

# RIVEREAST News Bulletin

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**The Sound of Music** is coming to East Hampton High School next weekend. Here, as Maria Von Trapp, Gabby Crean sings to the students who will play the Von Trapp children during the Thursday and Friday productions of the show. Standing, from left, are Lily Cordeiro (Louisa), Nick White (Kurt), Harper Carlson (Brigitta) and Mason Cordeiro (Friedrich). Seated, from left, are Emma Peltier (Liesl), Sarah Johnson (Marta) and Nadia France (Gretl).

## Belltown Alive With 'The Sound of Music'

by John Tyczkowski

The East Hampton High School Drama Club is tackling one of its most ambitious musicals yet while in the midst of an active construction zone.

The 50-person cast also has another thing to keep in mind as they perform four shows next Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday: Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music* is officially the last play to take place on EHHS' original stage.

EHHS is undergoing a \$51 million renovation of its facilities, authorized by a referendum last year. The overhaul includes improvements to the school's interior, grounds and the addition of new classrooms.

The auditorium will be part of the interior renovations, and some changes will include a refurbished stage and improvements to the backstage area.

Senior Carli Villa, who plays the baroness Elsa von Schraeder in the production, said that in particular makes this play an especially emotional one for her, on top of this year being her senior show.

"It's really saddening to me, because I've been on this stage since I was 9 years old," she said. "I'm really sentimental; I'm excited to see the new stage, but a big part of me is on that stage right there."

"There are some great memories on that stage for me," she added, "and I'll never lose those."

Villa said she plans to continue her theatre

aspirations in the fall when she attends Farleigh Dickinson University, and might venture into TV and movies as well.

Rachel Mansfield, director of the high school drama club and of the Young People's Center for Creative Arts, said it's an emotional time for her as well.

"I've been doing shows here since the 1980s, so that's 35 years of theatre for me right there on that stage," she said. "It's sad, but it's good too because it's the start of a new period in the school's life and in the drama club's life."

"There'll be things like a new stage and extra rigging so we can have more backdrops," Mansfield continued. "It'll definitely be an upgrade from where we are now."

*The Sound of Music* was Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein's last musical, hitting Broadway in 1959. The musical was later famously adapted to an Oscar-winning film in 1965, starring Julie Andrews.

Set in Austria on the eve of Nazi annexation of the country, *The Sound of Music* details the story of a postulant, Maria. To help her decide if she's ready for monastic life, the Mother Abbess of the abbey Maria was looking to join suggests she spend some time outside the abbey. Maria becomes the governess to widower Captain Georg Von Trapp. She introduces Von Trapp's seven children to music and to the joy of life, and even warms up the captain as well.

The hit musical introduced a number of pop-

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## Hebron Teen a 'Distinguished Young Woman'

by Geeta Schrayter

These are exciting days for Hebron resident Emily Everlith.

For starters, the RHAM senior is graduating in less than two months and is bound for Yale University.

Earlier this week, Everlith could be found at Yale participating in Bulldog Days, a program that allows admitted students to stay on campus for a few days to get a feel for what the university has to offer.

"I was able to explore the campus at all hours of the day and met people from all over the world," she stated. "In just three days, I bonded with so many future classmates and became even more excited for my next four years at Yale."

During her tenure at the university, Everlith says she plans to study pre-medicine. Her goal is to become a maxillofacial surgeon for an organization like Operation Smile, which provides free surgeries to repair cleft lip, cleft palate and other facial deformities in children around the world.

"Having cleft lip and palate myself, I think that I will bring a unique sense of empathy to the surgery process," Everlith shared this week. "Also, I love the charity work that Operation

Smile does."

And while working for the organization as a doctor is something that's years away, Everlith is already helping through her fundraiser "I Support A Smile," selling smiley face magnets with a scar on the left side, modeled after her own cleft lip.

"My total funds raised for Operation Smile is around \$8,400 at this point, and our current goal is \$10,000," Everlith shared. "It is so wonderful that people in my community and all around the world have taken a generous interest in my fundraiser."

But along with the above successes, Everlith has still more to be excited about: she was named the 2015 Distinguished Young Woman in Connecticut and is headed off to a national competition in June.

Distinguished Young Women is a national scholarship program founded in 1958 that provides cash scholarships as well as eligibility for college-granted scholarships from almost 200 colleges and universities, according to the website [ajm.org](http://ajm.org); Participants are evaluated on scholastics, talent, fitness, self-expression and an interview.

Everlith found out about the competition through a friend who participated in the pro-

gram in West Virginia.

"As I began to look for scholarships, she suggested the pageant so that I can have a wonderful time while competing to win money for college," Everlith explained.

And so, Everlith decided to participate. She sent in her high school transcript, which was judged on academic rigor and grades and then headed to the pageant in Rhode Island March 27-29.

"I have never done a pageant before in my life, but this one interested me because it assessed contestants based on the admirable qualities of young women that I think everyone should aspire to have," Everlith explained. "The lack of superficiality for [Distinguished Young Women] attracted me, in addition to the handsome reward of scholarships for college."

During the pageant weekend, Everlith stayed with a host family and rehearsed Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning. She was then interviewed by a number of judges Sunday afternoon.

"This was by far the most nerve-wracking part and counted for a large portion of the score," Everlith said.

The pageant then took place Sunday night,

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Emily Everlith

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ular songs to the world, including “My Favorite Things,” “Do-Re-Mi,” “Edelweiss” and, of course, the title number.

A unique part of the EHHS production involves double-casting the Von Trapp children, which Mansfield said was a good way to get kids from all grade levels into the show.

“We’ve got students from every school as the children,” she said. “Two from Memorial School, three from Center School, three from the middle school and then from the high school.”

One Von Trapp children cast, dubbed ‘Austria,’ will perform Thursday-Friday, and the other Saturday-Sunday, dubbed ‘Switzerland.’

A survey of members of both casts revealed they were excited to show what they’d been practicing since February, which included the loss of a week of rehearsals

“I thought it would be the same amount of singing and dancing I’ve done in other plays in the past, but it’s a lot more in this one,” Bella Searles, a fifth-grader who plays Louisa von Trapp in the ‘Switzerland’ cast, said.

“The singing is really challenging. These are intermediate songs, but we’ve been doing really well,” Lily Cordeiro, a seventh-grader who plays Louisa in the ‘Austria’ cast, said. “I’m pumped for next week!”

Harper Carlson, a fourth-grader who plays Brigitta von Trapp in the ‘Austria’ cast, said she wasn’t nervous that the audience might have higher expectations due to their familiarity with the musical.

“We’re probably going to be compared to the movie, but we’ll be trying our best, and I think we’re going to do a great job,” she said.

As far as next year goes, Mansfield said the drama club and YPCCA are still looking for a suitable venue, and that Mark O’Donnell will be heading up the productions next year as she returns to school to finish her master’s degree.

However, for the following year, Mansfield said she discussed splitting the production schedule and taking the spring musical while O’Donnell handles the fall drama.

“Those areas are our specialties so it’d be a nice fit for both of us, to divide the work,” she

said.

Heading into this production next week, however, Mansfield said the audience should be prepared for a more traditional musical driven more by character development and plot than by songs.

“It’s nice to go back to an old-school musical where it’s dialogue-song, it allows you to work more with the actors on their characters and not always worry about the next song that’s coming,” she said.

Matt Campisi, the production’s musical director, said the biggest challenge in preparing for the show came from the songs involving both Maria and the Von Trapp children, such as “Do-Re-Mi” and “So Long, Farewell.”

“They all require the children to be at a very high level, but they’ve stepped up to the challenge, they’ve come a long way,” he said.

Another advantage, Campisi said, has been that he’s worked with YPCCA for seven shows and the drama club for two shows, including this one.

“I know a lot of the students in this production,” he said. “And it allows you to know better their abilities, their voice, their talents. And they come to better know what I expect and it allows us to work better together.”

Mansfield also said she wanted the audience to keep in mind how hard the younger children worked to get ready for the show.

“You have 6-, 7-, 8-year-old kids acting in some of the most demanding roles there are in musical theatre here,” she said. “The show really rides on those kids, and that’s a lot of pressure for a child in first grade, but they’re doing a fantastic job. They’re up there with the 16- and 17-year-olds and are holding their own.”

“I think it’s going to be a great show, I’m really excited about it,” she said.

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*The Sound of Music* will have three shows at 7 p.m., Thursday to Saturday, April 30-May 2, and a matinee performance at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 3. All performances are at EHHS, located at 15 North Maple St.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors.

**Hebron Teen cont. from Front Page**

where participants joined in an opening dance number and performed a fitness routine consisting of activities like squats, pushups and running to display their health.

“Then, we each performed a talent. I sang ‘Sebben, Crudele,’ an Italian aria,” Everlith explained.

In addition, she had to answer an on-stage question “describe a time in your life when you felt most alive,” and was evaluated on self-expression by donning a dress and performing walking drills to show her poise.

Everlith ended up winning first place in the pageant, and is now heading to the national competition in Mobile, Ala., June 14-28.

“I am both excited and nervous,” she said about the national competition. “I am super excited to spend two weeks in a place that I have never been to. Also, I cannot wait for all of the exciting events such as a Mardi Gras Ball and going on bonding field trips with all of the other candidates. Meeting girls from every other state is an experience that few people my age get to have, so I am eager to make some new friends.”

Everlith added, “Of course, I am nervous to compete on the national stage. I will be singing

the same song that I performed at the state level, and I do not think that I have ever performed in front of such a large audience. The event will be televised through a live stream on the Internet.”

Speaking on her win at the state level, Everlith said, “I must admit, I was in shock. I was competing against girls who have a lot of pageant experience and being new at this, I had not expected to win. It definitely took a couple hours for the excitement to sink in.”

