

## Obituaries

### Virginia Fontana, worked at Clark Bros.

Virginia R. Fontana, 82, of Hobart Street, passed away on Wednesday, January 27, at Hartford Hospital.

Born April 8, 1927 in Waterbury, she was the daughter of the late Andrew and Rose (Angiolucci) Fontana.

A Lewis High School class of 1945 graduate, she

was also the Salutatorian of her class and was on the class reunion committee

Fontana was employed for over 40 years with Clark Brothers and then worked for Gibbs Wire. She was an active member of St. Aloysius Church where she was a Eucharistic Minister and a member of the Ladies Guild.

She was also a member of the AARP Southington Chapter and the Southington Women's Club where she held many different positions. She was also a member of the Red Hat Society, the Calendar House and a volunteer for the Red Cross blood drives.

She is survived by two sisters Frances Fontana of

Southington and Marguerite Ludecke of Milldale, three nephews, Richard Ludecke and wife Joyce of Prospect, James Ludecke and wife Lori of Portland and Robert Ludecke of Milldale.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Rev. John Blanchfield Building Fund, 254 Burrirt St., Plantsville, CT 06479.

### Ruth Baker, attended Plantsville Congregational Church for years

Ruth G. Baker, 87, of Roseanna Road, Marion, died Wednesday, Jan. 20, at the HCC at Bradley Memorial. She was the beloved wife of Robert C. Baker Sr. for 58 years.

Born in the Bronx, NY on May 13, 1922 to the late John Francis and Laura (Forsythe) Gunn, she grew up in Ridgefield Park, NJ, lived in Montville, NJ for 14 years and had lived in Southington since 1972.

Baker worked as an executive secretary for 12 years in Manhattan and retired from the Holgrath Corp. in Cheshire. She was the valedictorian of her high school graduating class of 1940 and studied at Pace University.

She was a member of the Plantsville Congregational Church since 1972, and a past deacon. She was active in the Girl Scouts as a troop

leader, the Rainbow Girls, the Calendar House, Friends of the Library and was a member of the Southington Library Scholarship Committee.

She will be remembered as an avid bird watcher and for her love of nature.

In addition to her husband, Robert, she is survived by two sons; Robert C. Baker Jr. and his wife, Carol Roberts of Silver Spring MD and Thomas R. Baker of Staten Island, NY; one daughter, Ruth E. Baker and her partner Lynn Markert of Amesbury, Mass.; and three grandchildren; Michael, Douglas and Anna Baker. She was pre-deceased by her sister Laura Anderson.

In lieu of flowers donations in memory of Ruth may be made to the Plantsville Congregational Church, 109 Church St., Plantsville, 06479.

### Eleanor Toth, enjoyed traveling with her husband

Eleanor (Goddard) Toth, 78, of Plantsville, died Wednesday, Jan. 27, at the HCC at New Britain General. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Arthur W. Toth, former Fire Chief of the Southington Fire Dept., who she met while working as a reporter for the Record Journal, then married and took on the role of mother

to his six children.

Born July 27, 1931 in Derby to the late Cyril and Eleanor (Hopkins) Goddard, she had lived in Southington for over 40 years. She was a graduate of The University of Southern Mississippi.

Toth will be remembered for the enjoyment she found in traveling the world with her husband and for

the immense joy she found spending time with her grandchildren.

She is survived by three daughters; Diane Hodgkins of Plainville, Lisa Riera and her husband Peter of Southington and Kristin Toth of Plantsville, three sons: Brian Toth and his wife Pat of Ontario, Canada, A. Nicholas Toth of Guilford

and Jeffrey Toth and his wife Nancy of Middlefield, 20 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations in memory of Eleanor be made to the Retired Fire Chief Arthur W. Toth Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o TD Bank, 121 Main St., Southington, CT 06489.

### Romayne Reading, worked for Chandler-Evans

Romayne G. Reading, 91, died on Sunday, Jan. 24, 2010 at the CT Hospice in Branford.

