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# P. Enkler; Head Chef Turned Hardwareman

After nearly 30 years as an executive chef in Europe and in many of the famed hotels and resorts in the United States, Peter Enkler has opened up his own hardware store on Spring Street.

From culinary arts to "everything" in the hardware line: nuts, bolts, tools and all those True Value products.

With the November 1987 opening of the town's only hardware store, Peter, born in Homborg-Saar, West Germany, has given up the world of food and beverages for the more satisfying life of the entrepreneur. Saying, "I always (liked) to work with tools." Peter made the obvious choice of turning to the hardware business for his answer. He adds, "The world of executive chef is a very high pressure line of work."

The newly-stocked store, called P and M True Value Hardware Store, was named for Peter and his wife, Meg, surely making it a family affair. Meg, who helps out on weekends at the store, is a busy executive in her own right. Peter and Meg live in Windsor and are expecting their first child in the spring.

First, we'll explore the fascinating life of Peter Enkler, before becoming one of Windsor Locks' newest businessmen, in which capacity he has found the "folks in town (to be) friendly and very supported."

Peter was born in Germany, only a few weeks before D-Day, 1944. He grew up in war-torn Germany and as a young boy, remembers his childhood as being "a very tough time, especially (when we were trying to get) enough food."

**PETER ATTENDED SCHOOL** from 1950 to 1959 and decided to enter culinary school in Saarbrücken, West Germany, hoping to make the art of cooking his career. After a three-year apprentice program, in which he learned all the elements of his new-found career, Peter landed his first job in 1962 at a 'Three-Star' restaurant and hotel in Arras P.D.C., France. After a year's time, he worked in Du Nord, France. He returned to Germany to work at the Berlin Hilton, staying there during the years of 1964 and part of 1965, as what he described as the "Chief Entremeter." According to my dictionary a close approximation of Peter's meaning is this: "Entermets: A side dish or dishes, especially served between principal courses or as a dessert."

At the age of 21, Peter left the Berlin Hilton to work at the Washington D.C. Hilton. He admitted, "I left Germany in 1965 to come to the Hilton; however, my original plans were to leave the homeland, go to Australia and then Japan, working as a chef (wherever I went)." But Peter never got "Down Under" or to the "Land of the Rising Sun." Instead, he worked in some of the finest and best hotels, inns, restaurants and resorts in the United States, from our nation's capital, south to the Carolinas, down to Florida and back north in Rhode Island, New Jersey, New Hampshire and finally, the Parkview Hilton in Hartford. He worked as the Hilton's executive chef from 1981 to the opening of his store.

This is the man who, for nearly 30 years, according to his own analogy, "purchased the food, prepared it, cooked it and served it" at the Statler Hilton, the Hyatt House, Palm Beach Catering, The Bavarian in Newport, the Playboy Resort and Country Club in New Jersey and the famed Wentworth By The Sea. These apparently were just some of the famous stops in Peter's long cooking career. When asked about the

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Playboy Club, he said, "It was the biggest (Playboy Club) in the world."

**WHY SO MANY MOVES?** Peter did not have to think about an answer... "Let me explain, hotel life is very demanding. Some days are 18 hours long, there's pressure all the time... (and it's due to) a variety of situations (like) labor problems, (trying) to get good help and the constant chagnes in management." He adds, "I have no regrets about leaving that life. There was no security in that type of a career; you make one mistake and you could be out."

So this quiet and friendly man walked away from the role of executive chef to become the owner of a hardware store in little old Windsor Locks.

What did Peter's wife of seven years say about his change in careers? "Meg was very supportive and wanted me to do what I'm happy in."

Margaret McKenna Enkler was born in Washington D.C. and was raised in Newport, R.I. Meg's father, Robert McKenna, is a former Rhode Island senator and is currently the mayor of Newport. Meg and Peter were married in 1981, meeting when they both were working in Newport.

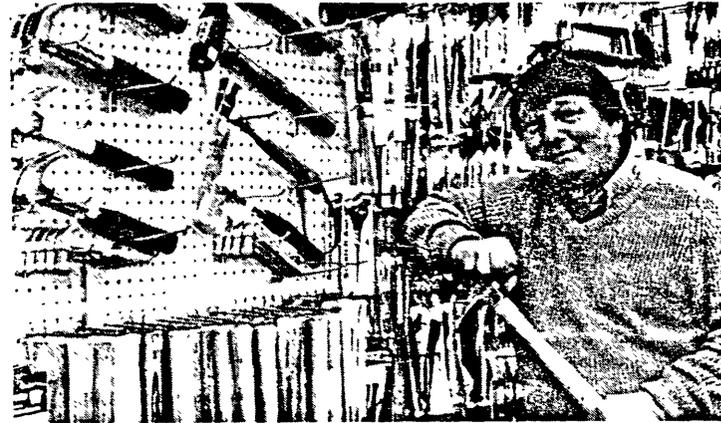
Meg received a BA in environmental studies from Brown University in 1983 and has taken graduate courses in public administration at the University of Hartford. Meg is currently assistant director of education at the Connecticut Humane Society. In addition to her many experiences in animal welfare, some of which are animal caretaker at Brown, groom at the Hacking Pong Show Stable and veterinary officer worker in Charleston, S.C., she also serves as a volunteer for the Connecticut Cetacean Society, Windsor Junior Women's Club, Windsor Conservation Commission, Windsor League of Women's Voters and Windsor Public Television.

**IN THE WORLD OF TELEVISION,** Meg has been playback operator, program producer and has appeared in several programs. Peter is no stranger to television himself. Last month, Peter did a series called, "Chef's Table," for Channel 26 in Windsor. The program consisted of cooking lessons. This month Peter is involved in another series, which shows that he has not lost his love of cooking and of sharing his expertise with others. When asked about his favorite food, he said, "I really do not have a favorite... I'm international; a little bit of everything."

