meeting did not produce a set plan. After the recap of the meeting, Finkelstein moved to have the town's engineer look over the project again and put it back out to bid. The board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Faraci did not oppose the motion, saying that if the town put it out to bid, he would "put a new number on it" based on the plan.

Larson, who was in attendance, showed concern about waiting any longer.

"If you put it back out to bid, it could drag out another six months," Larson said. She said that there are over 10 graves that are located along the side of the stream that could be affected if the culvert was washed out.

Bransfield said Thursday that the bid would go out "as soon as possible" and an update on the status of the project would be presented at the next board meeting.

\* \* \*

In a somewhat-related topic, Director of Buildings and Grounds Paul Bengston and town webmaster Dave Kuzminski presented the board with a slideshow of the damage done by the July 8 rain storm that ravaged Portland.

The slides showed the damage at Brownstone Intermediate School, the Buck Foreman Center, the Portland Police Department, the Senior Center and Food Bank, and Main Street. All of the images are available on [www.portlandct.org](http://www.portlandct.org).

Maintenance and repairs are underway at all of the town-owned properties that were affected, including the use of large mobile drying units that were provided by the town's insurance carrier, Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA). According to the photos, repairs include replacing sheetrock, floor tiles, and cabinetry, as well as the repair and replacing of equipment.

Bengston said the water levels at Brownstone Intermediate School rose to over five feet in some spots, damaging or destroying "six 30-yard dumpsters full" of materials that were discarded. This included about 175 boxes of donated items for the Friends of the Library.

The Portland Food Bank also lost several boxes of food that were stored on the ground. Areas used for Parks and Recreation and Youth Services were also affected.

Susan Bransfield said that the exact total of the damage is unknown, but estimated that it would be "in the hundreds of thousands." The town is working with CIRMA to cover the costs for all of the work that is being done.

Bransfield said she has contacted state Rep. Christie Carpino and Congressman John B. Larson to ask for any "loans or funds" that are

available for residents that have been affected, as most home insurance does not cover flood damage. Bransfield said Carpino hopes to meet with some insurance companies on behalf of Portland residents to ask for additional funding for the damage.

At the meeting, the board also unanimously approved the transfer of funds from the Board of Education budget, moving \$16,000 from the Valley View School to the Gildersleeve School.

The purpose of the transfer is to provide more funding for asbestos removal at Gildersleeve School for the summer. According to Paul Bengston, recent damages at Brownstone Intermediate School have moved some Parks and Recreation activities to Valley View, halting asbestos removal at that school.

Bengston said that the transfer will give Gildersleeve \$36,000 for asbestos removal and testing in the cafeteria and the surrounding areas.

Bengston said he would be starting on the removal "right away."

\* \* \*

At a town meeting prior to the regular board meeting, residents voted 9-0 to approve the sale of town property located at 170 Marlborough Street (Route 66) to Peters Construction of Portland.

The plan for the property is to demolish the existing structure and construct a two-story building for commercial use. The building was purchased for \$20,000.

\* \* \*

The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Portland Public Library.

# Underground Copper Cables Stolen at East Hampton Middle School

by Joshua Anusewicz

East Hampton Police are investigating the theft of several thousand feet of underground cables at East Hampton Middle School that occurred last week.

According to Police Chief Matt Reimondo, the person “had to know what they were doing,” as they disconnected the cables, which are used for the lights on the athletic field, from the power source and apparently “used their vehicle” to pull up the underground cables.

Reimondo said an estimated several thousand feet of cables were taken. He also estimated that between the cables and the damage to the grounds, the cost of the repairs would total roughly \$20,000.

The cables were made of copper, Reimondo said, adding that there have been several copper thefts within the state recently. He said the price of copper has gone up and people are stealing copper to sell as scrap metal.

Reimondo said the middle school, as well as the other schools in town, are “on the list” of

places police regularly patrol, but no police were present at the time of the theft. He said there are currently some leads and several suspects, but the investigation is still ongoing.