Everlith added winning the competition meant a lot to her, especially since she was born with cleft lip and palate.

“I am so honored to have learned through this program that such a birth defect did not hinder me in being poised and confident enough to win a pageant,” she stated.

Everlith concluded, “I am so thankful for the support and guidance that I have received from elementary school all the way through my senior year in high school. My RHAM family and community will always be near and dear to my heart. Those who have helped me reach this next chapter in my life have never stopped believing in my potential, and for that I am forever grateful.”

# Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

Hello again. As astute readers of this column may have noticed, a couple weeks ago assistant editor Geeta Schrayter did the observing and ruminating. That’s because I was on vacation, visiting some family down in Alabama.

My grandparents lived in Alabama, and my mom’s whole side of the family is there, so I’ve of course been down there plenty of times over the years. But I’d never been down there at Eastertime. I’d heard a lot about it – just how pretty it was down there in early April.

And let me tell you, it was. Everything was blooming down there – including some absolutely gorgeous azaleas – and as a result the outdoors had this terrific smell to it. The best way to describe it was “delicious.” It was almost like you wanted to take a knife and fork, cut out a piece of the air, and gobble it down.

It was a fantastic week, seeing family and friends, traveling places, and eating all sorts of delicious food. (There’s nothing quite like fried okra.) I had a terrific time.

But the day I arrived, I came across a story on the front page of *The Tuscaloosa News* that left me shaking my head. A man named Anthony Ray Hinton, 58, had just been set free after spending *30 years* on Alabama’s death row – for a crime, it turns out, he didn’t commit.

Hinton was arrested in 1985 and charged with murdering two Birmingham fast-food restaurant managers, after the survivor of a third restaurant robbery identified him as the gunman. At the time, prosecution experts said bullets recovered at all three crime scenes matched Hinton’s mother’s .38-caliber Smith & Wesson revolver.

So, despite an alibi – he had been at work, inside a locked warehouse 15 minutes away, during the third shooting – Hinton was convicted, and went on to spend half of his life on death row.

It’s an incredible story, and I’m thrilled for Hinton he’s a free man again. But here’s the part of the story that left me a little aghast. This whole thing happened because the U.S. Supreme Court ruled last year that Hinton had “constitutionally deficient” representation at his trial back in 1985. And why was this? Hinton’s defense lawyer mistakenly thought he had only \$1,000 to hire a ballistics expert to rebut the state’s case. There was only one expert willing to take the job for that fee – and, according to the Associated Press, the expert struggled so much under cross-examination that jurors actually chuckled at his responses.

Had there been more money to spend on a different ballistics expert would things have gone differently for Hinton? I’m gonna say yes. The deputy district attorney told the AP “the only thing we’ve ever had to connect [Hinton] to the two crimes here in Birmingham was the bullets matching the gun that was recovered from his home.” After the Supreme Court ordered a new trial, new ballistics tests were done – and the results contradicted the results of the tests done three decades ago. Simply put, experts couldn’t match crime scene bullets to a gun found in Hinton’s home.

Earlier this month, prosecutors dropped the case.

Now, technology changes over the years, and you read sometimes about evidence from a years-old case being tossed out due to new, more thorough testing that simply didn’t exist 20 or 30 years ago. But it’s awfully tough not to figure that, if Hinton’s lawyer had spent more than \$1,000 on a ballistics expert, and gotten one who maybe wasn’t rattled so easily, perhaps Hinton wouldn’t wind up spending the majority of his 58 years on death row for a crime he didn’t commit.

Too often the justice people receive isn’t what they deserve so much as what they can afford. And that’s a shame – that’s not the way the world should work. When a man’s freedom – and, in this case, his life – hangs

in the balance, it shouldn’t come down to who’s got the bigger bank account.

Also, Hinton’s story points out one of the main reasons I’m uncomfortable with the death penalty. Are there terrible, brutal crimes committed sometimes? Absolutely. And the crimes can be so heinous, the murders so brutal, that a case can be made that the perpetrator of those crimes gave up his or her right to live.

But then there are cases like Hinton’s. And his is hardly an isolated case. According to [deathpenaltyinfo.org](http://deathpenaltyinfo.org), since 1973, 152 death row inmates in the United States have been set free. Most either saw their charges dismissed or were acquitted. A few were pardoned. Think about that number. That’s an awful lot of people who could have had their lives taken away from them for crimes they didn’t commit.

That’s why I’m uneasy with the death penalty. In my mind, executing 100,000 guilty people isn’t worth it if just one innocent man also gets executed.

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On to a lighter subject, I’d been a fan of the Mets’ Eric Campbell since he was called up from the minors last season. He was from Norwich, so it was fun that my team sported a guy who grew up in my state.

I became more of a fan a couple of months ago, when I learned he’s the son of Amy Campbell, the soon-to-retire principal of Hebron Elementary School. In Geeta Schrayter’s story about Amy’s upcoming departure, Amy mentioned she’d be able to see her son play more for the Mets. Amy’s been in Hebron schools for a while, but Campbell is such a common name I never thought about any sort of connection.

But lo and behold, there was. I was disappointed for Amy, though – and especially for Eric – when the season started earlier this month and the Mets opted to leave him in AAA, as they wanted to go with a short four-man bench. Eric became the odd man out, and that was a shame.

However, about a week into the season, Eric was back – albeit not in the way he’d probably envisioned. The Mets’ star third baseman, David Wright, pulled his hamstring, and Eric – whose nickname on the team is “Soup” – was called up to fill in for him at the hot corner.

As a guy who watches the Mets on a near daily basis, I can tell you Eric has been quite impressive. He has quality at bat after quality at bat. He stays in there, works the count, and, more often than not, gets a positive result, be it a hit or a walk or a sacrifice fly. On defense, he’s gotten to everything hit to him – and a lot gets hit to him – and makes all the plays, flashing some nice leather along the way.

Wright’s due to come back at the end of the month, and it’ll be great to have him back; the guy’s a great hitter and defender, a perennial All-Star and is the captain of the team. But I hope Eric stays with the team all season. As he showed last season, he’s a good threat off the bench too.

And speaking of the Mets, they’re off to a fantastic start. Entering Wednesday’s action, they were 11-3, and had won nine consecutive games. It’s their best start since 1986. Yes, it’s super early yet, and anything can happen, but for the moment, I’m just enjoying it. The boys in blue and orange are just a ton of fun to watch right now.

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Lastly, May 4 is Election Day in Andover. Therefore, next week’s *Riverast* (the May 1 edition) is the last issue before elections. Only positive letters about candidates will be published. No letters attacking candidates, or raising new issues, will be accepted. It’s only fair – the candidate getting attacked wouldn’t be able to defend him or herself before voting time.

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See you next week.

# Time to Decide on Marlborough Business Park

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

The Board of Selectmen and Economic Development Commission met Tuesday night to receive the background of the business park and to begin moving forward.

The consensus by the commission by the end of the night was that something has to be decided about the business park's future whether it is selling the raw land, marketing the lots, or putting in roads.

The business park land totals 143 acres and is owned by the town, Churchill and Banks, and Marlborough Associates. The land stretches behind the Marlborough Commons property along Route 66 and borders Jones Hollow Road. Currently, it is open space filled with trees and no roads or any kind of infrastructure. The town owns 76 acres of the land which was purchased about 10 years ago to be set aside for future development.

Jack Murray, chairman of the Water Pollution Control Authority, was on the Economic Development Commission in the 1970s when the North Main Street industrial park was developed. Those lands consist of 17 acres between North Main Street and Hodge Road.

Murray attended Tuesday's meeting to give some background about how and why that land was developed as it was.

"In the 1960s, there was growth in Connecticut, especially for the rural and suburban areas," Murray said. That growth was significant, according to Murray.

"We had nine houses on my street and those nine houses had 26 children," Murray said. "That was \$130,000 of costs for education. We collected \$18,000 in taxes."

Murray explained at the time, taxes were \$1 per square foot.

"That was repeated all over this town. I recognized that couldn't continue," Murray said.

Murray cracked he "made the mistake" of going to an Economic Development Commission meeting and opened his mouth and was

made chairman. Along with what he described as two "forward-thinking" selectmen, Murray and the commission set out a two-phase program.

"We hired a full-time economic development coordinator and developed an industrial park," Murray said.

The commission at the time bonded for \$129,000 for the 17 acres between Hodge Road and North Main Street. The land already had the roads and all the town had to do was market the lots.

"We got five buildings down there," Murray said. "That was 50,000 square feet and \$50,000 in taxes."

During the marketing phase of the lots, Murray said the commission priced the properties so the town would at least break even. The lots also had the stipulations that the buyer had to build something in three years and had to meet the town's development standards regarding the aesthetics of the buildings.

"The development runs very nicely and quietly," Murray said. "We would have lost \$110,000 a year if it was residential [because of the cost of education]."

Although the development brought in jobs and tax money, Murray said the commission still faced opposition from the town.

"People opposed it because they didn't need it," Murray said of those at the time who had large homes and children that were going to attend Harvard, Yale and Stanford. "Those that supported it were those with moderate houses and no real growth of income. People supported it with kids in town who went from high school to a job, not Harvard. It was employment opportunities for the kids."

Murray said he favors industrial businesses over retail because it brings in the largest tax base per square foot and the largest amount of jobs per square foot.

"Businesses come because the market can

support it," Murray said. "Things that are customer-driven will come no matter what."

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After Murray's explanation of the other development, members of the EDC and the Board of Selectmen asked him questions about how to move forward.

Jane Boston, chairwoman of the EDC, asked if the commission at the time received any assistance for the project. Murray replied the commission did receive \$80,000 from the state — half for a sight-line improvement and half to clear the lots and level them.

"Marlborough had no market; create a market, and they came," Director of Planning and Development Peter Hughes said.

"It takes time," Murray said. "It takes a while, but it happens."

