

Today

OCEAN & MONMOUTH

Toms River hires CFO

Cherry Hill assistant to get \$160G yearly

Jean Mikle
Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

TOMS RIVER - The assistant controller for Cherry Hill has been hired to become the township's chief financial officer, with a salary of \$160,000 a year.

The Township Council voted 6 to 1 on

Jan. 23 to hire Sharon Smith as deputy chief financial officer from Feb. 5 to June 30.

After that date, the township's current CFO, Christine J. Manolio, is slated to retire, and Smith will take her place.

Mayor Thomas F. Kelaher said Manolio, who has worked for the township since 1993, is paid \$193,477, which in-

More online

Search "Red Carpet Inn" at **APP.com** to learn about the Toms River Council's plans to buy a motel.

cludes a \$179,155 base salary and \$14,322 in longevity.

"She's highly qualified," Kelaher said of Smith. He said Smith teaches certification courses for chief financial offi-



Thomas F. Kelaher

cers at Rutgers University. She's also treasurer of the Government Finance Officers Association of New Jersey.

Councilman Daniel Rodrick was the only council member to vote against Smith's appointment, saying he had not received her re-

See CFO, Page 4A

Freehold's Federici's to reopen

Fire in restaurant caused damage

Katie Park
Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

FREEHOLD - Federici's got lucky.

Around 4 p.m. Wednesday, employees and patrons inside the beloved Italian restaurant that has been a staple in downtown Freehold for nearly a century smelled smoke. At first, they couldn't tell where it was coming from - but they could tell it was quickly building.

"Within a minute, two minutes, it started getting very heavy smoke," said Michael Federici, who owns Federici's Family Restaurant on East Main Street.

Within minutes, after restaurant employees and patrons quickly evacuated and called 911, Federici said the fire was spotted in a wall and extinguished.

No one was injured, but Federici's sustained smoke and water damage, according to the Freehold Fire Department, Station 15. A neighboring restaurant - the Court Jester - sustained minor smoke damage.

Despite damage to his eatery and the Court Jester, Federici said it could have been much worse.

"If nobody was here, it could have been a true nightmare," Federici, 53, said.

Firefighters said the fire cropped up in a wall that runs parallel to the Court Jester.

Federici specified on the phone Thursday that it is an 8-inch space that separates Federici's and the Court Jester.

The Freehold Fire Department did not state a possible cause of the fire, saying it is under investigation by the Monmouth County Fire Marshal's Office.

"At this point it is considered undetermined and accidental," Federici said Thursday. "But if he (the fire marshal)

See FEDERICI'S, Page 4A

More online

Search "Federici's" at **APP.com** to learn more about one of New Jersey's oldest pizzerias.

GOT A NEWS TIP, PHOTO OR VIDEO?

Call us at 732-643-4200 or email **Newstips@GannettNJ.com**
We want to hear from you!

The Mullica Pirates



Capt. Steve Nagiewicz answers questions from the audience after a New Jersey Maritime Museum presentation on Jan. 19. He talked about the Mullica River Pirates and their battles with the British. LINDA REDDINGTON/STAFF PHOTO

Colonist crews looted British ships

Linda Reddington Times-Beacon Newspapers
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

BEACH HAVEN - Capt. Steve Nagiewicz was back at Buckalew's Restaurant for another in a series of lectures for the New Jersey Maritime Museum, but this was no dry scientific inquiry.

This was about pirates.

The Mullica River Pirates were privateers, American colonists enlisted by the Continental Congress to seize and loot British ships during the American Revolutionary war. They were enabled to do so through a letter of marque and reprisal.

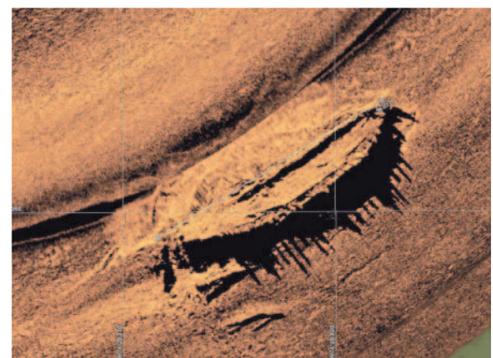
Nagiewicz told the audience at last Friday's lecture that the privateers were very successful in helping defeat the British. "The colonial navy had 64 ships with 1,200 cannon. The privateers had 1,700 ships with 14,782 cannon aboard."