A few notes on his new store... Peter wanted to give credit to Bill Bledreau of the Windsor True Value, "who helped me build the entire store; and to Scott and Woodie Williams (of Windsor) who got me involved in the business of hardware."

Admitting, "There's not much time these days (what with it being winter and of course, with the new store) for my favorite hobby... (which is) sailing at Newport, which is, incidently, my favorite place to live. I love the ocean."

Peter, who played some soccer as a young boy in Germany, follows football and boxing. During his travels to different



Peter Enkler, a former world-traveled, executive chef, in his new hardware store, standing in front of some of the inventory.

hotels and resorts, he met many interesting people, including members of the professional boxing world, some of whom were Muhammad Ali, Marvellous Marvin Hagler and Hartford's own Marlin Starling.

Speaking of well-known personalities in Hartford, when Peter was asked who he most admired, he said, "Mr. David Chase (a Hartford developer and owner of the Parkville Hilton) with whom I worked for six years... I found him to be an all-around unbelievable person... a fascinating individual who has done so much in his lifetime, by himself... an outstanding personality."

**EPILOG:** Peter Enkler still keeps his hand in the culinary arts, keeping in touch by way of television, and also with chefs and managers, as well as by being a member of the Chef's Association of Rhode Island. After nearly 30 years he changes occupations; doing "what I am happy in." He surely has found contentment in the operation of a new-found career in the world of hardware.

The talented man is fluent in German, French and English, so I couldn't pass up this reference to the following: "Chef: A man with a big enough vocabulary to give the soup a different name every day."

# Insights on the Volunteer Program at Bradley

As a resident of Windsor Locks for more than 20 years, I have traveled past Bradley International Airport more times than I can remember. I have also traveled out from Bradley to many ports of call. And I have picked up friends and relatives coming and going to Florida, Indiana or California.

These days, I go there once a week as a volunteer and member of the state Department of Economic Development. My wife, always one to keep me busy as a retiree, noticed an item in our favorite newspaper, asking for senior citizens to serve at Bradley at the travel counter. Truthfully, I kept the item for about a month before finally deciding to give them a call. I haven't regretted my action.

I'm now a full-fledged volunteer with a badge and parking pass for the family car. To say my new assignment is interesting

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would be an understatement. You're bound to meet travelers who are inquisitive, hurried or just-plain folks. But they all have some things in common; namely the following questions:

Where are the taxis and the telephones? Where do I rent a car? Where do I get a bus to Hartford or Northampton? Do you have any change? Where is the nearest bar or coffee shop? Can you page my Aunt Tillie?

One fellow from Georgia wanted to know if I could find his girlfriend a place to rent in the Hartford area. Some folks don't quite understand their whereabouts . . . Are you sure this is Windsor Locks? Where is Hartford or Springfield? One woman wanted to

know where her car was parked. That was probably the toughest question of the day.

But the most often-asked question concerns the location of the rest rooms. Like one volunteer said, "It's a great job; you tell people where to go."

Before the supervisor of the volunteers stationed me at one of the counters, I was given a few hours to adjust to the airport, to prepare for the questions I might be asked and to learn where special places in the airport were located.

I was taught by a pro. It was a man with eight years of volunteer service at the airport named Lou Di Loreto of Manchester. He is in charge of more than 20 retired men and women from nearby towns who serve for four hours a week, with the counters being covered from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

The counters are filled with the latest folders on places to visit in Connecticut and

how to get there.

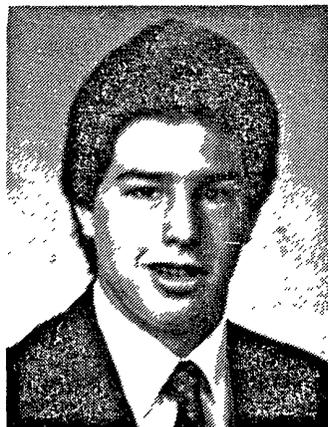
In Terminal-A, the counter is opposite the Piedmont and United baggage areas, and next to rental of cars. The Terminal-B counter space is opposite Eastern and next to the bus service.

Sometimes we locals take Bradley for granted. I always did, unless we were going somewhere. Now, after a few months at the airport, I can really appreciate the work that goes on there. What with the comings and goings of the big airlines, the services to other locations in the state, the maintenance of such a large facility, the effort it takes to get a cup of coffee or just the time spent waiting for a friend or relative; it's almost like a city within a city.

So the next time you are at the airport, drop in. The volunteers just might suggest a place that you haven't been to in your home state of Connecticut.

'Mike Mascaro scored a game-high 28 points, including two three-pointers, as Windsor Locks overwhelmed Canton 88 to 59 (on) Thursday in the North Central Connecticut Conference boys basketball season-opener for both teams.'

Mike Mascaro's two brothers, Tony and Joe Jr., set the example in family sports activities, along with the help of their cheerleading sister, Kim. Now, the youngest member of



Mike Mascaro

of the Mascaro clan is one of Windsor Locks High School's three-letter athletes.

For the past four years, Michael Peter Mascaro has been an outstanding baseball, football and basketball player, being named to several conference all-star teams. Like Tony, Joe Jr. and Kim, Mike gives his all to the Raider school, along with the continued loyal support of his parents, Joseph Sr. and Rose Mascaro. Joe Sr. and Rose have been steady rooters of their athletic children, not missing many games since the boys were first in the Little League program.

This, however, is the story of young Mike, the continuation of the Mascaro athletic tradition. To begin with, Joe Sr. came from Hartford and his wife, Rose Evangelista Mascaro, is a Springfield girl.