Hughes explained the town bought the industrial park property in the early 1970s and it took until 1987 for the first building to be built. However, Hughes said, now some of the businesses are adding onto their original buildings because they have enough land.

Joe Asklar, another member of the commission, asked Murray what the town should do with the business park property. Murray stressed industrial businesses and that it's expensive to put roads in, but the town needs to make it happen.

Hughes said the other advantage of industrial businesses is they tend to stay long-term at a location.

As far as lessons learned from the previous project, Murray said figure out who will support the project and make sure people understand why you're asking for money.

"Some will always oppose just to oppose," Murray said.

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Currently, Hughes said they have all the basics for developing the business park including the zoning regulations and a plan for roads and

lots. However since being priced out in 2008 including improvements on Route 66, nothing has been done.

The business park property was purchased for \$1.8 million and the town has already spent a total of \$1.9 million getting the land and the basic plans. Asklar attempted to ask Hughes the current appraised value of the land, but Hughes did not give a definite answer only that putting in roads and updating Route 66 would cost approximately \$3 million.

The joint meeting ended with Asklar suggesting the town look into a specific industry for the land and selectman Dick Shea and Boston suggesting the town figure out some kind of incentives they can offer for potential buyers.

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The commission then broke off from the Board of Selectmen for its own meeting, where the members continued the conversation.

Chris Heberd, a member of the commission, said it's "time we focus on the business park development and a plan on how to attack this."

Asklar said with this kind of project it's important that the residents back the project and know the benefits to what the commission is trying to do.

Heberd stressed that the commission needs to create a plan for how to handle the property and what to tell businesses when they come in interested in a lot.

"We have to have tools," Heberd said. "Otherwise, the first reaction is negative."

Asklar suggested the commission set up a meeting with their two legislators along with the commissioner of the state economic development commission to discuss moving forward.

The next Economic Development Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

# Facebook Page Helps Find Lost Pets in East Hampton

by John Tyczkowski

Pet-lover Amanda Johnson noticed East Hampton was missing a safety net for many pet owners: a way to notify people of lost pets, and to track them down.

She said she started a Facebook group, "Lost and Found Pets in East Hampton CT," about four years ago, after her son and a friend found a kitten near the public library.

"I said, 'Guys, why don't you put it on Facebook; maybe it's someone's kitten.' So they put it up and right away someone said 'That's my kitten,'" she said. "I had seen sites for that kind of thing all over, but East Hampton never had one. And I saw how fast that kitten got found on Facebook."

"So I said, 'We need this,' and I went and started a group," she said.

Currently, the group has 726 members throughout East Hampton and the surrounding area. The group covers not only East Hampton but also Portland, East Haddam, Marlborough and other area towns, such as Glastonbury, Hebron and Colchester.

"The more members we have, the more ef-

fective we are. Time matters because animals run and hide, so the quicker we respond, the better," Johnson said. "And we usually get pets home really fast."

She said that she's heard that people in the group have taken different routes to work just to look for lost pets, and have gone out and taken hikes to look for pets during their free time.

"We've got a lot of great people in the community," Johnson said. "All the animal lovers really came together and spread word about the group."

However, she said she always tells people that if someone spots a lost pet, or what they think is a lost pet, they should contact their town's animal control officer before, or at the same time as, posting to the group.

"People don't always want to call animal control, because they're afraid they'll come and take the pet and put them in this dark, dank pound in sadness, for days," Johnson said. "Animal control knows what they're doing and people need to work with them too."

In addition, she urges people to update the

posts online as soon as possible to make sure people know which pets are still at large and which are home safe.

Johnson is also active at Shake a Leg! in Marlborough as a dog sitter and dog walker, but she said her focus on the Facebook page remains the pets themselves and not her other activities.

"We only post important things, like notifications about lost pets, because we want people to pay attention to what we post," she said. "If you post stuff all the time, no one pays attention."

In addition, that speed is important for recovering cats and smaller dogs because of the presence of coyotes and fisher cats in the area, she said.

But for non-urgent pet-related information, she's posted a series of notes in the group which detail several animal-related activities such as pet adoption tips and fixing and vaccination options for feral cats.

The latter she said is especially important because of the large feral cat population in East

Hampton and Marlborough.

"People don't usually think about that, but the numbers are significant," Johnson said. "There are a lot of cats that need help."

Johnson said she started adding members to the group with people on her friends list, and that it "kind of grew organically" from there.

"Animal-lovers will add other animal-lovers, and it's just grown," she said. "People come up and congratulate me, but I just set it up, and it really manages itself."

In addition, she said she always urges more people to join the group.

"The more animal-lovers the better," Johnson said. "It's everyone working together, and it works; we do get almost every one of them home safe." Johnson said. "And all of these strangers coming together for a common cause — it really shows there's still some humanity left in the world."

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Those interested can visit the group by searching for "Lost and Found Pets in East Hampton CT" on Facebook.

# Colchester Sends \$53.86 Million Budget to Referendum

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

Residents packed room one at Town Hall Wednesday night and, by a resounding 'yes,' sent the proposed \$53.86 million 2015-16 town budget to referendum.

The annual budget meeting lasted just ten minutes with no discussion or questions about the town and education budgets.

"The budget meeting can often be fairly quick, but there can often be discussion and debate," First Selectman Stan Soby said after the meeting. "Changes can be made to the budget during that budget meeting. In this instance, it was quickly passed to go to referendum."

Soby said he is "hopeful" the budget will be supported at referendum because "of the effort we put in to respond to the needs people have been expressing and did so in a responsible way."

Soby said he is also hopeful they have enough information out about the budget that residents can make an informed decision come

referendum time.

The budget reflects an overall increase of \$862,935, or 1.63 percent, over the adopted 2014-15 budget of \$52,995,877. The budget calls for a 0.47 mill rate increase, from 30.57 to 31.04 mills; this would translate to a 1.54 percent tax increase.

The mill rate is used to determine residents' taxes; a resident can determine their taxes by multiplying the mill rate by their total assessments. One mill is equal to \$1 in tax per \$1,000 of assessed property and under the proposed mill rate of 31.04, a resident with a home assessed at \$250,000 would pay \$7,760 in taxes.

The town budget totals \$13,863,442, a \$529,360 increase of 3.97 percent. The adopted 2014-15 town budget was \$13,334,082.

Some of the budget's highlights for the town include funding for legal for charter revision, three union contracts in negotiations, reduction

of the fire marshal position to 20 hours a week, certification of the assistant town clerk, increased hours for the network technician, increased licensing fees for software, a decrease in expected claims for health insurance, and increased claims for workers compensation.

For public safety, there is an increase in resident trooper costs, increase in police overtime, increase in police equipment, increase in per diem for the fire department for Saturday and Sunday shifts, increase in fire safety equipment, funding for the fire department strategic plan, and an increased cost for KX dispatch.

On the public works side, the budget has increased funding for road improvements and snow removal. For youth and social services, there is an increase in hours for the social services coordinator, an additional youth center supervisor, funding for C3, and continued funding for a substance abuse counselor. The bud-

get also reflects an increase in cost for the Chatham Health District, two additional hours per Saturday during the school year for the library, a MySeniorCenter data tracking software and training for Parks and Recreation. The budget also included some additional money for field maintenance.

The education budget totals \$39,995,370, a \$333,575, or .84 percent, increase over current year spending.

Some of the education budget highlights include the addition of a full-time Board Certified Behavior Analyst, rather than a one-day-a-week contract position, an additional \$10,000 for the early childhood coordinator, technology purchases of thin clients, iPads and iPad carts, elimination of a bus run, and an increased cost of transportation for special education.

The budget now goes to referendum on May 5 from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

# Colchester Board Interviews Selectman Hopeful, Discusses Mill

by Kaitlyn Schroyer

It's been a long process to find a replacement for Board of Selectmen member Bill Curran, who resigned from the board in February, but last week the selectmen interviewed the only resident who's expressed interest in the role.

At their Thursday, April 16, meeting, selectmen interviewed Republican Andreas Bisbikos, who has served on the Economic Development Committee since 2009.

At 28, Bisbikos said he is a "young guy in politics," and hopes to bring in more young people to serve.

A graduate of Bacon Academy, Bisbikos' family owns Colchester Pizza on Lebanon Avenue.

"I know the challenges the town faces and the positive aspects," Bisbikos said. "People can talk to me."

Bisbikos is currently a teacher at Windham Middle School, which he said has helped him become a good role model.

Bisbikos is also vice chairman of the Colchester Republican Town Committee, and he prided himself with arranging a heavily-attended GOP debate in town last fall.

"I'll bring vigor and energy the town needs," Bisbikos said.

Bisbikos also stressed the town would always come first in his mind.

"I serve the town first and politics as little as possible," Bisbikos said. "I'll figure out what's best for the town."

Bisbikos said he would like to help see a

clean community that draws potential residents and businesses and shape Colchester to be a "model town for all of Connecticut."

One of the ways to do that, he said, is to continue to investigate a blight ordinance.

If chosen for the board, Bisbikos stressed that he "wouldn't be writing letters to the editor" or starting any scandals. When he has a question for a selectman, he said, he would ask in private. However, selectwoman Rosemary Coyle quickly put the kibosh on this idea, explaining to Bisbikos that the Board of Selectmen is a public board and all issues have to be discussed while in a public meeting.

First Selectman Stan Soby ended the interview with describing the typical process of appointing which is that the Board of Selectmen will make a decision in two weeks at their next meeting. That meeting will be May 7 at 7 p.m. at town hall.

\* \* \*

Also at the April 16 meeting, the selectmen looked over a first draft of a revision to the town's hiring policies, which includes additional vetting and potentially changing the window for local vendors.