People who take Garden State Parkway exit 44 to visit places like the Village of Historic Smithville or other points south may notice, on their left, a monument to the Battle of Chestnut Neck.

The Battle of Chestnut Neck was fought on Oct. 6, 1778, in southern New Jersey during the Revolutionary War, at a settlement on the Little Egg Harbor River (now known as the Mullica River) near the present-day city of Port Republic which was used as a base by privateers.

Nagiewicz said the British were systematically attempting to destroy all the sites that aided the colonists in fighting the war, such as saltworks, sawmills and ironworks. They particularly wanted to destroy Batsto, which supplied cannonballs and other weaponry, and Chestnut Neck was on the way.

However, Nagiewicz said colonists at Chestnut neck were expecting the raid, and had built a rude fortress of earth and timber. There were, however,



A sonar image shows the Phoebe wreck. The black shadows to the right of it are what remains of the boat's ribs. PHOTO COURTESY OF STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

More online

Read more stories on local history by searching "Jersey Roots" at **APP.com**.

no supports for cannons.

The British soldiers commanded by Capt. Patrick Ferguson managed to kill 50 colonists, retrieve some supplies and destroyed piers and as many as 10 prize vessels, along with residences and other buildings.

But when they learned that Count Casimir Pulaski was on the way, the British quickly left by ship the following day. Some of their ships, including their

See PIRATES, Page 4A

Cancer claims mother of late Toms River officer

Katie Park and Jean Mikle
Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

BRICK - A mother who rallied support for her ailing police officer son while she grappled with an advanced stage of liver cancer died Friday.

The death of 58-year-old Lori Jan Hansen, a longtime Brick resident whose hallmark was her loving and

More online

Search "Brett Hansen" at **APP.com** to learn more about her son.

compassionate disposition, people close to her said, was the second tragedy to strike the tight-knit family in recent months.

Lori Hansen's 28-year-old son, Brett

Hansen, died at Raritan Bay Medical Center in Perth Amboy on Sept. 29, more than eight months after his car crashed into the back of a trailer on the Garden State Parkway. He was a newly hired patrolman with the Toms River Police Department who was off duty at the time of the collision.

Lori visited Brett in the hospital constantly, even as she weakened from chemotherapy, and remained by his bed-

side while he was kept under medical watch for months. She also attended fundraising events in his name and started an online fundraiser to pay for the medical expenses, said Carol Ray, Lori's youngest sister.

For a while, the officer improved, despite breaking every bone in his face, having his left eye removed and falling

See MOTHER, Page 4A

Pirates

Continued from Page 3A

flagship, The Zebra, had become stuck in the Mullica River bottom, so to keep colonists from later salvaging them, they blew up their ships and burned them.

Nagiewicz said no one has been able to find the wreck of the Zebra long the more than 50 mile-long Mullica.

Attending Friday's presentation with Nagiewicz was Steve Evert, a Long Beach Island resident who is the site manager for the Stockton University Field Station at Nacote Creek, Port Republic.

In 2009, Evert had some students, the dean and the marine science professor, Bill Phoel, aboard the university's research vessel, scanning the Mullica riverbed with sonar technology.

At the time, they knew there were two wrecks from the Battle of Chestnut Neck in the river, but they suddenly saw a third.

They made note of it and named it the Phoel Wreck, after Professor Bill Phoel, who had noticed it first, but nothing else was done at the time. There were other projects in the works, and then Phoel died.

Nagiewicz knew Phoel well.

Nagiewicz, an experienced diver and researcher, also has a master's degree in environmental science and has 35 years doing this type of in-the-field archaeology. He took over Phoel's underwater archaeology class in January 2016.

It was shortly after starting teaching at Stockton, while aboard the school's research vessel Petrel, Nagiewicz said

Evert suggested they have a new look at the Phoel wreck.