Joe Sr. is a Weaver High School graduate, where he played baseball. He also served for two years in the U.S. Army, 1954 to 1956, making stops in Texas and Alaska along the way. Joe Sr. has worked for Concord Steel, Federal Express and is currently employed at Combustion Engineering in Windsor. Rose, a graduate from Technical High School in her native city, met Joe Sr. in Hartford while she was training to become a nurse. They were married in 1957 and have lived in Windsor Locks since 1961.

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THEIR OLDEST CHILD is Kim, a 1976 graduate of Windsor Locks High School, who lives in town with her husband, James Jeffers, and Joe Sr. and Rose's two grandchildren, Lauren and Matthew. Kim was a high school cheerleader and graduate of Providence College. Tony, a 1978 Windsor Locks High School, lives in Rhode Island with his wife, Sophia. He continued with his education at Rhode Island College and for the past five years, has worked as a disk jockey at WPRO in Rhode Island. Joe Jr. is a 1985 high school graduate and attends Bryant College. Both boys played Little League and midget football. Joe Jr. also excelled in baseball and basketball at high school, while Tony participated in baseball and football.

More on young Mike. . . when he was nine, Mike got his first taste of competition in the Little League program, advancing to the Senior League. The town's midget football league provided Mike with his first experience as a quarterback. He played baseball and was a basketball starter at the middle school, before hitting the nets at the high school.

For coaches Dan Sullivan and Pat Scelza, Mike Mascaro has been a reliable player. He's played four years as safety and end on the football field, he was a captain and guard on the basketball team and during the summer, he played second or third on the diamond. In football, Mike made the All-Pequot and NCCC All-Star teams; and last year in basketball, All-Conference, which says is his favorite sport.

IN THE FUTURE, Mike intends to continue playing basketball and football at the college-level. But which college? It hasn't been decided, but he's leaning toward the following schools: Springfield College, University of Massachusetts, Southern Connecticut or Keene State in New Hampshire. But he is sure of his major, sports management, which he said is a new field and one he hopes will be the stepping stone to a job with a large sports-oriented organization. Maybe the Red Sox or the Minnesota Vikings.

A few statistics on the nearly six-foot athlete: In his junior year, Mike averaged 19 points on the basketball court, scored five touchdowns in his junior year and racked up another seven last.

He is active in school as secretary of the class of 1988. Last year, Mike took part in the American Legion Boys State Program.

When not hitting the books or making it big on the sports scene, Mike has a few favorites pastimes like the television show, "Family Ties," rock music and comic or dramatic movies. He follows the Minnesota Vikings and the Red Sox, and his favorite athletes are Dwight Evans and Michael Jordan.

Described by his mother as a "fun-loving young man and one who enjoys a good time," Mike has his serious moments, especially when it came time to list someone he admired greatly. That one individual was Coach Pat Scelza, who he said was a "player's coach and a coach who lets the players 'do their thing.'"

AT TWO RECENT GAMES of the Raiders with East Granby and Granby, Mike Mascaro was witnessed in action on the basketball court. He's a fine, speedy player that gives the impression that he is definitely in charge of the team's action. This enables him to dissect and select his options of passing or shooting and to assemble a successful offensive attack at breakneck speeds. Two of the boy's talents

are a length-of-the-floor baseball pass and a look-away cross-court bounce pass to the weakside streaker cutting to the hoop.

This winter Mike is only playing on the high school level, but in college, if he continues to cultivate his natural talents, he may someday be another Maravich or Cousy; or maybe even a Bird. Only time will tell.

When Mike is not athletically performing, or when the local sport scene is quiet, his biggest rooters, Joe Sr. and Rose, are ready for a trip to Cape Cod or somewhere comparable on the Connecticut shore. It's a family that enjoys watching the kids perform; be it on the diamond, court or gridiron, or perhaps just swimming on the Sound.

### EPILOG:

The high school sport scene comes and goes each year. Joe Sr. and Rose Mascaro have been a part of that loyal rooting section for years, especially with their own kids, Tony, Joe Jr. and Kim. It's been Mike's turn to be watched and cheered on for the past few years.

Will Rodgers once said, "We can't all be heroes. Somebody has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by."

It's been my pleasure telling folks about Tom McKenna and Gina Cangemi, recent Cabbages and Kings interviewees. It was Mike Mascaro's turn this time. To us on the curb, they and all the other Raider athletes, are our local heroes.

# Mike Mascaro: A Raider

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL, JANUARY 22, 1988

## Three-Letter Athlete

# Rev. L. Hellwig: Leading a Life 'Worthy of God'

Father Lee Wayne Hellwig, diocesan priest, was ordained on June 28, 1986. Last summer, he joined St. Robert's as assistant to Father Thomas F. Farrell.

Father Hellwig is the son of Ernest and Ann Hellwig, who now reside in South Windsor. Mr. Hellwig was originally from Manchester and is a veteran employee at Pratt and Whitney in East Hartford. Mrs. Hellwig was from Milford where their son, Lee, was born and raised.

Lee graduated from Milford High School in 1974 where he said, "I was on the other side of the (sports) activity," being involved in the school's yearbook, newspaper and the Key Club.

**WHEN DID HE DECIDE** to become a Catholic priest? He admits, "That's difficult to answer . . . probably, it was a continuing type of feeling (I had) . . . with no

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particular realization of becoming a priest, especially during my high school years." But, he said, "I had an awareness what the life and duties of a priest were . . . I knew it was a worthwhile life, as I went on to pursue a higher education."