Currently, a local vendor that comes within 5 percent of the lowest bid can be offered the bid if they agree to the lowest bid amount. The potential changes would include upping that 5 percent to 7.5 percent, opening the window for more local vendors to be hired.

Soby said the need to change the policy arose

after problems the town had this winter with Windsor-based contractor Action Jackson removing snow from school parking lots in town in an efficient and timely manner.

The selectmen terminated the town's school plowing contract with Action Jackson Feb. 5.

\* \* \*

Lastly the selectmen discussed the ongoing project of the Norton Paper Mill on 139 Westchester Rd.

The mill has been abandoned for over 25 years, and was destroyed by fire in July 2012. The mill has since been boarded up and blocked off by a fence. At the time of the fire, Chief Walter Cox said the building was being watched for structural integrity, since the water continues to flow under the foundation of the building.

When the mill was operating, the dam on the Jeremy River was used to divert the water to run the pumps and mechanical machines.

Since the 2012 fire, the Nature Conservancy and the town had been looking for ways to improve the property.

Soby said the Nature Conservancy has received \$1.5 million in federal funds to remove the dam at the mill, since the river is a Class A river known for fishing and removing the dam would potentially improve the environmental habitat.

On top of removing the dam, the town received a Small Town Economic Assistance Program [STEAP] grant for \$350,000 to purchase

the property and make it into a passive park. However, that step depends on the result of environmental testing.

"Should the testing come out in a way we hope it will, we have a purchase and sale agreement transfer for the property for \$1," Soby said. "With the additional grant money from the state, we will turn it into a passive recreation area that will also capture the history of the mill and the family."

The history of the Norton Paper Mill goes back to the Carriers who came from Salem, Mass., around the time of the witch trials. The family settled in North Westchester after fleeing Salem.

"Part of the agreement is telling the history of the area," Soby said. The park would also be called Norton Park.

Soby said with the location of the mill on Route 149 it is a focal point for the town leading into the agricultural corridor.

"All that area is a perfect spot for entry that we haven't had before," Soby said. The Air Line Trail is also just up the road. "It's a perfect project to have in that spot."

Beside the Economic Development Commission, Soby said many organizations have been involved along with the Nature Conservancy, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Army Core of Engineers.

All that's left is the results of the environmental testing to see if the town can go forward with the project.

## RHAM Board Discusses Financial Reports

by Geeta Schrayter

Financial reports were the topic du jour at Monday's RHAM Board of Education meeting, as board member Rich Jacobson recommended the board receive more thorough reports and information on transfers.

"I want to see us get a report structure in place where we are actually given the information we need to monitor the budgets and do the transfers we are obligated to do by law," he stated.

But board chairman Danny Holtsclaw said that, according to the board's insurance company and financial auditors, current procedures were sufficient; as it stands, the board receives information including monthly progress reports and quarterly reports, and business manager Jane Neel "was going to provide a status report which would include, if needed, any budget transfers in accordance with board policy," Holtsclaw stated.

Jacobson however, wasn't satisfied with what he called the "broad" categories included on the reports – salaries, benefits, purchased services, tuition, supplies, property and "other," and wanted to see individual items listed instead.

Speaking to his point, board member Joe O'Connor said to Neel, "I know I don't want you to have to come to us for every nickel or every dollar, but I think to Rich's point, last year there were transfers at the end of the year

that we really didn't know about. Technically we knew because of this report, but we never really discussed it and these meetings happen so fast, we kind of seem to just rush through some of this stuff."

O'Connor added, "We owe our townspeople and everybody accountability and transparency and I don't think we're doing that to the best of our ability."

O'Connor said, "I definitely see a lot of improvement [in the district's finances] but that's my understanding of how I think we want to proceed... we want to definitely be in tune with how much money we're spending. I don't think that's micromanaging; if you're over in a line item we have to be able to balance that at a monthly meeting."

But Neel explained she had provided the board with a report containing just the overall objects and programs because "it seems like that's what we wanted to go back to."

She added for the quarterly report, which will come out in May, she had been planning to recommend transfers and be more detailed.

In addition, she explained some of the over expenditures were difficult to resolve right away since funds to cover them may be expected later in the year; as an example she used funds for athletic coaches. Although the item is currently over expended, she said "I wouldn't recommend moving money in there because I'm

still waiting on pay-to-play to come in, but you don't know that because you don't see that on there."

Although Jacobson and O'Connor remained interested in seeing more thorough reports more regularly, Holtsclaw suggested the issue be put on hold until the board received Neel's quarterly report in May.

But first, board member Mike Turner added his thoughts to the mix; he said "I agree it's onerous if we tried to clear up [over expenditures] every two to three months, but I do think we want a better status of the budget than we've been getting."

"You can have whatever reports you want," Neel replied, and added while it may be too much to have her come to them for every transfer, if the board wanted her to bring forward transfers that reached or passed a certain threshold, they could "certainly" put that into board policy and that could happen.

After Jacobson began to reiterate some of his concerns regarding the information included – or not included – on the reports, Holtsclaw attempted to move the meeting forward, cutting Jacobson off and asking "any further discussion?"

"Um, well yes..." Jacobson said.

"Are you sharing something new, Rich, on the point?" Holtsclaw asked.

"Let's not go down that path tonight,"

Jacobson replied.

Turner meanwhile, added, "It's a point of order. We all had a chance to speak... it's a chance for discussion, but we don't have to have endless discussion."

"That's correct," Holtsclaw stated, which was followed by an awkward silence in the room.

"Is there any further discussion from anyone who hasn't spoke or has something new to say about it?" he inquired after a moment.

"I have one new thing to say," Jacobson responded. "We are trying to get to transparency. There's a number of people that accuse the superintendent of transferring money left and right and by making it visible to both us and to them we can help fend that off."

And with that, the conversation came to a close, with the overall board feeling be to wait for Neel's quarterly report next month to see how board members felt about the information she provides.

\* \* \*

Also at Monday's meeting, the board voted unanimously to establish this year's graduation date as Friday, June 18.

\* \* \*

The next regular RHAM Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the RHAM High School Music Room.

# New Portland Business Celebrates Grand Opening

by John Tyczkowski

Victorian Inspirations owner and southern Florida native Ellen Foster has quite a story to tell. After 43 years working in the automobile industry in a number of financial roles, she's now started up her own retail business, right in Portland.

Earlier this month, Foster opened Victorian Inspirations, a boutique-style gift shop located at 204 Main St.

Foster said she originally headed up to Connecticut in August 2013, to help with restructuring a very large dealership group in the area. However, she decided to leave the group last September, to pursue her dream of opening a retail shop.

"I've always wanted to do this, open a small boutique-type shop, so I decided to do it," Foster said. "I've always been really good at gift-giving and putting things together, and event planning. It just fit."

She said she picked the name very carefully as well.

"It's 'Inspirations' because I like to inspire people and want to do that through my products, and 'Victorian' because I just like the era," she said. "It doesn't really have anything to do with products being strictly Victorian-style, but it's about the elegant and classy mindset of that era."

This past Tuesday was the culmination of those events, and involved both a ribbon cutting ceremony and official welcome from the Town of Portland.

The shop enjoyed a soft opening at the beginning of April.

Calling herself a "big HGTV-kind of person," Foster pointed out how the display cases and display furniture in her store were rehabbed.

For example, she said she bought the main display case in the store on Craigslist and dolled it up into something fitting her store's style, with white ivory-colored gilding.

"I wanted a nice easy feel to everything in here," Foster said. "I want people when they

come in here to feel very comfortable. Everything had to fit together."

Another major project was taking the original door of her store off its hinges, mounting it on butcher-block legs and turning it into a display table.

And naturally, she placed the door with a newer, flashier one featuring a large glass oval window, and also replaced the storefront's windows with new panes.

"I like to give off pizzazz, so when I move into a neighborhood, people go 'Wow!,'" Foster said.

Foster's wide range of products include custom-painted wine glasses courtesy of an artisan and art teacher in Plainville, Spartina handbags from Hilton Head, S.C., Portland's own Mizzi Cosmetics Lip Luxe products, internationally-known Silver Spoon jewelry and much more.

There are even Santa Fe Stoneworks knives and money clips for the guys, she said.

Also, another product line she features is one of her own: children's clothing that she started making as a seasonal side project while living in Maine for five years.

"And I did it while I was traveling five days a week for work," she said, laughing.

As to how she ended up in Portland, Foster said it was "just everything coming together." A resident of East Hampton and a frequent commuter to Middletown, she said one day last December she happened to notice a 'for rent' sign at 204 Main St. while heading to the Arrigoni Bridge.

"That looks like a perfect spot, right on Main Street and 66,' I said to myself, and I decided to call about and find out about it," she said. "The rest is history."

Foster said she's "really enjoying" having her own business.

"I'm working with people all the time, I'm a real people person, and I'm my own boss, I have freedom," she said.

Foster said she wanted to make sure she



State Rep. Christie Carpino, First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield, Ellen Foster and Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce President Larry McHugh (pictured from left) recently came together for a grand opening of Foster's new store, Victorian Inspirations.

thanked the tens of members in the "Dynamic Professionals" Meetup group she started.

"I've got a great base there, they've really helped me network. And we are really like a family, that's one of the reasons why I didn't want to go back to Florida," she said. "They're really supported me with this one."

In the near future, Foster said she's hoping to work with the town and other Main Street businesses to start a weekly community event during the upcoming summer.

"I call it 'Thursdays on Main Street.' We'll

bring in local artisans, maybe do a farmer's market, maybe have a jazz group play, things like that," she said. "I'm from Florida, and we do this stuff all the time, I think it'd be a lot of fun to bring it to Portland."

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Victorian Inspirations is open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, call the store at 860-788-3145 or visit [victorianinspirations.com](http://victorianinspirations.com), or search for Victorian Inspirations on Facebook.