Born August 4, 1918, she was the daughter of the late Harry C. and Mary A.

(Keller) Reading.

Reading was employed for many years by Chandler-Evans of W. Hartford.

She was a former resident of Southington.

She is survived by a nephew Bernard Reading; three great nephews, Sean, Michael and Christopher Reading all of PA and several cousins including June Morrissey and family.

She was predeceased by a brother H. Earl Reading.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to CT Hospice, 100 Double Beach Rd., Branford, CT 06405.

### Arleen Vantrisco, worked at Krar & Associates

Arleen (Gayson) Vantrisco, 57, of Redstone Street, passed away on Monday January 25, at The Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven.

She was the wife of

Richard Vantrisco.

Vantrisco was born March 18, 1952 in Newington daughter of the late Stanley and Marie Gayson. She had been employed by Krar & Assoc.

of Southington.

Besides her husband, she is survived by 2 brothers, William Grayson and wife Patricia of New Hampshire, Ronnie Gayson of Manchester, a sister LuAnn

Gayson of New Britain and several nieces and nephews.

Donations may be made in her memory to the CT Humane Society, 701 Russell Rd. Newington, CT 06111.

### Lidia Grisonich, attended Mary Our Queen Church

Lidia (Filles) Grisonich, 72, of 69 McKenzie Drive, passed away after a lengthy illness on Friday, January

22. She was the beloved wife of Peter Grisonich.

Born in Italy on June 22, 1937 she was the daughter

of the late Dominic and Antonia Filles.

In addition to her husband she leaves a loving

daughter Christina Grisonich of Boston, MA

She was a parishioner of Mary Our Queen Church.

### Budget: officials search for areas to make cuts

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reduce any of these services.

With the most significant costs off-limits, the board attempted to make smaller cuts elsewhere, in areas like new textbooks and various supplies.

Board member Kathy Rickard said she was uneasy that the board was already making difficult cuts before the Board of Finance had given their recommendation.

"What happens in April and May, when we

are forced to cut this budget further?" she asked. "There's nothing left."

The board rarely agreed on individual cuts, but they did vote unanimously on the final amount.

"Our main concern is education, but there is a fine line," said Vice-Chair Terri Carmody. "We also have a fiscal responsibility to this community."

The board is also hoping a recent switch from oil to gas heating will save about \$171,000 in the next

budget year.

Business Manager Sherri-Lin DiNello reported that this change had already saved \$90,000 in the current year's budget.

With winter still going, however, some on the board were conflicted about this prediction.

"I can't argue with your rationale, but I'm very nervous," said board member David Derynoski.

The administration responded that some ambiguity was simply part of the budget process, though Erardi said he was

"cautiously optimistic" this idea would work out.

"We're making assumptions and estimates 18 months before we will know for sure about those numbers," DiNello added.

After the Board of Finance looks over the budget, they will make their recommendation to the Town Council.

The council ultimately decides the amount received by the schools.

Comments? Email [rglidden@southingtonobserver.com](mailto:rglidden@southingtonobserver.com).

### Clearing: movie has many Southington connections

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movie, even if the last act made me scratch my head a few times. The reasons for the supernatural occurrences depicted in the film were highly ambiguous, which can be confusing but also adds another level of unease that may be intentional.

The screening itself also had a bit of a hiccup when the movie skipped ahead at one point. I'm not sure how much the audience missed, but when everyone saw a character absent since the early scenes suddenly huddling with the main cast mem-

bers, it was clear we missed something.

Despite the low budget, Abankwa and the crew did succeed in crafting some beautiful shots, particularly one sequence where shadows and blue lighting lent atmosphere as a character wandered

downstairs in the middle of the night.

I'm not sure what the future holds for "The Clearing," but the hard work of all involved in its creation was obvious and I wish it success as it continues its ride on the film festival circuit.

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