East Hampton Police made an arrest over the weekend for a similar theft, but Reimondo on Wednesday would not release the details.

The athletic fields are under the control of Parks and Recreation and are used for soccer, baseball and softball. Director of Parks and Recreation Ruth Plummer said the lack of lighting will have a “big impact” on sports for the rest of the summer and into early fall, but did not have an exact time when the lights would be running again.

Plummer said Tuesday that Parks and Recreation had submitted an insurance claim in attempt to get the lights repaired.

The police have asked anyone who has seen suspicious activity around the middle school over the past week, or has any other information about the theft, to call 860-267-9922.

## Colchester Police News

7/13: Sandy Bastien, 46, of 35 Kennedy Dr., was charged with DUI and failure to drive right, State Police said.

7/16: Nicholas J. Wade, 51, of 12 Summit St., East Hampton, was charged with DUI and a stop sign violation, State Police said.

7/17: Joanne Clark, 53, of 44 Balaban Rd., Apt. 205, was charged with breach of peace and third-degree assault, State Police said.

7/17: Shannon Harmon, 39, of 44 Balaban Rd., Apt. 204, was charged with breach of peace and third-degree assault, State Police said.

## Hebron Police News

7/15: Steven Sessa, 21, of 94 Old Andover Rd., was charged with improper pass, State Police said.

7/16: Colleen Leary, 22, of 264 Millstream Rd., Amston, was charged with second-degree failure to appear.

7/16: Zachary Girouard, 21, of 603 Boswell Ave., Norwich, was charged with operating a motor vehicle under suspension, State Police said.

## Portland Police News

7/15: Eric Pick, 19, of 35 Knollwood Dr., Branford, was charged with possession of less than half an ounce of marijuana and possession of alcohol by a minor, Portland Police said.

## East Hampton Police News

7/6: Gary R. Smith, 58, of 1 Blacksmith Hill Rd., was arrested for DUI and failure to drive right, East Hampton Police said.

7/6: Richard A. Dills Jr., 24, of 25 Edwards Rd., Durham, was arrested for DUI and failure to drive right, police said.

7/9: Glenn A. Northrop, 23, of 10 Colchester Ave., was arrested for DUI, failure to drive right and speeding, police said.

7/10: Kenneth James Barber, 24, of 8 Midwood Farm Rd., was arrested for DUI and failure to obey a stop sign following a one-car motor vehicle accident in the area of Hog Hill and Terp roads, police said.

7/13: Mary Davis Kenney, 25, of 112 Ridgefield Dr., Middletown, was arrested for evading responsibility, failure to drive right, failure to carry insurance and failure to change address on registration and driver’s license, police said.

7/13: Ryan David Anderson, 23, of 17 Colchester Ave., was arrested for possession of narcotics, carrying dangerous weapons and second-degree breach of peace, police said.

# Obituaries

## East Hampton

### John Arthur Youngs

John Arthur Youngs, 84, of East Hampton, beloved husband of Joan (Sieverts) Youngs, died Tuesday, July 12, at Middlesex Hospital. Born April 5, 1927, in East Hampton, he was a life-long resident of East Hampton and was the son of the late Raymond S. and Mary Ellen (Flynn) Youngs.

John was the owner and operator of Youngs Electric since 1949. John proudly served his country during WWII in the U.S. Army. He was a member of the Westbrook Elks Club where he and Joan would enjoy dinner and dancing. John especially loved waltzes and polkas. He also loved to swim at his beach house in Charlestown, RI. John was a member of the American Legion post in East Hampton.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his three daughters, Mary Ellen Cohen-Shohet of Ocala, FL, Nancy Wilcox and her husband Hon. Bruce Wilcox of Norfolk, VA, Patricia Strecker and her husband Alan Strecker of Jacksonville, FL; 10 grandchildren, Sandra Youngs, Rachel, Danielle and Leah Cohen-Shohet, Katrin, Jonathan, Henry, Andrew, Margaret and Charles Wilcox.