Portland | East Hampton | Portland | East Hampton

## Local Band Plays Music 'Four Fun'

by John Tyczkowski

If you're hearing classic rock, doo wop, country and Christian music all in the same performance, you just might be attending a show by local band Four Fun, a group that's been performing together for over 15 years.

But the band's origins go back even longer than that.

Kevin Johnson, a government property administrator with United Technologies who used to work at Pratt & Whitney, was a pastor at East Hampton Bible Church from 1983 until 1997. It was there he ran into Ray Phillips, around 1991.

"We really hit it off right away, and we started to jam," he said. "Before we knew it we were playing every other Sunday."

Phillips, an independent engineering consultant, plays guitar for the band, and Johnson functions as a multi-instrumentalist, playing banjo, harmonica, keyboard, guitar, and provides vocals.

Johnson, who lives in East Hampton, stepped down in his role as pastor at the church in 1997, but he still kept in contact with Phillips, who lives in Portland. Around 2000, they had invited a third man into the fold, Pratt & Whitney mechanical leadman and bass vocalist Ed Brenkus, from New Britain.

"I worked with Kevin at the East Hartford facility for a very long time," Brenkus said. "We go way back to the '80s. And then we hooked up again together later at the Middletown facility, and started talking about this group here."

"I said, 'Hey, let's give it a shot,' so I came together with these guys and I've been here ever since," he said.

And then, the group rounded out to its four-person number around 2002 with the addition of Darin Clark, another Pratt & Whitney employee, who plays keyboards, bass guitar and provides vocals for the group.

Clark's parents had been prominent musicians, under the stage names of Hal Scott, on piano and saxophone, and Penny Lane, on drums, and had "raised [Clark] on music,"

Johnson said.

"He had never played in a band before," Johnson said. "But he's a very talented keyboardist and singer, so I invited him to check out the group. So he started coming and has been with us ever since."

As for the band's unique name?

"We were playing a gig and they asked us our name, and we didn't have one," Johnson recalled. "They said, 'You gotta come up with a name,' and then I said, 'Well our vision is to have fun, and there's four of us.' So, 'Four Fun.'"

Johnson also said the group has enjoyed playing with the name.

"When we invite people to join us, it's 'Four Fun Plus One,' and when we're down one person, we're 'Four Fun Minus One,'" he said.

Also, each member of the group brings their own distinctive stylistic flavor, Johnson said.

"I'm more of the country boy here, and hill-billy gospel," he said. "Eddy's got the great voice for the doo wop and the oldies rock and does contemporary gospel. Ray knows classic rock. Darin knows pop."

"We're very eclectic here, we like to do a lot of things," Johnson said.

"Yeah, we'll go straight from 'Amazing Grace' to 'Hotel California,' to give you an idea of our shows," Brenkus said.

Phillips said he enjoys the camaraderie the band has.

"We're a band where the sum of the parts makes us greater than each person, we'd never be able to do this on our own," he said. "We each have our niche here. I like that."

Four Fun plays about four or five shows a year. Some of the group's regular venues include the East Hampton Senior Center, Cobalt Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, Portland Care and Rehabilitation Center and Aaron Manor and Rehabilitation Center in Chester – and Brenkus stresses the importance of playing at those locations.

"What we like about it is that, for an hour or so, people are concentrating on us instead of their issues when they're in the convalescent



Four Fun band members Ed Brenkus and Darin Clark (top row from left) and Ray Phillips and Kevin Johnson (bottom row from left) have been playing their brand of rock, doo wop, country and Christian music together since 2000.

homes or in the rehab centers," Brenkus said. "For that amount of time, they don't have to worry about anything."

When the band came together, "we decided we wanted to share the music, and we weren't quite sure where to go at first," Johnson said. "We wanted to give back to the community, and this was the way to do it, and to contribute to a cause greater than yourself."

However, Four Fun also has done plenty of events for its members as well. Phillips mentioned how the band played for his daughter's college graduation, for one of Darin's father's birthdays and at Johnson's father's funeral.

They've also played at a few Bible churches as well around the state – including one in Woodstock.

"So now we can say we've played Woodstock, if anyone asks," Phillips quipped.

With retirements on the horizon for some of its members, Four Fun said the band would be open to stepping up their touring schedule in the future.

"We love bringing that to everyone, and we'd be glad to play more than four or five times a year," Johnson said.

Additionally, Phillips said if it's possible, he'd be interested in seeing Four Fun play a show at Portland's Riverfront Park over the summer.

"I don't know how easy it'd be, but it would be great to get to bring our music to a completely different crowd," he said. "It'd definitely be so much fun."

# Hebron Board Talks Administrative Structure

by Geeta Schrayter

At the Board of Education meeting April 9, the board discussed the administrative structure in the district – and also accepted another resignation.

The board accepted the resignation of curriculum director Vonda Tencza, effective June 30; Tencza joins Hebron Elementary School Principal Amy Campbell, who is retiring at the end of the school year.

The departure of the two administrators comes at a time when the board is also working to find a new superintendent of schools to replace Jeff Newton, who left earlier this year to become superintendent in his hometown of East Lyme.

The changes provided the opportunity for much discussion at the meeting, starting with the superintendent's position. Board chair Marianne Leichter shared the board had received a large amount of feedback to their request for information regarding whether or not the district should have a full-time or part-time superintendent.

"All kinds of ideas were generated by constituents and it was really an eye-opening experience to see how people are looking at the problem that we are trying to address," Leichter stated, adding, "As far as this information it will certainly be taken into consideration."

In addition, Leichter explained the board had already voted Feb. 12 to stick with a full-time superintendent, but said it would be possible to rescind that decision if the board decided to do so. And that's exactly what board member Amy Lynch-Gracias moved to do; however, the motion received no second and failed.

As the board moved on to the overall administrative structure in the district, Lynch-Gracias again made a motion "that the Board of Education and the new incoming superintendent address the town and request a committee to be formed to investigate what the best route would

be going forward."

She clarified this was related to the long-term structure in the district in light of declining enrollment. She said she felt the town should be part of the decision making process – as they have been for issues such as whether or not to separate from RHAM which headed to referendum – when it comes to the administrative structure at the schools.

"I think they should be a part as well as members from the [education] board, Board of Finance and selectmen," she stated.

During discussion on the motion, board member Carol Connolly said she didn't feel comfortable taking those particular decisions to the town since she felt it was the board's responsibility.

"It sounds like we're aligned and unified that we should look at data, consider committees and subcommittees, but I think to the extent you're proposing... that's far reaching and would not allow us to operate smoothly," she stated.

As for board member Abe Krisst, he said "I think Amy, I won't disagree with your idea; I think my only concern is that I feel it's a little premature. I think we wait until our new CEO is on board."

He added, "I think we're going to make it clear through the hiring process that this is probably the biggest thing they're going to wrestle with in the first part of their term."

He furthered, "Generally I like your idea but I do think whoever it is who steps into the role as superintendent should be the one guiding that."

Member Geoffrey Davis felt similarly.

"Reaching out to the town [and] the various boards would be a good thing but I also want to echo that definitely making sure we have someone here first [to fill the superintendent's role] would be the number one step."

But that wasn't the thought of board member Erica Bromley, who felt it was "prudent" to make a decision before the new superintendent arrives.

"The board has the ability to form a committee without having to wait [until there's a superintendent on board]," she said. "I think it's prudent for us to at least make a decision."

Mark Winzler, who is serving as the interim superintendent of schools until the end of June, added his own thoughts to the mix, saying if he were the new superintendent, he would rather see a motion directing him "to start the process." He added, "Whatever you do, I just think you need to be specific about what you want to do and how it's set up."

In the end, Lynch-Gracias moved to table her motion until the board's May meeting, so a more specific motion could be brought forth about the committee's purpose and composition. In the meantime, Winzler said he'd sit down with Lynch-Gracias "to come up with something agreeable to bring forward."

\* \* \*

Also at the meeting, Lynch-Gracias motioned to make specific changes to the administrative structure so that there was one full-time principal, one full-time assistant principal, and a part-time assistant principal/special education director.

This again caused much discussion.

Connolly stated she was under the impression this, too, was a topic that would be tabled and said she was uncomfortable discussing it at this point; but Bromley said, "Time is of the essence."

"There's a lot going on and a lot of decisions to make in a short period of time," she stated.

But member Ramon Bieri and Krisst again mentioned the immediate focus needed to be on getting a new superintendent in the district. "Looking into cost savings on our adminis-

tration is a wise and prudent action that, if the board deems so, should be looked at," Bieri stated. "I myself feel the circumstances do warrant us doing that but at this time I'm not prepared to do any detailed analysis or discussion until after we've moved forward with a superintendent."

"I think it's very loud and clear from the public that they want change," Krisst added, but "I do agree our number one job has to be that search for a person in charge of our school district."

Winzler added "your timing is very unfortunate" with the various administrators leaving at once. He added he was already getting the ball rolling in the search for a new principal for Hebron Elementary School, saying, "You can't operate without one."

"If you don't get out of the gate and post the Hebron Elementary School position, good luck on July 1," Winzler stated. "The bottom line is that I would never select your new principal but I would be remiss in my duties as interim if I don't get the ball rolling for you."

He added, "I think that if you want to change the structure you can do it but to not put [the opening] out there - you're going to put the state of the district at harm."

As Lynch-Gracias brought her motion on the specific changes to a vote, there was once again no second.

"But we'll have to revisit this topic," said Leichter.

And Bromley reiterated her concern.

"I just want to say I'm concerned about how and when we might begin to come up with some potential options."

\* \* \*

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, at 7 p.m. in the Gilead Hill School music room.

## East Hampton Police News

4/2: Bernadette Rios, 43, of 98 Middletown Ave., was issued a summons for operating an unregistered motor vehicle, failure to comply with required emissions testing and operating under suspension, East Hampton Police said.