Leaving Milford, Lee said, "I went off to UConn." He graduated in 1978 with a BA in liberal arts. As for the college years, he says, "I was contemplating becoming a priest." But no firm decision was made after graduation. With a degree under his arm, Lee set out in the business world, accepting a position with a management company in the accountancy department,

traveling from Hartford to Boston to Washington, D.C.

In 1981, Lee realized that "something was missing in this type of life," as far as a steady career was concerned. Looking back, he said, "Certainly investigation was in order . . . gradual changes (in his decisions) were evident." He knew it was his decision to choose which path to follow. Lee contacted the vocational director of the Hartford Archdiocese. He met with the director and together they covered the necessary steps for acceptance as a student at a seminary.

**LEE HELLWIG WAS ACCEPTED** and began a new career at the Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Maryland. Upon ordination, however, he was to become Father Lee W. Hellwig. St. Mary's, he said, "was a training ground for parish priests and it didn't take long to have a positive feeling (about my life decision)."

While at the seminary, Father Hellwig joined the Knights of Columbus, transferring his membership to the council in Broad Brook, upon his return to his home state. Across the river, with the local K of C, he acts as their chaplain. It is also a role he

has taken with the local Boy Scouts Troop 263, where he also serves on the Executive Committee.

He likes to participate on the local, community level. He also follows the Raider basketball team and other town sports. Not one for many hobbies, except a love of reading, the Father has recently taken up racquet ball; mainly, he said, for "the exercise."

He is fond of listening to classical music, and so attends the symphony, a pleasureable routine he started in the seminary. Vacations? "I haven't got that far yet," he said with a smile.

The future plans for this quiet man of God? "I'm very happy being just a parish priest." When asked who he most admired in the religious family, the Father said, "Pope John Paul II . . . for his leadership in the Church." Any admiration for lay persons? "No one in particular . . . but (certainly) I admire the accomplishments of others." His personal philosophy? "(We) should have an awareness of God . . . God is interested (you must realize) in (the) individual's lives."

# 'Brothers in Arms'

*'We're working as a team . . . (Windsor Locks is) a town with a quality commitment. . .'*

St. Mary's Church, the oldest Catholic church in Connecticut, now has Father Robert M. Grace Jr. and Father Timothy A. Meehan Jr. as its co-pastors, both holding the seat of 12th pastor at St. Mary's. On May 1, 1987, they assumed their new position, replacing Father Lawrence J. Leclair.

Recently, I met and interviewed the two diocesan priests. Although they have diversified backgrounds and personalities, both agree that "we are in a development period. (The co-pastorship will be) a learning experience."

Both priests were born and raised in Connecticut: Father Grace in New Britain and Father Meehan in Hartford's south end. They attended St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield before going to seminaries in New York and Maryland.

Interviewed separately, the following is a thumbnail sketch on each priest.

Father Robert Mark Grace Jr. is the son of Robert M. Grace Sr. of New Britain and Marion Grace of Meriden. He attended St. Thomas Aquinas High School, graduating in 1961. When not in the classroom, he found no time for sports, saying, "I worked a lot."

When asked the ultimate question by an inquisitive writer, "When did you decide to become a priest?," he said "I always had (thoughts) in (the) back of my mind, even in junior high. It was always a possibility." After leaving Aquinas, Robert enrolled at St. Thomas Seminary for two years, "where the decision was made. (The priesthood) was worth a try."

**THE NEXT FIVE YEARS** Robert spent at St. Bernard's in Rochester, N.Y., or "The Rocks," as it is affectionately known among the student body. Father Grace was ordained in May of 1969, with his first assignment being near his home in Avon at the Church of St. Ann. In Avon, he stayed seven years as an associate pastor. He was given his first taste of a co-pastor role at St. Michael's in Hartford. For five years he shared the church's responsibilities, then

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was chosen sole pastor of St. Michael's.

On May 1 of last year, Father Grace came to St. Mary's, again in the role of co-pastor. According to Father Meehan, he and Father Grace "both thought about becoming co-pastors at St. Mary's" and discussions were held for three months before their final decision was made.

But turning to the personal side of Father Grace, he is a friendly man, easy to talk to, into photography, one who enjoys listening to classical music, but is not "big on vacations." He is a member of the Capitol Region Conference of Churches, he's on the advisory board at the Archdiocese of Hartford for black Catholics and is chaplain of the local volunteer fire department in town; a role he held previously in Avon and Hartford.

**FATHER GRACE SAID HE HAS NEVER** served mass in Latin; however, he feels what's more important is the "quality of our worship today," in the modern language of English. He admires two figures in American history, those being John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. When asked about his philogophy on life, he candidly said, "(I) don't take life so seriously."

Father Grace feels co-pastorship is the "way of the future," if circumstances warrant that type of leadership. He and Father Meehan are working on "what style of leadership is needed at St. Mary's and (trying to) clearly develope (that style)." He adds, "We are both learning the ropes." His plans for the future are "to work for the hopes and dreams of St. Mary's parish."

What does Father Grace feel about Windsor Locks? "It's a warm and welcoming town. There's a sense of neighborhood. Windsor Locks is something unique; there's a quality of commitment."

What is Father Grace's favorite Bible passage? Matthew, Chapter 5, verse 1:12, (The Beatitudes): "Blessed are the poor in

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at St. Mary's Church



Father Robert Grace (from left), Bishop Rosazza and Father Timothy Meehan gather together to celebrate the two priests' co-pastorship at St. Mary's Church.

spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."

**FATHER TIMOTHY AUSTIN MEEHAN JR.** is the son of Timothy A. Meehan Sr. and Ruth Meehan, both of Hartford. Young Timothy attended the Hillside/Wilson Grammar School. Later, the school was named after two individuals, Moylan/McDonough, whom he knew personally. He participated in baseball and basketball on the intramural level.