He was predeceased by a daughter, Joanne Stupnitski; two sons-in-law, Dr. John Cohen-Shohet and Peter Stupnitski; a grandson, Matthew Strecker; and two brothers, Ralph Youngs and Earl Youngs.

A funeral liturgy was celebrated Saturday, July 16, in St. Patrick Church in East Hampton. Burial was private at the convenience of the family in Lakeview Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Luke's Outreach Services, 100 Riverview Center, Middletown, CT 06457, Gilead Community Services, 22 Main St. Ext., Middletown, CT 06457, or to the East Hampton Food Bank, 20 East High St., East Hampton, CT 06424.

The Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, has care of arrangements.

## Colchester

### Bobby E. Harwood

Bobby E. Harwood, 57, of Colchester and formerly of East Hampton, died Friday, July 15, at Middlesex Hospital's Marlborough Medical Center. Born Nov. 3, 1953, in Hartford, he was the son of Bobby R. Harwood and Sarah Efird. He had worked as a slot technician for Mehegan Sun Casino.

He is survived by his father, Bobby R. Harwood of Colchester; his mother, Sarah (Efird) Rand and stepfather, Richard Rand; his partner, Donna Way of Colchester; two sons, Sean Harwood and Jesse Harwood of Colchester; two daughters, Amber Harwood of Montville and Crystal Harwood of Colchester; two brothers, John Harwood and Daniel Harwood of Colchester; a sister, Margaret Culbert of East Hampton; a half-brother, Jeffery Napolitano of Newington; and a half-sister, Sandra Napolitano of Manchester.

Friends called at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, Wednesday, July 20. A funeral service followed immediately thereafter in the Spencer Funeral Home, with the Rev. Shelley Timber officiating. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family.

## Colchester

### Albert Pratt

Albert Pratt, 76, of Colchester and formerly of Waterbury, passed away Tuesday July 5, at the Chestelm HCC in Moodus after a lengthy illness. Born March 27, 1935, in Waterbury, he was the last surviving of the four children of the late George and Edith (Sanford) Pratt. Mr. Pratt was a professional driver for Swift for many years before his retirement.

He is survived by his loving companion of 37 years, Margaret Sullivan; his granddaughter, Ann Molina of Waterbury; two great-grandchildren, Kayla and Christian; and numerous extended family members and friends.

He was predeceased by his daughter, Ann Guglielmo, in March 2011.

A memorial liturgy will be celebrated at 9 a.m. Saturday, July 23, at St. Bridget of Kildare Church, 75 Moodus-Leesville Rd., Moodus. Burial will be private.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to the caregivers at Chestelm, Middlesex Home Care, as well as to the Sullivan, Grechika and Winkelmann families for helping to care for Albert during his illness.

Care of arrangements has been entrusted to the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester. For online condolences, visit [auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com](http://auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com).

## Colchester

### Catherine Williams

Catherine (Borys) Williams, "Kay", 71, a resident of Colchester since 1967, beloved wife of William "Bill" Williams, passed away unexpectedly Saturday (July 16, 2011) in Lewiston, ME. Born Oct. 24, 1939, in Wilkes-Barre, PA, she was a daughter of the late Peter and Anna (Potichko) Borys.

Mrs. Williams earned her associate's degree in computer science from Manchester Community College and had worked as a program designer for the Traveler's Insurance Co. for many years before her retirement.

She was a communicant of St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church where she enjoyed helping make pierogi along with other fundraising events there. In her spare time, she enjoyed "shopping" and designing unique handicrafts and will be remembered for her generosity, giving freely to family, friends and strangers alike.

In addition to her loving husband of 53 years, she is survived by three children, Robert A. Williams of Colchester, Bruce A. Williams and his wife, Denise, of Avin, TX and Pamela A. Green of Belmont, ME; four grandchildren, Bob Williams and his fiancée, Dorothy Nowak, Jackson Green and his wife, Alyssa, Matthew Green and Michelle Gerami and her husband, John; four great grandchildren, Thomas, Benjamin, Cody and Morgan Gerami; two siblings and their spouses, Si and Kate Borys of Mystic and Anna and Leon Gabel of Landsdale, PA; and numerous extended family members and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by a sister, Mary Tubbs.