The three wrecks at the bottom of the Mullica River are The Phoel, The Cramer (named for the marina off which it sits) and The Bead, named after the thousands of tiny glass beads originally found with it. Nagiewicz said the beads were traded to Native Americans at the time, for items that were more useful to the colonists.

The Cramer and the Bead have been declared national historic sites, which means the marina, where the Cramer wreck lies buried in silt, has been unable to make many improvements or additions to its business.

Stockton has taken sonar images of the wrecks over the years, documenting the degree to which they have deteriorated. Earlier pictures show more of the frames or "ribs" and what's left of the hull of the ships. But the Mullica has a strong and rapid current, which wears away at the wrecks as well as the mud around them.

They have been able to tell the approximate size of the vessels from the sonar measurements.

"For example, what's left of the Phoel wreck measures about 58 feet long," Nagiewicz told the audience at Buckalew's. "Remember, the British burned the ships before they sank, so what you are looking at is the very bottom – the bilge. You can see the keel, and perhaps where the masts might have been attached, but that's all. The intact ship would be much bigger."

He added that in addition to the missing Zebra, nothing has been found of about 30 whaleboats which also were supposedly at Chestnut Neck at the time.

So far, nobody has made a dive to try to get more information on the Phoel wreck.

Although the visibility is about an foot or so because of all the silt in the water, and measurements and shapes would have to be determined by hand, Nagiewicz said samples of the wood could be taken and examined to see what kind of wood it is, and perhaps determine whether it was a British or Colonial ship or at least where it was made.

"It would take a grant to do it – an expensive grant, so if anybody has any contacts, tell them about us," he said.

Meanwhile, he and Stockton have applied to get the Phoel wreck listed as a state and national historic site.

As for making a dive at the wreck, Nagiewicz said he and Peter Straub, Stockton's dean of natural science and mathematics, have sworn they would be the first.

"I'd rather touch history than read about it," he said.

Anyone interested in reading more about privateers or the Battle of Chestnut Neck can get a copy of "Privateers of the Revolutionary War on the New Jersey Coast, 1775-1783," by Donald Grady Shomette, Schiffer Publishing, Limited, 2016, or "A Nest of Rebel Pirates" Franklin W. Kemp, published by the Batsto Citizens Committee, 1966.

The next dinner talk to be sponsored by the NJ Maritime Museum will be a presentation on the Original Hell's Angels of World War II, Friday, Feb. 9 at Buckalew's Restaurant.

The program, which starts at 7 p.m., is free, but because space is limited, museum members get first dibs on seats.

Federici's

Continued from Page 3A

had to make an educated guess on it – he would believe that it was a cigarette that started that fire."

Federici thanked first responders who acted promptly to quell the smoke.

On Thursday, Federici said the restaurant was closed and cleaning up. He hoped to reopen Friday evening.

The Court Jester opened at 4 p.m., said Joey Von Sauers, a bartender at the Court Jester, on Thursday.

As Federici chatted Thursday, the phone rang often. Federici said the restaurant had been receiving calls of support all day.

Federici's has been a fixture in Freehold for 97 years. In 1921, Frank and Ester Federici bought the Wolcott Hotel, as it was then known, and served spaghetti and sandwiches to boarders.

"In three more years, we will be celebrating our 100 years," Federici said. "And if it wasn't for the prompt response by the fire department, I don't know if we would have been celebrating a hundred years here."

The Adelpia Fire Company, East Freehold Fire Company, Freehold First Aid Squad and the Freehold Township Independent Fire Company assisted at the scene.

Katie Park: @kathspark; 908-801-4853; kpark@gannettnj.com

Mother

Continued from Page 3A

into a coma.

But in September, shortly after he left the hospital and moved into home care, Toms River police said the patrolman died unexpectedly. It was a blow to Toms River police, the agency said on social media, and to members of the community, who for months held out hope that the young officer would fully recover.

"He and his family are among the most humble and respectful people we've ever known," Toms River police said the day he died. "Brett was known to drop whatever he was doing to help others with whatever they needed."