In 1947, he entered St. Thomas Seminary, saying, "I wanted to be a priest, but (had) changed my mind." Over the next several years, it was a period of indecision on his part, "to be (a priest) or (to continue) changing (his) mind." Actually, he wanted

to be in the scientific field, but did not accept a scholarship. That was probably the deciding factor. He entered St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and also the Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Father Meehan was ordained May 7, 1959.

The varied list of assignments for the young priest began in New Haven. He then traveled around the country from his post at Notre Dame University, coming back east to further his education at Yale. Then it was on to other church duties, and last May, with Father Grace, he became a co-pastor at St. Mary's.

**FATHER MEEHAN HAS HAD A WIDE RANGE** of experiences in several fields:

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## CORRECTION

**CABBAGES AND KINGS:** In the Feb. 5 issue of the Journal, it was incorrectly said in the Cabbages and Kings column that St. Mary's Church in Windsor Locks is the oldest Catholic church in Connecticut. It is the oldest Catholic church north of Hartford. The Journal regrets the error.

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As a diocesan priest at St. John the Evangelist in New Haven; St. Martin's in the Elm City; and in 1968, as director of urban affairs at the Archdiocese of Hartford. At Notre Dame, he spent three years on urban church affairs, as mentioned, all over the country. Back in Hartford, he was named director of urban affairs and assistant director of Catholic charities. Four years later, he was in New Haven, not in church affairs, but as a student at Yale, earning a MPPM, a master's in public and private management. Returning to the capital city, he was named director of Catholic

charities, until last year, when he assumed his new role at St. Mary's.

For Father Meehan, helping others has resulted in an active role with the following services: American Red Cross; the board of trustees at Yale/New Haven Hospital (11 years); Connecticut Indian Affairs Commission; Economic Development (Social Services for the Inner City, since 1968); housing development for the poor; assisting unwed mothers and their children find housing; and working with Catholic charities in Waterbury, Hartford and New Haven to provide health services.

On a personal basis, Father Meehan is a man who enjoys skiing in Vermont, carpentry and shoots in the 80's on the golf course. He's a long-time Red Sox fan and an overall baseball fan, since the days of the old Hartford Chiefs.

**WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE CHANGES** in mass (from Latin to English), Father Meehan said, "The Latin mass is very important, a wonderful tradition. However, the Second Vatican Council opened the church to changes. The mass in English made for a higher degree of participation, a more prayerful mass."

concerned with celebrating the life of the late civil rights leader.)

The future plans of this well-traveled and energetic activist priest are "to be a part of the community. To be (able) to see the changes in Windsor Locks." He emphasized, "The parishioners of St. Mary's are a very proud people. This is not my church; this is their church."

## EPILOG

*With apologies to Mickey Danyluk*

The parishioners of St. Mary's Church have known their church to be "a special place."

They have enthusiastic co-pastors in Fathers Grace and Meehan. The two priests have probably already found St. Mary's to be "a special place," as well.

# Cordilikos Lives Are a 'Celebration of Love'

"We both are," say Daniel and Anna Coriliko, when it came to naming the boss.

Last November, the Cordilikos celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The friendly and hard-working couple have been residents of Windsor Locks for the past 16 years. On that special day, a surprise party was given and they were surrounded by friends, relatives and their four children, ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Both Daniel and Ann came from large families. He was originally from Bloomfield, and his steady companion, Anna, was a Glastonbury native. They both agreed, after leaving Bloomfield and Hartford, that "we (didn't) miss the larger town and city. We enjoy living in Windsor Locks. (It's) a nice town and (it's) quiet."

Daniel is the "self-styled workaholic," and Anna, the mother and grandmother, said when asked in a teasing way, who's the boss after half a century of married life, "We both are. We agree on nearly everything." Daniel added, "We are mostly together."

Daniel Lawrence Cordiliko's parents came from Italy. He was one of six children, three of which came over on the boat with their parents. The Cordiliko family settled in Bloomfield after moving to Hartford's Franklin Avenue section. Young Daniel played some baseball around Bloomfield. However, he went to work at an early age, driving a truck for a construction company. He spent his entire life in the construction business, mostly with Peabody and Son, a Hartford organization, for two decades.

**DANIEL'S BETTER HALF**, Anna Maks Cordiliko, is one of nine children whose parents immigrated from Poland, settling in Glastonbury. She worked in the tobacco fields as a young girl. She met Daniel "in a Hartford restaurant. I liked him right away," she said, with a loving smile. They were married November 27, 1937 at St. Michael's Church. They lived in Bloomfield and the capital city, before moving to South Elm Street in Windsor Locks.

Daniel and Anna have four grown children. Maryann, Diane, Richard and Daniel Jr. Maryann Budaj and her husband, William, live in Windsor and have three children. Diane James and her husband, Victor, also reside in near-

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by Windsor and have two children. Richard and his wife, Fran, live in Hartford and have two children and two grandchildren. Daniel Jr., "the sports fan in the family," is a resident of town, along with his wife, Gerri, and their three children. That makes ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren and a lot of proud pictures around the Cordiliko home. An added fact — Diane graduated from Bloomfield High School and the others are graduates of Weaver High School.

Their parents comment, "(They are) all wonderful kids. We treat them all the same." What with the children and the grandchildren, birthdays and anniversaries all come around fast. Says Anna, "It keeps us busy with parties and cards every month."