Friends called Wednesday, July 20, at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. The Service of Divine Liturgy was celebrated immediately thereafter, at St. Mary Church, 178 Linwood Ave., Colchester, with Fr. Cyril Manolev, officiating. Interment will follow in the State Veterans Cemetery, Middletown.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Antique Veterans of Colchester, P.O. Box 54, Colchester, CT 06415.

For online condolences, visit [auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com](http://auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com).

## Hebron

### Lois J. Roberts

Lois Jean (Warner) Roberts, 66, of Warren, ME, wife of Larry Roberts, died of kidney failure on Thursday, June 30. Lois was born May 14, 1945, in Hartford, a daughter of the late William and Doris (Chapman) Warner of Gilead. She grew up in Gilead, and attended Hebron Elementary School and RHAM High School,



both in Hebron. She was employed for many years by the Warren, ME, school system.

Besides her husband, Lois is survived by a son, Todd Warner of Concord, NC; a son, Lance Roberts and his wife Jennifer of Thomaston, ME; two daughters, Ann Marie Berry and her husband Charles of Arkansas, and Patricia Bogue of Conn.; a brother, William Warner II and his wife Amy of Lakewood Ranch, FL; a niece, Sheri Palmer and her husband Brian of Andover; a nephew, William Warner III of Sarasota, FL; six grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; and a host of uncles, aunts and cousins.

She was predeceased by her sister, Noreen Moberg, who died May 22.

Per Lois' request, her ashes are to be cast upon the waters of Pemaquid Point, ME, at her family's convenience.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Lois' name may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 2139 Silas Deane Highway, No. 208, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

## Portland

### Frederick Goodrich II

Frederick Rossiter "Ross" Goodrich II, 73, passed away unexpectedly Tuesday, July 12, at the Masonicare Health Center in Wallingford. Ross was a lifelong resident of Portland prior to his move to Masonicare in July 2010. Born Dec. 22, 1937, he was the son of the late Florence W. and Frederick W. Goodrich.

He graduated from Portland High School in 1955 and from Wesleyan University in 1964 where he was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. A tragic auto accident in 1959 kept him from reaching his potential. Ross was a member of the First Congregational Church in Portland.

He was a 50-year member of Warren Lodge No. 51, AF & AM of Portland where he served as Worshipful Master in 1971 and as Tyler for many years. He was honored as Tyler Emeritus and Mason of the Year in 2005. He was a Knight Templar member of Cyrene Commandry No. 8 in Middletown and served as Eminent Commander in 1984. He was also a member of Burning Bush Washington No. 6 Royal Arch Masons and Columbia Council No. 9, Royal and Select Masters. For many years he volunteered at the Middlesex Memorial Hospital.

Ross leaves behind his brother, Donald W. and wife Barbara of Wakefield, RI, and his brother Allan B. and his wife Teresa of West Newton, MA. He also leaves his nephews Frederick Welles III, Peter Allan Ervin and his wife Alice and his great nephew Michael Rossiter born on July 2, 2011, and Allan Brandt Jr. and his niece Lindsay Barbara.

There will be no calling hours. A memorial service will be held at the First Congregational Church, Portland, Thursday, Aug. 4, at 11 a.m. A reception will follow in the Church Fellowship Hall. Burial will precede the memorial service at 10:15 a.m. with a Masonic burial service at the Center Cemetery, Portland.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to the First Congregational Church, 554 Main St., Portland, CT 06480 or to the Masonic Home and Hospital, 22 Masonic Road, Wallingford, CT 06492.

Arrangements are being handled by the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, CT 06480. For directions, or to leave an online expression of sympathy, visit [portlandmemorialfh.net](http://portlandmemorialfh.net).