Brett's death was hard on the family, but it didn't weaken his mother, Ray said. Instead, Ray said Lori fought harder against the cancer to be there for her remaining son, Tyler, who is Brett's younger brother.

"She fought for everything, and, you know, she cared more about other people and their stories," Ray, 54, said Wednesday.

"And here she had just lost her son; she's battling Stage IV liver cancer," said Ray, who lives in Old Bridge. "And she's like, 'Oh my God, Carol, they got it worse than we do.' And I said, 'How do you figure that?'"

Over the phone, Ray laughed briefly before continuing to talk.

"And she said, 'They do, believe me, they do,'" Ray said. "And she said we have to take our blessings where we get

"She fought for everything, and she cared more about other people and their stories."

Carol Ray
Lori Hansen's sister

them, and, you know, just keep up with our faith."

People who knew Lori well said she remained positive through difficulties, keeping her family first and remaining close with her employer, an eye doctor's office.

"I got to know her right after the accident," said Toms River Mayor Thomas F. Kelaher, who said he met Lori Hansen and her husband, Jim, when he and Toms River Police Chief Mitch Little visited the hospital to see the injured officer.

"You just had to feel so sorry for her," Kelaher said. "I remember watching her holding his (Brett's) hand, talking to him, even though he was in a coma. It was heartbreaking."

Kelaher said the second death of a Hansen is yet another terrible blow for a family that already has suffered so much.

"Your heart just goes out to them," he said.

The Hansen family is extended and close, Ray said, noting Lori treated Ray's daughter, Katie, and godson, Cody, as her own.

Lori frequently visited the office after she had to stop working because of the



Lori Hansen

cancer diagnosis in the autumn of 2016, said Dr. Maria Richman, who co-owns Manasquan-based Shore Family Eyecare with her husband, Dr. Harvey Richman, and employed Lori for 14 years.

"Even this past Christmas, a month ago, she came to our Christmas holiday party with her son," Richman said.

In a move that impressed the Richmans, Lori, an office administrator, went beyond her professional obligations by taking the initiative to become certified as a paraoptometric, Richman said.

"That was very impressive to us – her dedication," Richman said, adding that Hansen was a friendly face to patients. "She was always very active and very connected with us. We were very fortunate in that way."

In the wake of loss, Ray can point out what is still good.

Brett Hansen's influence is present every day, she said, explaining that her 27-year-old godson, Cody, was encouraged by Brett to join law enforcement.

Cody graduated last year from the Mercer County Police Academy and joined the Middlesex County Sheriff's Office, Ray said. He was sworn in as an officer Sept. 29 – the day Brett died.

Before his death, Ray said Brett remained close as ever with her 15-year-old daughter, Katie. And for months, Ray said, family was able to share many moments with him, despite the severity of his injuries.

To her last day, Lori was strong-



Brett Hansen

willed and graced with a sense of humor, Ray said.

Shortly before she died, Ray said Lori pushed to adopt a puppy for Katie and Cody after their 9-year-old dog, suffering from Lyme disease, was euthanized in August.

Ray was reluctant to have another dog; her children were not. Lori went ahead with her own plans to get the family a dog.

The puppy is a 9-week-old, blue-eyed Labrador, Corgi and Border Collie mix – "the cutest thing," Ray said. The family named him "Boomer."

As Lori arranged to adopt the puppy for the family, she was weak, Ray said, but she still laughed and smiled through it all.

"Up until the last minute, she still wasn't ready to go," Ray said.

As the family prepared for funeral arrangements, Ray asked people to be like Lori in some ways – be compassionate, giving, and kind; respond to the kindness others show you by doing something good for someone else.

"Pay it forward," Ray said.

Lori Hansen, who was born in the Bronx and raised in Old Bridge, is survived by her husband, James A. Hansen; son Tyler James Hansen, niece Katie Ray; nephew Cody Tipton; sisters Carol Ray, Lynn Ray and Debra Tipton, and many family members and friends, according to her obituary.