**WHAT DOES DANIEL DO** with his time? "I do a lot of walking." I'll verify that fact. The day after the interview, we caught Daniel walking the neighborhood in, I must say, the latest fashions made for walking. In the summer, he said, "I cut the grass and swim in our family pool." The winter months are no problem for Anna who "really (enjoys) the soap operas (like) "All My Children" and "Guiding Light." Daniel's favorite television show is "Dallas" and he also enjoys listening to country music. The Cordiliko's interest in spectator sports are limited to baseball, with the Yankees their favorites. Anna does cheer for the California Angels, but only because Reggie Jackson is on the team. Mention work around the house and Anna says, "Daniel is always doing something. He can't stand still." Following him around during his daily routine is the family dog named Happy. Vacation time means going to the Connecticut shore for the Cordilikos.

### EPILOG

It is obvious, when you first meet and talk to Daniel and Anna Cordiliko that they are family-oriented. When they were asked who they most admired, Anna said, "My father. My mother died when we were kids (and) my father



Daniel and Anna Cordiliko, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends.

raised (the) nine of us." Daniel said, "My parents. They always took good care of us and (provided us with) a good home."

The legacies of both Daniel's and Anna's parents were passed on to their children and grandchildren. What memories stand out after fifty years? Anna said, "My grandchildren." Daniel added, "We have been happy together. It's been (the) good times (that stand out)."

They've found the following words to be true. . . "A wedding anniversary is the celebration of love, trust, partnership, tolerance and tenacity. The order varies for any given year."

# James Muska — WLHS Athletic Director

*"As I grow older, (I realize that) the most important thing (in life) is people."*

James Edward Muska, the local high school athletic director since 1972, is a man in daily contact with students, teachers, coaches and other educational officials, be it in the classroom or setting up schedules for the Raider's sports activities.



James Muska

Better known as Jim, he has had 18 years of experience as a teacher and coach, with 16 of those years spent as an athletic director. He leads an active lifestyle, not only educationally, but as an army veteran, traveler, father of two growing boys and an avid hockey player in Springfield's industrial league for the last 17 years.

Jim was born and raised across the river, saying, "I'm just a local Broad Book boy." When it came time for high school, he chose Cathedral high in Springfield,

where he played guard on the football team and was a hurdler on the track team. He received what he said "was a small football scholarship," attending St. Francis Xavier College in Nova Scotia, Canada, adding "Going to school in Canada got me out of East Windsor to see (some) of the rest of the world." He graduated in 1966 and spent a year back in Connecticut at Mount St. John School for Boys in Deep River, working with problem children.

Jim was drafted into the U.S. Army the following year for a total of two years, six months of which were spent at Fort Dix, N.J., and the balance of the time in Germany.

Jim took advantage of being in Europe by traveling around during his tour of duty. The high point of his service time came in 1968 while serving as a colonel's aide. At this time, he returned to the states on furlough to marry his college sweetheart.

At St. Francis, he met Eleanor Farren, a native of St. John, New Brunswick, Canada. An on-going exchange of letters was their only contact before the wedding day, as she was in far-off Calgary, Canada, teaching, and he was in West Berlin. They were married in Eleanor's hometown and

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returned to Europe for their honeymoon.

Jim was discharged while in West Berlin. The two newlyweds saw more of the countryside and then returned to Springfield for good, where Jim received his masters degree in education at Springfield College. In 1970, he took on his first teaching assignment at the Windsor Locks High School. Jim and Eleanor lived in town for two years before moving to Somers, where they now reside.

Jim was a math instructor and assistant football coach under the current coach, Pat Scelza, who was instrumental in establishing the gridiron program at the Raider school.

Jim was on the football scene for seven years. Today, his full-time career is divided among his responsibilities as an athletic director and a teacher of computer science, geometry and mathematics.

Some information on the family of Jim and Eleanor Muska. The girl from Canada gave up her teaching career to raise their two sons, Chris, age 15, and Scott, age 13. Chris is a freshman at Somers High School who played Little League, as did Scott, who is a student at the Somers Middle School. Jim said both boys are into basketball, baseball and soccer.

A note on Jim's parents, John and Helen Muska, who still reside in Broad Brook. Mr. Muska was born in Czechoslovakia, with Mrs. Muska a New Britain native, and, as Jim said, embodies "the Irish side of the family."

As mentioned, Jim is involved in amateur ice hockey. Sunday mornings means practice sessions for the left-winger, with games occurring twice a week. He has had this love of hockey for the past seventeen winters. When Jim is not performing on the ice, another winter sport to his liking is skiing. In the summer months you will find him sailing.

He figures it is all a part of the exercise kick of predominant in today's world. Each year, the family returns to Eleanor's

hometown for a ski adventure.

Jim is a member of the Connecticut High School Coaches Association and the Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors. Speaking on his role as an athletic director, Jim said, "Each system is different. It's the responsibilities of the position, which (in his case) are making up schedules of sporting events, contacting other schools for games, bus schedules, maintenance of equipment, and most important, working on budgets for the year."

Reflecting on the WLHS program, Jim said, "The program at our school is sound, we have good coaches. What we need is more student participation, not just in sports, but all activities (like) the band, chorus and other clubs."

Commenting on WLHS sports, Jim says, "We have had a lot of great athletes over the years." Looking back at his own coaching experiences, he said, "When you coach, you are bound to get to know the boys better and a few stand out who played on the football field — Jimmy Zien, and the Michalewicz boys, Steve and Paul, come to mind."

Jim's personal plans for the future? "After 18 years, there's (bound to be) an assessment of job opportunities, it's only natural to be looking for new ideas; in other words, to seek a new challenge."

Jim did not find it difficult to name someone he most admired. "My grandmother, Theresa Muska, born in the old country, worked hard, raised eight children, (had) strong religious beliefs and took care of her grandchildren." His own personal philosophy is "to set goals and try to reach them; as I grow older, I realize (that) the value of people is (what is) most important."