4/11: James Sadlowski, 22, of 19 Bevin Blvd., was arrested and charged with DUI and misuse of high beams, police said.

4/12: Allison D. Leue, 28, of 12 Grist Mill Ln., Cobalt, was issued a summons for operating a cell phone while operating a motor vehicle and speeding, police said.

4/12: Jamie Branciforte, 40, of 2 Lakeview St., was issued a summons for disorderly conduct and operating a motor vehicle under suspension, police said.

4/14: Kyle Rutkauski, 21, of 107 Main St., was arrested pursuant to two outstanding warrants, and charged with two separate counts of second-degree failure to appear, police said.

## Portland Police News

4/13: Eric Santese, 38, of 109 Long Hill Rd., Middletown, was charged with speeding and operating under suspension, Portland Police said.

4/13: Robert Glidden, 27, of 66 Freestone Ave., was charged with second-degree failure to appear, police said.

4/13: Angela Chadsey, 20, of 24 Coe Ave. Ext., was charged with two counts of credit card theft, third-degree identity theft, two counts of illegal use of credit card and fourth-degree larceny, police said.

4/18: Tierney Banno, 22, of 422 Gospel Ln., was charged with sixth-degree larceny, police said.

## Three Injured in Marlborough Crash

State Police said three people were transported to hospitals with injuries after an accident on Route 2 west involving three cars.

Police said Donald Hahn, 66, and Virginia Hahn, 70, both of 72 Edmund St., Manchester, were transported to Marlborough Clinic for injuries, and Jesus Santiago, 33, of 97 Francis St., Hartford, was transported to Hartford Hospital for injuries.

## Colchester Police News

4/14: Colchester Police said Dean Molinari, 28, of 128 Broadway, was arrested and charged with DUI.

## Hebron Police News

4/16: State Police said they are investigating after five Stihl chainsaws and a Stihl backpack style leaf blower with a combined value of \$5,000 was taken from a home on Reidy Hill Road in Amston. Anyone with information can contact Trooper James Olson at 860-465-5400.

4/17: State Police said Kevin Kilton, 53, of 305 Lebanon Ave., Lebanon, was arrested and charged with DUI, evading, and failure to drive right.

## Obituaries

### East Hampton

#### June L. Wylie

June L. (Barbour) Wylie, 91, of 76 Skinner St., East Hampton, wife of the late Samuel D. Wylie, died peacefully at home Tuesday, Feb. 3, with her loving daughter and caregiver, Trev, by her side. Born June 23, 1923, daughter of the late Norman and Ida Barbour, she had lived in East Hampton all her life.

She worked at her brother Robert Barbour's restaurant, the Gong Bell factory and the Bevin Wilcox Fishline Company. She loved square dancing, camping, hunting, fishing, walking, baking and playing cards with the girls. She enjoyed many activities at the Senior Center. She was also an avid Yankee fan like Sam and Trev.

She is survived by her two daughters, Trev Wylie of East Hampton and Linda Galvin of Florida; two granddaughters, Melissa Galvin and Jennifer Paradis and her husband, Doug; two great-granddaughters, Shelby and Sabrina Galvin; her brother, Robert Barbour; and her special friends, Paul Rittman Sr., Richard McKinney, Fran Guillemin and Emmett Flannery.

Burial will be Friday, May 1, in the family plot in Lakeview Cemetery at 1 p.m., with the Rev. Mary Anne Osbourne officiating.

Despite her love of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main Street, East Hampton, CT 06424; Middlesex Hospice Program, 55 Crescent Street, Middletown, CT 06457; or Alzheimer's Association, 200 Executive Boulevard, Suite 4B, Southington, CT 06489.

### Marlborough

#### Robert J. Chervenak

Robert J. Chervenak, 74, of Marlborough, husband for 44 years to Sheila (Mastronicola) Chervenak, died Monday, April 13, at Yale-New Haven Hospital surrounded by his family.

Born March 24, 1941, in Passaic, N.J., son of the late Peter and Helen (Adamez) Chervenak, he lived in Marlborough for the past 42 years. Prior to his retirement in 1999, he was an electrical engineer at Pratt & Whitney.

Bob was a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University. He subscribed to the Hartford and Boston Symphonies and enjoyed spending summers at Tanglewood listening to classical music. He also enjoyed bike riding on the rail trail but most of all he enjoyed being with his family, especially his beloved grandchildren.

Besides his wife he is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Bryan and Kerri Chervenak of Manchester; a daughter and son-in-law, Nicole and Chris Ketchen of Walpole, Mass.; a sister, Kathy Chervenak of Ringwood, N.J.; five grandchildren, Kelsey, Abigail, Nathan, Sophia and Bryce, a sister-in-law Margie Carlock and her husband Brian of Waxhaw, N.C.; two nephews, Christopher and Jason Czura; and a niece, Brea Carlock.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Friday, April 17, in St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church, 285 Church St., Hartford. Friends called at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury, on Thursday, April 16.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Smilow Closer to Free Fund, P.O. Box 7611, New Haven, CT 06519 ([giveclosertofree.org](mailto:giveclosertofree.org)).

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

### East Hampton

#### John R. Moon Sr.

John R. Moon Sr., 67, of Moodus, died Saturday, April 18, at Chestelm Health and Rehab in Moodus. Born June 11, 1947, in Middletown, he was the son of the late Andrew J. and Mildred (Peterson) Moon.

John grew up in East Hampton and moved to Indiana, where he had worked at Dutchman Camper as a foreman before his illness. He returned to Moodus in 2008. John served his country in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War.

He is survived by his son, John R. Moon Jr. of Cromwell; five daughters, Michelle Espinosa of Newington, Victoria Moon of Middletown, Bridget Goff of Moodus, Kaitlyn Stone of Indiana, Emily Moon of Indiana; nine brothers and sisters; best friend, David Sorvello of East Hampton; and nine grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his sister, Cheryl Keser.

Friends may call at Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, today, April 24, from 4-6 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society at [cancer.org](http://cancer.org).

To leave online condolences, visit [spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).

### Andover

#### Grace Kukucka

Grace (Branch) Kukucka, 91, widow of Andrew Kukucka of Andover, passed away Saturday, April 4, with great courage and dignity.

A public graveside burial service will be held Saturday, April 25, at 10 a.m., in Townsend Cemetery, Townsend Road, Andover.

### Amston

#### Joseph Richard Riley

Joseph Richard Riley, 32, of Amston, formerly of East Hartford, passed away Friday, April 17, at home. He was born in Goldsboro, N.C., the son of James and Jean (Alexander) Riley, and lived in the area most of his life.

Joe attended East Hartford schools, UConn and Eastern Connecticut State University. He was gifted in working with special needs children in the area of autism, going back to high school, where he worked in a special education camp during the summer with the East Hartford Parks and Recreation program. He also previously worked as a paraprofessional with children of special needs. Joe also loved sports. After his collegiate days as a pitcher for ECSU, he played in various softball and flag football leagues as well as golf. He was larger than life, lots of fun with a heart of gold who loved his family very much.

Besides his parents, Joe leaves a brother, Michael Riley and his wife Kayla of Manchester; a sister, U.S. Army Specialist Meagan Riley and her husband, Specialist Marcus Johnson of Fairbanks, Alaska; his grandparents, Richard and Jean Riley of East Hartford and Albert Alexander and his wife Sandy of Hartford. He is also survived by his aunts and uncles, Karen and Al Daly of East Hartford, Tim and Sharon Riley of East Hartford, Doug and Linda Alexander of Manchester, Tom and Lori Alexander of Glastonbury and Janice and Kevin Grady of Amston; his cousins, Jim Riley and his wife Cynthia, Sean Riley, Ann Marie Kennedy, Jessica Alexander, Sam Alexander, Michelle Nelson, Steve and Aiko Nelson, Sue and Steve Bonnano and Adam and Sarah Bonnano; as well as many, many special friends.

He was predeceased by his grandmother, Betty Alexander.

Friends called Monday, April 20, at the Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home, 34 Beaver Rd., Wethersfield. The funeral was held Tuesday, April 21, from the funeral home, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial that morning in St. Christopher Church, 538 Brewer St., East Hartford.

Burial was private.

To extend online condolences or to light a memorial candle, visit [Farleysullivan.com](http://Farleysullivan.com).

### Colchester

#### Adele Fishbone

Adele (Dembrow) Fishbone of Bozrah passed away Wednesday, April 22, at Harrington Court in Colchester. She was born Sept. 25, 1927, in Norwich, to the late Joseph and Rose Davis Dembrow. She was married for 50 years to her loving husband, William Murray Fishbone, who predeceased her in 2005.

Adele retired from the Bozrah registrar of voters after 35 years, and was a very active and proud member of the Republican Party, B'nai Brith, Sisterhood and Brothers of Joseph Synagogue.

Adele is survived by a son, Neil Fishbone and his wife Nadine of Acton, Mass.; a son Marc Fishbone and his fiancée Sandra Sharr of Stonington; a son, Eric Fishbone and his wife Anna of Moodus; a daughter, Cheryl Fishbone of New Canaan and her companion Stewart Penn of Tarrytown; a daughter, Anita Fishbone Tricomi and her husband Marco of Italy, and daughter Amy Fishbone of California. She also leaves behind grandchildren Alexis, Courtney, Joshua, Kira, Justin, Johnna, Alex and Sophia, as well as twin great-grandchildren Hannah and Madelyn.

Adele's favorite pastime was reading, which was a trait she passed on lovingly to all her children and grandchildren. Adele and Bill adored travelling and spending summers in Wickford, R.I., with their children. Adele was loved and respected by all who knew her and will be deeply missed.

A funeral home service will be held at Church and Allen Funeral Home Sunday, April 26, at 11 a.m. Burial will immediately follow at Brothers of Joseph Cemetery in Preston.