Katie Park: @kathspark; 908-801-4853; kpark@gannettnj.com

CFO

Continued from Page 3A

sume or learned enough about her qualifications.

Rodrick was one of three Democrats elected to council seats in November. Kelaher is a Republican and Republicans still outnumber Democrats on the council by a 4-3 margin.

"It's very possible that Ms. Smith is very qualified, but I haven't seen her re-

sume," Rodrick said.

He also questioned the \$160,000 annual salary for Smith, noting she was making a base salary of \$93,000 a year in Cherry Hill.

Committeeman George E. Wittmann Jr. said the council's administration committee reviewed Smith's qualifications after she was recommended for the job by Mayor Thomas F. Kelaher.

Under the township's strong mayor-council form of government, the mayor appoints most department heads with the advice and consent of the council.

"She's a CPA and a CFO, which is not very easy to come by," Wittmann said. "If you want to get somebody with that caliber of talent, you have to pay them."

"If you want to get somebody with that caliber of talent, you have to pay them."

George E. Wittmann Jr.
Committeeman

Councilwoman Maria Maruca said that Rodrick and other council members can always ask questions of the council liaison if they are interested in knowing more about a candidate's qualifications.

"I'm just asking, respectfully, if you expect me to vote on something, give me more information," Rodrick said.

Jean Mikle: 732-643-4050, @jeanmikle, jmikle@gannettnj.com



Having problems with the way your dentures look and feel?

No Dental Insurance?
Ask about our Smile Protection Plan for Basic Dental Care

We specialize in Dentures. The best kept secret in New Jersey

New Patient Introductory Special
\$999 Each Full Denture*
No insurance applies. Excludes Metal Frame, Not valid on implant dentures and cannot be combined with any offer. Must present ad at time of initial consultation. Expires 1/31/18

Repairs & Relines While You Wait
Lab on Premises

Chapel Hill
DENTAL ARTS
429 Highway 35
Red Bank, NJ 07701
732-945-5625
CHAPELHILLDENTALARTS.COM

DATEBOOK

Publication Date	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Rates:
Deadline Date	Thursday, 4:30 pm	Friday, 4:30 pm	Monday, 4:30 pm	Tuesday, 4:30 pm	1-5 times\$60 6-10 times ...\$75 11-15 times ..\$85
Publication Date	Friday	Saturday	Sunday		
Deadline Date	Wednesday, 4:30 pm	Thursday, 4:30 pm	Thursday, 4:30 pm		

1-877-735-SELL (7355)

Prices are based on a 5 line ad. Additional lines may be purchased for an extra charge.

Datebook Guidelines
 Datebook ads are limited to event listings
 • Advance payment is required prior to publication
 • All ads run 1-5, 6-10, or 11-15 consecutive days
 • Ads will appear in the Asbury Park Press

..... JANUARY 27

Special Half Price AAUW Book Sale
 Winter is a good time to curl up with a good book. Get more books for less at the AAUW Used Book Sale special half price sale, Saturday, January 27, 9am-2pm at Old First Church, 69 Kings Highway, Middletown. Call 732-933-4855 or visit www.aauw-nj-nmcb.org for more information.

..... FEBRUARY 24

St. Mary's by-the-Sea 12th Annual Gift Auction
 Sat. 2/24/18, 5 PM, Brick VFW 373, Adamston Rd. Large prizes including: kayak, LCD TV, iPad & 2 Broadway tickets to Disney's Frozen. Grand Prize-\$3,000.00 in gift cards to Amazon.com. Tix/Info: 732-892-9254.

Pirates

Continued from Page 3A

flagship, The Zebra, had become stuck in the Mullica River bottom, so to keep colonists from later salvaging them, they blew up their ships and burned them.

Nagiewicz said no one has been able to find the wreck of the Zebra long the more than 50 mile-long Mullica.

Attending Friday's presentation with Nagiewicz was Steve Evert, a Long Beach Island resident who is the site manager for the Stockton University Field Station at Nacote Creek, Port Republic.

In 2009, Evert had some students, the dean and the marine science professor, Bill Phoel, aboard the university's research vessel, scanning the Mullica riverbed with sonar technology.