### EPILOG

James Edward Muska, the man with a friendly smile, checks up on how things are going — on the court or on the field — with those Raider athletes, whether they be in the classroom or delving into the field of math.

To paraphrase an old saying — The most important thing that teachers and coaches can teach their students and athletes is how to get along without them.

# Jon Russillo

*'We take (on) one day at a time,' and with Jon, (probably) one (Raider) game at a time.*

Jon Russillo, like several other Raider basketball players, is supported mightily by his parents, John and Norma Russillo.

"We get to as many (of the) games as we can, and one of us always makes sure we attend the away games, too," said John. He usually takes pictures of the court action, while the proud mother keeps a keen eye on Jon. John fills her in on the details, as the game progresses.

This devotion to Jon's athletic activities actually started when he was nine, and a bat boy for his brother Craig's Little League team in town. Jon, a forward on Dan Sullivan's successful 1987-88 basketball team, is a junior.

The story of Craig, who is a 1987 high school graduate, and Jon's parents is not totally one of basketball, even though their father graduated from Providence College, which has had its share of basketball glories. John admits, "I'm a sailor," owning a 30-foot racing sailboat with a crew of five, which does not include Norma.

**BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST**, before the dedication to Jon's current schedules; John Edward Russillo and Norma Cloutier Russillo were born and raised in the capital, and largest city, of Rhode Island. They were "high school sweethearts" at Mt. Pleasant High School, graduating in 1962.

While he was attending Providence College, Norma "took a job and waited for John." Soon after John received his bachelor of arts degree in economics in August of 1966, they were married. During his college years, John was a member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. That fall, he joined the United States Army, and with Norma, traveled to Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indiana for his basic training. He was then assigned to Fort Knox, Ky., working in the Post Finance Section. The second lieutenant and his new bride had their first son in Kentucky, with Craig being born on the post.

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Discharged from the army in 1968, John, Norma and their son returned to the East, but not to Rhode Island. It was Connecticut where John accepted a position with the Aetna. This September will mark two decades of his having been with the insurance company. The Russillos lived in Enfield for two years, before their move to Windsor Locks in 1972.

**SPEAKING OF CAREERS**, Norma recently completed a course at the Asnuntuck Community College and is currently employed by a nursing agency as a practical nurse.

Their son, Jon, has made a career of playing sports in town. After Little League, as bat boy and then player, he played three sports at the middle school, these being basketball, baseball and soccer. During his freshman year at high school he played baseball, soccer and basketball. The second year he dropped baseball for track, but continued to perform for Coach Sullivan's soccer and court teams. Jon said his favorite sport is basketball, where he plays a game of hustle whenever he is on the court with teammates Collins, Ludden, Trainer, Bravakis and Mascaro.

As was pointed out at the beginning of the story of the Russillo family, Jon's parents are no strangers to their son's games, be it home or wherever the team goes around northern Connecticut. His dad keeps track of the game, takes action pictures and keeps his mother informed as well, as they watch Jon on the court.

**WHEN IT COMES TO PRO BASKETBALL**, Jon is a Boston Celtic fan and that means Larry Bird. However, the family does follow Providence College in the Big East competition.

Jon is a typical high school student. He listens to rock and roll, enjoys all kinds of food, especially "after a win on the court,

## *and His Supportive Parents*



The Russillo family is (back, from left) Jon, Craig, (front, from left) Norma and John.

at the (our) favorite place in town." When the Raiders are not playing, and the school work is finished, Jon follows television shows like "Family Ties," "Cheers," "Night Court" and "Moonlighting."

The sailor in the family, John, said he got interested in the hobby of racing sailboats from some of his fellow workers at Aetna. The summer months may be filled with sailing, but in the winter, it's basketball watching and "thinking about sailing in the summer," the sailor said. John is a member of the Sailing Club of Mystic. That's his hobby, no doubt about it. On the other hand, Norma said her "hobby was taking care of (our) three boys."

The night of the interview, certainly not a night when the Raiders were playing, found John, Norma and Jon at home, with Craig at his favorite place of business. The threesome were asked who they most admired. John said, "John F. Kennedy. He made me feel good." Norma's choice was her "mother, Doris Medeiros (of Providence), who raised two of us, as a single parent." Jon spoke up, saying, "(My) whole family."

#### EPILOG

That's the story behind the supportive parents and brother of Jon Russillo. Jon has another year of sports at the high school. It will be another year of sports history in a town that follows its boys and girls while in action. The years with moments of glory and defeats will pass; however, the Russillo family will treasure their son's part in all of that action.

The state basketball play-offs begin tonight. Good luck to Jon and his teammates. Fans, like the Russillos, are behind them, becoming a Windsor Locks version of "Hoosier Hysteria."

In closing, a few words for Jon and his teammates, from Jon's favorite player . . . "To me," says basketball star Larry Bird, "a winner is someone who recognizes his God-given talents, works his tail off to develop them into skills and uses those skills to accomplish his goals. Even when (I've) lost, (I've) learned what my weaknesses were, and I went out the next day to turn those weaknesses into strengths."

# Tony Urgo Is 'Happiest when He's Working'

I have heard of the "Reluctant Dragon" and the "Reluctant Sam," but last month I met a reluctant house and wallpaper man named Tony Urgo.

He hasn't a reluctant bone in his body when it comes to his trade of painting houses; only when it came to being interviewed did this formerly unknown trait come into play. However, everything worked out just fine. The following facts were given to me on a snowy night at the comfortable home on Church Street of Tony and his wife, Doris.

Antonio Paulo Urgo was born in nearby Thompsonville, the son of Paul and Jenny Urgo, who were both born in Italy. Mr. Urgo, the man responsible for making his son learn a trade, passed away years ago. Jenny, now 86 years "young," lives on Grove Street. Tony also has two sisters who live in town, Santa Camarco and Fonda Murray.