Donations may be made in Adele's honor to the Vitas Hospice, 626 Hebron Ave. Building 2, Suite 300, Glastonbury, CT 06033 or American Heart Association, 5 Brookside Dr., Wallingford, CT 06492.

Visit [churchandallen.com](http://churchandallen.com) to leave an online condolence for the Fishbone family.

### Colchester

#### Pauline Cecile Buckwald

Pauline Cecile (Dube) Buckwald, 83, of Colchester, passed away peacefully Friday, April 17. She was a loving mother, aunt, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was a generous and selfless soul who always put her family before herself and touched the lives of everyone who knew her.

Pauline was born Aug. 1, 1931, in Nashua, N.H., to Herve and Lillian Dube of 148 Canal St. She graduated from Nashua High School in May of 1949. She lived in Nashua most of her younger years and had many friends. She worked at the Nashua Gum and Coated Paper Company (The "Card Shop") where she met her future husband, Frederick Buckwald. They were married Nov. 28, 1953, and moved to Connecticut soon after (Enfield and Manchester). They celebrated almost 45 years of marriage.

Pauline will forever be remembered by her children, Sandra Tsokalas and David and Torri Buchwald; her beloved grandchildren, Lindsey and Robert Devin, Jenifer Tsokalas, Jeline, and Garret Buchwald; and her great-grandchildren, Cody and Isobel Devin; along with countless family and friends whom were blessed to know her.

Pauline played the piano beautifully, passing on her love for music to her children. She worked for many years in the community, holding positions at local banks, car dealerships, working with the Visiting Angels, and at small gift shops to ensure she always had a few extra dollars to spoil her children and grandchildren. Her generosity knew no limits, and she would often go without in order to make sure her family was well taken care of and always happy.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to either the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718 Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718 (or online at <https://donate.cancer.org>); or the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517 Topeka, KS 66675 (or online at <https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org>).

The family is completely grateful to Hartford Hospital, the Salmon Brook Center of Glastonbury and Masonicare Hospice for their support of her and her family during her final days.

The family had calling hours Thursday, April 23, at Farwell Funeral Service, 18 Lock St., Nashua, N.H. A memorial for Pauline was held the next morning, Friday, April 24, at Farwell's, and she will be laid to rest in St. Francis Xavier Cemetery, 32 Pinehill Ave., Nashua, N.H.

### Colchester

#### Thomas M. Jakubiec

Thomas M. Jakubiec, 59, of Colchester, beloved husband of Robyn (Lavery) Jakubiec, died suddenly Saturday, April 18. He was born in Geneva, N.Y., the son of Phyllis (Polek) Jakubiec of Middletown and the late Dr. Frank J. Jakubiec.

Tom "Jake" was a graduate of Xavier High School Class of 1974 and also of Columbia University Class of 1981. Tom was an avid birdwatcher, star gazer and gardener. He loved jazz music, family camping trips and was very passionate about special projects with his son.

In addition to his wife and mother, he is survived by his son, Thomas F. Jakubiec; stepdaughters, Patricia and Chantal Henry; brother, Dr. Robert Jakubiec and his wife Dorothy of Middletown; sister, Catherine Archer and her husband Gregg of Portland; brothers in law Robert Lavery and his wife Susan of Virginia; Randall Lavery and his wife Jennifer of Massachusetts and Russell Lavery of Massachusetts; as well as his nieces, nephews, great niece and great nephew.

Funeral services are private and burial will be at the convenience of the family.

Donations in Tom's memory may be made to the "Thomas F. Jakubiec Life Ahead Fund" at any Liberty Bank (245 Main St., Portland, CT 06480) or to the Connecticut Audubon Society Nature Center at Glastonbury, 1361 Main St., Glastonbury, CT 06033.

Biega Funeral Home has care of the arrangements. To share memories or express condolences online, visit [biegafuneralhome.com](http://biegafuneralhome.com).

### Colchester

#### Sophie Mary Noyes

Sophie (Sofia) Mary Noyes of Norwich, who resided at Harrington Court convalescent home in Colchester for over two and a half years, died Sunday, April 19, at age 91. She never gave up on life, despite various health issues.

Prior to 2012, Sophie lived in her own mobile home for 25 years at 136 Hunters Rd. lot 44 in Norwich. She was very independent and worked up until age 81. Sophie worked for Mohegan Sun Casino EVS for five years until 2005 and previous to that cleaned the offices of SNET for a few years. She also worked at Fortune Plastic in Old Saybrook for 10 years and a longer period at Sheffield Tube in New London in the 1970s and 80s.

Sophie was married in 1961 for 15 years to Navy man Waldo Noyes and has one daughter Nancy Noyes (54) of Columbia. Nancy's mom loved to watch old home movies of them snowmobiling at "the camp" in New Hampshire and swimming in the cold mountain streams in the summers. She also enjoyed polka dancing and country music and had a few long-term relationships and a few cats in her 60s and 70s. She was a fan of the Red Sox and *The Price is Right* TV show always made her laugh.

Sophie was born in Griswold Jan. 30, 1924, the daughter of Joseph and Aleksandra Babik, who immigrated from Poland and had 14 children. She is survived by a sister, Helen Walczak, and a brother, Edward Babik. She is predeceased by sisters Anna, Jane, Stella, Sabina and Barbara, and other brothers who moved away and some who died very young. They all loved sharing stories of the hardships they endured growing up poor during the Great Depression.

There will be a funeral service at Woyasz & Son, 11 Jerome Rd. in Uncasville on Sunday, April 26, at noon, with visitation beginning at 11 a.m., followed by a buffet lunch at 1:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Norwich. Colorful variety flower bouquets appreciated.

### East Hampton

#### Dean Pratt Waite

Dean Pratt Waite of East Hampton died peacefully at Middlesex Hospital Tuesday, April 14. Born July 21, 1921, in Manhattan, N.Y., he was the son of the late Kenneth J. and Dorothy McCauley Waite.

He was inspired to draw ships at the age of five after a visit to the Brooklyn Navy Yard. He was a graduate of Vesper George School of Art in Boston.

Dean was predeceased by his wife, Margaret (MacLennan) Waite. He is survived by his two sons, Richard Waite and wife Bonnie of Acushnet, Mass., Peter Waite and wife Karen of Kingston, Wash.; son-in-law, William Wasylshyn of Glastonbury; grandchildren, Scott Waite, Jennifer Waite, Matthew Waite, Erica Wasylshyn Hanway and husband Harper, Heidi Wasylshyn, Nicole Waite; great-granddaughter Seana. He was predeceased by his daughter, Gail Wasylshyn.

Dean has distinguished himself as a well-recognized artist and illustrator, having done cover designs for *The Open Road for Boys*, *Yachting*, *Boys Life* and *Motorboating* magazines. His paintings and portraits have been exhibited in many venues, including First National Bank of Boston, Fawcettes Marine in Annapolis, Viking Hotel in Newport, East River Savings Bank at Rockefeller Center, the Boeing Company, Mystic Seaport, the Space Needle and The Museum of Flight in Seattle, Wash. He also created and patented his well-known "Mini-Vues" as well as his signature mugs.

Dean held many prominent positions, namely: art director for the Purnell Company in Boston, New York art director for the Chicago-based Meyercord Company, and layout artist and designer for the Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company in Boston. He was also an advertising manager for the former Simplex Time Recorder Company and a staff artist for the Associated Press in New York City, as well as a technical artist and designer for the Boeing Company. He was a member of the American Society of Marine Artists (ASMA), and countless other art affiliations. After retirement, he thoroughly enjoyed teaching art classes in Marlborough, and was a member of The Congregational Church of East Hampton, as well as an active brother of Masonic Anchor Lodge 12.

A celebration of life was held Monday, April 20, in the East Hampton Congregational Church. Burial was private at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dean's honor to The Congregational Church of East Hampton P.O. Box 237, East Hampton, CT 06424.

To leave online condolences, visit [spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).

Colchester

Anna T. Propp

Anna T. Propp 96, of Montville, died Thursday, April 16, at Harrington Court in Colchester. She was born in Newark, N.J., July 25, 1918, the daughter of the late Joseph and Anna (Treier) Falman.

She married Ernest K. Propp Jan. 20, 1940, who died Sept. 23, 1998.

Anna had a great love of family. She could always be found working on crafty projects especially with grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She was active in her church and many senior citizen events. Her garden and flower beds yielded many fruits, vegetables and colorful blooms.

She is survived by two sons, Ernest and his wife Roberta, and Richard and his wife Nancy; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a brother, William; and a sister, Catherine.

She was predeceased by one sister, Elizabeth, and one brother, Joseph.

Calling hours were Sunday, April 19, at the Labenski Funeral Home, 107 Boswell Ave., Norwich. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Monday, April 20, in St. John Church, 22 Maple Ave., Uncasville. Burial followed in St. Patrick Cemetery, Uncasville.

Memorial donations in her name may be made to Saint John Church, 22 Maple Ave., Uncasville CT 06382 or to Vitas Hospice, 628 Hebron Ave., Suite 300, Glastonbury, CT 06033.

Visit [labenskifuneralhome.com](http://labenskifuneralhome.com) to leave an online tribute or condolence.

East Hampton

Beverly W. Blau

Beverly W. Blau, 93, of East Hampton, died peacefully in her sleep at the Atria Hamilton Heights Assisted Living Community in West Hartford Friday, April 10.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, William F. Blau Sr., in 2006 and by her son, William F. Blau Jr., who died March 10, 2015, at East Hampton. She has seven grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Beverly was the daughter of Marjorie Gay House and Howard W. House of East Hampton. Her younger sister, Audrey House Clarke, lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, and her older sister, Barbara House Fitzgerald, also died at age 93.