At the time, they knew there were two wrecks from the Battle of Chestnut Neck in the river, but they suddenly saw a third.

They made note of it and named it the Phoel Wreck, after Professor Bill Phoel, who had noticed it first, but nothing else was done at the time. There were other projects in the works, and then Phoel died.

Nagiewicz knew Phoel well.

Nagiewicz, an experienced diver and researcher, also has a master's degree in environmental science and has 35 years doing this type of in-the-field archaeology. He took over Phoel's underwater archaeology class in January 2016.

It was shortly after starting teaching at Stockton, while aboard the school's research vessel Petrel, Nagiewicz said

Evert suggested they have a new look at the Phoel wreck.

The three wrecks at the bottom of the Mullica River are The Phoel, The Cramer (named for the marina off which it sits) and The Bead, named after the thousands of tiny glass beads originally found with it. Nagiewicz said the beads were traded to Native Americans at the time, for items that were more useful to the colonists.

The Cramer and the Bead have been declared national historic sites, which means the marina, where the Cramer wreck lies buried in silt, has been unable to make many improvements or additions to its business.

Stockton has taken sonar images of the wrecks over the years, documenting the degree to which they have deteriorated. Earlier pictures show more of the frames or "ribs" and what's left of the hull of the ships. But the Mullica has a strong and rapid current, which wears away at the wrecks as well as the mud around them.

They have been able to tell the approximate size of the vessels from the sonar measurements.

"For example, what's left of the Phoel wreck measures about 58 feet long," Nagiewicz told the audience at Buckalew's. "Remember, the British burned the ships before they sank, so what you are looking at is the very bottom – the bilge. You can see the keel, and perhaps where the masts might have been attached, but that's all. The intact ship would be much bigger."

He added that in addition to the missing Zebra, nothing has been found of about 30 whaleboats which also were supposedly at Chestnut Neck at the time.

So far, nobody has made a dive to try to get more information on the Phoel wreck.

Although the visibility is about an foot or so because of all the silt in the water, and measurements and shapes would have to be determined by hand, Nagiewicz said samples of the wood could be taken and examined to see what kind of wood it is, and perhaps determine whether it was a British or Colonial ship or at least where it was made.

"It would take a grant to do it – an expensive grant, so if anybody has any contacts, tell them about us," he said.

Meanwhile, he and Stockton have applied to get the Phoel wreck listed as a state and national historic site.

As for making a dive at the wreck, Nagiewicz said he and Peter Straub, Stockton's dean of natural science and mathematics, have sworn they would be the first.

"I'd rather touch history than read about it," he said.

Anyone interested in reading more about privateers or the Battle of Chestnut Neck can get a copy of "Privateers of the Revolutionary War on the New Jersey Coast, 1775-1783," by Donald Grady Shomette, Schiffer Publishing, Limited, 2016, or "A Nest of Rebel Pirates" Franklin W. Kemp, published by the Batsto Citizens Committee, 1966.

The next dinner talk to be sponsored by the NJ Maritime Museum will be a presentation on the Original Hell's Angels of World War II, Friday, Feb. 9 at Buckalew's Restaurant.

The program, which starts at 7 p.m., is free, but because space is limited, museum members get first dibs on seats.

Federici's

Continued from Page 3A

had to make an educated guess on it – he would believe that it was a cigarette that started that fire."

Federici thanked first responders who acted promptly to quell the smoke.

On Thursday, Federici said the restaurant was closed and cleaning up. He hoped to reopen Friday evening.

The Court Jester opened at 4 p.m., said Joey Von Sauers, a bartender at the Court Jester, on Thursday.

As Federici chatted Thursday, the phone rang often. Federici said the restaurant had been receiving calls of support all day.

Federici's has been a fixture in Freehold for 97 years. In 1921, Frank and Ester Federici bought the Wolcott Hotel, as it was then known, and served spaghetti and sandwiches to boarders.

"In three more years, we will be celebrating our 100 years," Federici said. "And if it wasn't for the prompt response by the fire department, I don't know if we would have been celebrating a hundred years here."

The Adelpia Fire Company, East Freehold Fire Company, Freehold First Aid Squad and the Freehold Township Independent Fire Company assisted at the scene.

Katie Park: @kathspark; 908-801-4853; kpark@gannettnj.com

Mother

Continued from Page 3A

into a coma.

But in September, shortly after he left the hospital and moved into home care, Toms River police said the patrolman died unexpectedly. It was a blow to Toms River police, the agency said on social media, and to members of the community, who for months held out hope that the young officer would fully recover.

"He and his family are among the most humble and respectful people we've ever known," Toms River police said the day he died. "Brett was known to drop whatever he was doing to help others with whatever they needed."

Brett's death was hard on the family, but it didn't weaken his mother, Ray said. Instead, Ray said Lori fought harder against the cancer to be there for her remaining son, Tyler, who is Brett's younger brother.

"She fought for everything, and, you know, she cared more about other people and their stories," Ray, 54, said Wednesday.

"And here she had just lost her son; she's battling Stage IV liver cancer," said Ray, who lives in Old Bridge. "And she's like, 'Oh my God, Carol, they got it worse than we do.' And I said, 'How do you figure that?'"

Over the phone, Ray laughed briefly before continuing to talk.

"And she said, 'They do, believe me, they do,'" Ray said. "And she said we have to take our blessings where we get

"She fought for everything, and she cared more about other people and their stories."

Carol Ray
Lori Hansen's sister

them, and, you know, just keep up with our faith."

People who knew Lori well said she remained positive through difficulties, keeping her family first and remaining close with her employer, an eye doctor's office.

"I got to know her right after the accident," said Toms River Mayor Thomas F. Kelaher, who said he met Lori Hansen and her husband, Jim, when he and Toms River Police Chief Mitch Little visited the hospital to see the injured officer.

"You just had to feel so sorry for her," Kelaher said. "I remember watching her holding his (Brett's) hand, talking to him, even though he was in a coma. It was heartbreaking."

Kelaher said the second death of a Hansen is yet another terrible blow for a family that already has suffered so much.

"Your heart just goes out to them," he said.

The Hansen family is extended and close, Ray said, noting Lori treated Ray's daughter, Katie, and godson, Cody, as her own.

Lori frequently visited the office after she had to stop working because of the



Lori Hansen

cancer diagnosis in the autumn of 2016, said Dr. Maria Richman, who co-owns Manasquan-based Shore Family Eyecare with her husband, Dr. Harvey Richman, and employed Lori for 14 years.

"Even this past Christmas, a month ago, she came to our Christmas holiday party with her son," Richman said.

In a move that impressed the Richmans, Lori, an office administrator, went beyond her professional obligations by taking the initiative to become certified as a paraoptometric, Richman said.

"That was very impressive to us – her dedication," Richman said, adding that Hansen was a friendly face to patients. "She was always very active and very connected with us. We were very fortunate in that way."

In the wake of loss, Ray can point out what is still good.

Brett Hansen's influence is present every day, she said, explaining that her 27-year-old godson, Cody, was encouraged by Brett to join law enforcement.

Cody graduated last year from the Mercer County Police Academy and joined the Middlesex County Sheriff's Office, Ray said. He was sworn in as an officer Sept. 29 – the day Brett died.

Before his death, Ray said Brett remained close as ever with her 15-year-old daughter, Katie. And for months, Ray said, family was able to share many moments with him, despite the severity of his injuries.

To her last day, Lori was strong-



Brett Hansen

willed and graced with a sense of humor, Ray said.

Shortly before she died, Ray said Lori pushed to adopt a puppy for Katie and Cody after their 9-year-old dog, suffering from Lyme disease, was euthanized in August.

Ray was reluctant to have another dog; her children were not. Lori went ahead with her own plans to get the family a dog.

The puppy is a 9-week-old, blue-eyed Labrador, Corgi and Border Collie mix – "the cutest thing," Ray said. The family named him "Boomer."

As Lori arranged to adopt the puppy for the family, she was weak, Ray said, but she still laughed and smiled through it all.