Bev attended grade school in East Hampton, then Middletown High School until her senior year when she moved to Guilford, and graduated from Guilford High School. She graduated from Middlesex Hospital School of Practical Nursing with honors to become an L.P.N. and was president of her graduating class.

Bev married Bill Blau in 1940 at the age of 18 and, after World War II, they raised their children in Portland, spending the summers at their cottage on Lake Pocotopaug in East Hampton, where they were avid sailors competing in the Lake Pocotopaug Sailing Club. They were the owners of Blau Furniture stores in Middletown, Manchester and Saybrook.

After retiring from the furniture business, they worked together in their new family business, New Trends Decorating and Design, from which they both retired. They became world travelers after their children were grown with trips to over 30 worldwide locations for sightseeing and pleasure. They experienced it all.

Bill and Bev sold the cottage in 1970 and purchased the Meeks Point home on Lake Pocotopaug, where they lived for 36 years together, and then, Bev spending nine more years living on their very favorite place on earth.

Bev was strong, smart, and independent and always spoke her mind. Hail and farewell!

A family memorial celebration will be held later in the spring when the lake is the most beautiful, the leaves are green and the air is fresh and clean.

To leave online condolences, visit [spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).

Hebron

Christian E. Beloin

Christian E. Beloin, 37, of Coventry, entered into heaven Sunday, April 12. Christian was born in Hartford, the son of Rheume and Jeannine (Lamarre) Beloin. He was raised in East Hartford, and later moved to Hebron.

Christian spent most of his years in Enfield, where he resided from 1988 to 2014, and had recently resided in Coventry for the past year. He was a member of Holy Family Church. He attended Howell Cheney Technical High School, learning to develop his skills for his technical career, and was most recently employed at DeCormier Nissan in Manchester. He was very artistically gifted, exhibiting talents in wood and metal sculpting and painting. He also loved the beauty of the outdoors and nature.

Besides his mother and father, he is survived by a sister, Isabelle C. Jones and her husband, Jeffery, of West Suffield; two brothers, Dominic J. Beloin and his fiancée, Amanda Pintarich, of Enfield, and Sebastian N. Beloin, of Ashford; two nieces, Samantha and Alexandria Jones; a nephew, Carter Jones; several aunts and uncles, Josette Madore and her husband, Gontrand, Claire Roberts, Bruno Beloin and his wife, Liane, Pierrette Beaudette, Christine and her husband, Yvan Inkel, and Serge Beloin and his wife, Andree Belisle, all of Quebec, Canada. Christian also leaves many cousins.

He was recently predeceased by his faithful companion, Spike, his cherished Jack Russell terrier.

Calling hours will be held at Holy Family Church Hall, 23 Simon Road, Enfield, from 10 a.m. to noon today, April 24. The Mass of Christian Burial will follow the calling hours at noon at Holy Family Church. Burial will be private.

Donations in Christian's memory may be made to the Haitian Health Foundation, 97 Sherman St., Norwich, CT 06360, or to [colchesterlandtrust.org](http://colchesterlandtrust.org).

Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels is entrusted with the arrangements. For online condolences, visit [leetesteve.com](http://leetesteve.com).

Hebron

Melva Kowaliw

Melva "Mavis" Kowaliw, 89, of Hebron, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 20, at Marlborough Health and Rehab. Better known as "Mavis," she was born Feb. 9, 1925, in Greensboro, Vt., the daughter of the late John and Beatrice (Fuller) Gebbie.

She was married to the late Francis Lunt in June of 1943. They moved to Connecticut in 1949. Mavis worked at Mansfield Training School as a food service director until her retirement. She was remarried to Stephen Kowaliw in 1986.

Mavis loved to bake and cook everything from breads to cheesecake. Her family looked forward to her "famous rolls" at holiday time. Mavis also enjoyed watching the Boston Red Sox and UConn boys' and girls' basketball.

Beside her parents and husbands, she was predeceased by a son, Paul Lunt; daughter, Corrine Lunt; and brothers Harry and Durwood Gebbie.

She is survived by her daughter, Lana Horton and son-in-law, Edward Horton; son Francis Lunt Jr.; sister Ruth Lucky; sister-in-law Clemma Gebbie; three granddaughters, Carolynn (Horton) Wellman and husband Richard Wellman, Susan (Horton) Costanzo and husband Nicholas Costanzo, and Heidi Lunt; and four great-grandchildren, Ricky Wellman, Austin Wellman, Nicholas Costanzo Jr., and Joel Costanzo.

A memorial service to celebrate her life will be held graveside at St. Peter's Church Cemetery, 30 Church St., Hebron, Saturday, April 25, at 10:30 a.m. Family and friends are invited to St. Peter's Hall following the service.

Marlborough

Tina Cheshire

Tina (Ambrogio) Cheshire, of Simpsonville, S.C., previously of Portland and Marlborough, beloved wife of Kenneth (Bud) Cheshire, passed on Tuesday, April 14. She was born Aug. 22, 1945, in Florida, Sicily and immigrated to the United States in 1964.

Tina was a devoted mother, grandmother and aunt. Tina was predeceased by her father Francesco and mother Nella Ambrogio.

She leaves behind her husband Bud; brother and sister-in-law Lou and Cindi Ambrogio of Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y.; son and daughter-in-law, Ken and Jen Cheshire of Cromwell; and daughter and son-in-law Tim and Paola Pawlak of Middletown; as well as grandsons TJ and Anthony Pawlak, Andy and Billy Cheshire, nephews Frankie and his wife Megan and Tom Ambrogio.

Services were in Greenville, S.C., Friday, April 17, at St. Rafka Maronite Catholic Church. There will be a service in Connecticut Saturday, April 25, at 2 p.m., at Grace Lutheran Church, Middletown, followed by light refreshments in the fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Tina's name to the American Cancer Society 825 Brook St. Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

Portland

Jeanne Zadroga

Jeanne (Flannigan, Mulholland) Zadroga of Niantic died Monday, Jan. 26. She was born in Portland Feb. 26, 1928, and was the daughter of the late John Flannigan and Diana (Begley).

Jean was retired from Connecticut Valley Hospital and Riverview Hospital. She is survived by three children, Patricia Mulholland of Florida, Richard Zadroga and his wife Lisa Nielson of Tolland, and Robert Zadroga of Niantic with whom she made her home; also, five grandchildren, William Mulholland and his partner Laura Kelly of Pennsylvania, Jean Marie Mulholland of New London, Darlene Holloway and her husband James of Groton, Ian and Amy Zadroga of Tolland; also three great-grandchildren, Lucas Mulholland of Pennsylvania, Sebastian and Sophia Holloway of Groton; one brother, James Flannigan and his wife Janet of Middletown.

She was predeceased by her son, William Mulholland and two brothers, John and Harold Flannigan; also a beloved companion "Rocky" the greyhound for nine and a half years, until his death in December 2013.

Many thanks to Michael and Donna, Carlene and Charles, Debbie and Barry for all their help.

Graveside services will be held Saturday, April 25, at 10 a.m., in the family plot at St. Mary Cemetery, Portland. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

The Coughlin-Lastrina Funeral Home, 491 High St., Middletown, is in charge of arrangements.

Cobalt

Jean A. McShea

Jean A. (Sadd) McShea, 91, of North Branford and formerly of Cobalt, widow of the late John E. McShea, died Thursday, April 16, at Twin Maple Nursing Home in Durham. Born Oct. 18, 1923, in Willimantic she was the daughter of the late Truman and Annie (Anthony) Sadd.

Jean had worked as a registered nurse at Middlesex Hospital until her retirement. She is survived by her children, John P. McShea of Lebanon, Kathleen M. (McShea) Brukardt and her husband Douglas of Vt., Maureen A. McShea and her husband Fred Walton of North Branford, Colleen S. McShea of Alaska, Kerry D. (McShea) Chambers and her husband Craig of South Carolina, Erin P. (McShea) Paul of California; grandchildren, Ryan M. Dilla, Kevin P. McShea, Lesley (McShea) Powers and husband Benjamin, Justin Brukardt, Nicolas Guerra; great-grandchildren Samantha Veazie, Kevin Veazie and Caroline Powers.

She was predeceased by her daughter-in-law Carol (Rudolph) McShea and her granddaughter Sarah E. Dilla.

Friends called at Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, Monday, April 20. The funeral procession left Spencer Funeral Home Tuesday, April 21, followed by the funeral liturgy that morning in St. Patrick Church East Hampton. Burial followed in the family plot in St. Joseph Cemetery in Willimantic.

To leave online condolences, visit [spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).

Colchester

Florence Liebman

Florence (Moskowitz) Liebman, 88, of Exeter Road, Lebanon, died Thursday, April 16, 2015, the 28th of Nissan 5775. She was the widow of Harold Liebman. Born in Windham, she was the daughter of the late Leon and Lillian (Levita) Moskowitz.

Florence was predeceased by her sister, Shirley Moskowitz and her grandson, Adam Liebman.

She was a loving and devoted daughter, sister, wife mother, and grandmother. She was a lifelong member of The Jewish Congregation of Lebanon and a member of Congregation Ahavath Achim in Colchester.

She leaves her son and daughter-in-law, Leon and Marie Liebman of Lebanon; her daughter, Susan Murray and her husband John Murray of Lebanon; three grandchildren, Byron and wife Davida Murray, Andrew Murray and Spencer Liebman.

Funeral services were held Sunday, April 19, in the sanctuary of Congregation Ahavath Achim, 84 Lebanon Ave., with Rabbi Kenneth Alter officiating. Interment followed in the Jewish Congregation of Lebanon Cemetery, Colchester.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Ahavath Achim.

Arrangements are entrusted to Weinstein Mortuary, Hartford. For further information, directions, or to sign the guest book for Florence, visit online at [weinsteinmortuary.com/funerals.cfm](http://weinsteinmortuary.com/funerals.cfm).