"Up until the last minute, she still wasn't ready to go," Ray said.

As the family prepared for funeral arrangements, Ray asked people to be like Lori in some ways – be compassionate, giving, and kind; respond to the kindness others show you by doing something good for someone else.

"Pay it forward," Ray said.

Lori Hansen, who was born in the Bronx and raised in Old Bridge, is survived by her husband, James A. Hansen; son Tyler James Hansen, niece Katie Ray; nephew Cody Tipton; sisters Carol Ray, Lynn Ray and Debra Tipton, and many family members and friends, according to her obituary.

Katie Park: @kathspark; 908-801-4853; kpark@gannettnj.com

CFO

Continued from Page 3A

sume or learned enough about her qualifications.

Rodrick was one of three Democrats elected to council seats in November. Kelaher is a Republican and Republicans still outnumber Democrats on the council by a 4-3 margin.

"It's very possible that Ms. Smith is very qualified, but I haven't seen her re-

sume," Rodrick said.

He also questioned the \$160,000 annual salary for Smith, noting she was making a base salary of \$93,000 a year in Cherry Hill.

Committeeman George E. Wittmann Jr. said the council's administration committee reviewed Smith's qualifications after she was recommended for the job by Mayor Thomas F. Kelaher.

Under the township's strong mayor-council form of government, the mayor appoints most department heads with the advice and consent of the council.

"She's a CPA and a CFO, which is not very easy to come by," Wittmann said. "If you want to get somebody with that caliber of talent, you have to pay them."

"If you want to get somebody with that caliber of talent, you have to pay them."

George E. Wittmann Jr.
Committeeman

Councilwoman Maria Maruca said that Rodrick and other council members can always ask questions of the council liaison if they are interested in knowing more about a candidate's qualifications.

"I'm just asking, respectfully, if you expect me to vote on something, give me more information," Rodrick said.

Jean Mikle: 732-643-4050, @jeanmikle, jmikle@gannettnj.com



Having problems with the way your dentures look and feel?

No Dental Insurance?
Ask about our Smile Protection Plan for Basic Dental Care

We specialize in Dentures. The best kept secret in New Jersey

New Patient Introductory Special
\$999 Each Full Denture*
No insurance applies. Excludes Metal Frame, Not valid on implant dentures and cannot be combined with any offer. Must present ad at time of initial consultation. Expires 1/31/18

Repairs & Relines While You Wait
Lab on Premises

Chapel Hill
DENTAL ARTS
429 Highway 35
Red Bank, NJ 07701
732-945-5625
CHAPELHILLDENTALARTS.COM

DATEBOOK

Publication Date	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Rates:
Deadline Date	Thursday, 4:30 pm	Friday, 4:30 pm	Monday, 4:30 pm	Tuesday, 4:30 pm	1-5 times\$60 6-10 times ...\$75 11-15 times ..\$85
Publication Date	Friday	Saturday	Sunday		
Deadline Date	Wednesday, 4:30 pm	Thursday, 4:30 pm	Thursday, 4:30 pm		

1-877-735-SELL (7355)

Prices are based on a 5 line ad. Additional lines may be purchased for an extra charge.

Datebook Guidelines
 Datebook ads are limited to event listings
 • Advance payment is required prior to publication
 • All ads run 1-5, 6-10, or 11-15 consecutive days
 • Ads will appear in the Asbury Park Press

..... JANUARY 27

Special Half Price AAUW Book Sale
 Winter is a good time to curl up with a good book. Get more books for less at the AAUW Used Book Sale special half price sale, Saturday, January 27, 9am-2pm at Old First Church, 69 Kings Highway, Middletown. Call 732-933-4855 or visit www.aauw-nj-nmcb.org for more information.

..... FEBRUARY 24

St. Mary's by-the-Sea 12th Annual Gift Auction
 Sat. 2/24/18, 5 PM, Brick VFW 373, Adamston Rd. Large prizes including; kayak, LCD TV, iPad & 2 Broadway tix to Disney's Frozen. Grand Prize-\$3,000.00 in gift cards to Amazon.com Tix/Info:732-892-9254.