When Tony was about six years old, the family moved to Elm Street in Windsor Locks, which Tony said was called "the sticks" at the time, which was the early 1930s. Their home, made on 14 acres of land, was called "a farm," but farming itself was not for the Urgos, as Mr. Urgo was a painting contractor.

**YOUNG TONY ATTENDED** Union School. Due to an illness, he had to leave high school. When his health came back, Tony went to work with his father as a helper and to "learn the business." He decided to try factory work, staying at the Bigelow carpet mill for a year until World War II broke out.

Tony went to work at Bradley Field for the government in the early stages of the war, painting aircraft. But Uncle Sam had another job for Tony and a different uniform; that of the U.S. Army. It was then, January 1945, after basic training in South Carolina, that Tony truly joined the war effort and was eventually shipped out to Hawaii. It was not all sun and fun for the young corporal. His outfit, as with many units in the Pacific, was being trained for the invasion of the main islands of Japan.

Looking back to that time in his life, Tony said, "I was satisfied that dropping the atomic bomb on Japan was the

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way to end the war," and as the records showed, the saving of thousands of American lives. Tony was discharged in August of 1946.

He tried factory work again, this time for a year at Pratt and Whitney. But Tony had had enough regimentation in the army and large factory working conditions proved to no longer be for him.

**HE WENT OUT ON HIS OWN**, continuing with the trade his father had taught him, trying to "establish himself." Today, after 40 years, Tony has worked on many sorts of homes, interior and exterior, painting and wallpapering his way all over the northern part of Connecticut. Doris said, "He is happiest when he is working. I would also call him (a happy) workaholic."

Doris Amber Urgo, born in Montreal, Canada, came to Springfield with her family at the age of 12. She remembers during her youth going to the famed Montreal Forum to see the Canadiens' hockey games. Doris met Tony at a Holyoke dance. Two years later, they were married in April, 1958, at Springfield's St. Michael's Cathedral.

Doris and Tony have lived on Church Street since 1963, raising three children — Michael and Amber, both of whom are graduates of Windsor Locks High School, and Raymond, a junior at the Raider school. Amber lives in Enfield with her husband, also a local boy, Gary Frechette.

Working hard might be called one of Tony's hobbies. Some card playing and a little photography occupy any time that might be left. Before his business was number one, he played golf, fished and hunted. As a young boy in Union School, "(he) liked to draw, but found photographs more interesting."

**TONY SAID**, "IN MY LINE of work, I meet a lot of people, (from) millionaires to poor people. I treat them as equals." Tony adds, "I'll never forget my father saying, 'Son, learn a trade, but you don't have to pursue it.'" In Tony's case, he took his father's advice and pursued it for decades. About the fruits of his profession, Tony says, "I enjoy seeing (my) accomplishments. I feel good about the (final results). My father made me tow the line (when I first started). I'm glad I listened to him."

Tony "hasn't had a vacation in 29 years." He got "his belly full" of such things while traveling in the service. Work comes first, but only because "the kids (really) are number one. I will (do anything) to help them, as my father



House and wallpaper man, Tony Urgo, says 'I enjoy seeing (my) accomplishments. I feel good about the (final results). My father made me tow the line (when I first started). I'm glad I listened to him.'

did for us."

He has found the town of Windsor Locks to be "a real community (in which) to live. I have seen it grow from 2,500 to 12,000 (people) over the years."

### EPILOG

Antonio Paulo Urgo . . . Definitely, there's a ring to that name. I found a man named Tony, enjoying a birch beer at the kitchen table, talking about his being "a dull guy."

I did not find Tony Urgo a dull guy at all. He's a man from the old school, who has worked hard all his life. He's frugal to a point, remembers the depression years, has served his country and considers his family to be his number one responsibility.

# Trying Hard To Get Home, 'Bag and Baggage'

Looking back on previous situations that were hectic enough to drive one up a wall, a person can either laugh about the circumstances, however unpleasant, or as in my case, write about the experience, as I am doing.

Last month, after a week in beautiful Barbados, an island in the sunny Caribbean where, as the travel folder states, "variety spices every vacation and the fun is in the sampling," we were scheduled to leave for San Juan, Puerto Rico, our first and only stop before arriving back home at Bradley Airport in Windsor Locks.

However, the travel folders do not say travelers have to accept variety, good or bad.

We arrived at the Barbados Airport about 1 p.m. Our flight to San Juan was to leave at 3:45 p.m. Travelers are expected to be at the airport two hours before they leave for customs and security reasons. So far, no problems. The bad news came at about 2 p.m. — the flight was delayed. Being the inquisitive type, I found out, from a reliable source, that the plane from the United States (it was coming from Cleveland, to be more specific), was overloaded with baggage and had to make a fuel stop in Orlando, Fla. I'll bet those folks from Cleveland probably wanted to stop off and see Disney World.

**JUST FOR THE RECORD**, we had eaten breakfast at about 8 a.m. and by 5 p.m. we could have used a hamburger or a drink.

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL, MARCH 11, 1988

## IN WINDSOR LOCKS

**CABBAGES AND KINGS:** Jack Redmond relates the misadventures that he and his wife dealt with while trying to get back home from a vacation in Barbados.

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However, the facilities in the waiting area at Barbados were lacking in these things, if you don't count water.

At 6 p.m., the plane was ready and we were off. Now, the flight was originally an afternoon run with no lunch or eats provided, especially with this airline's new policy of no food for trips under three hours. Our trip to Puerto Rico was only a little over an hour and twenty minutes, so we were given a cold drink, but no peanuts this time.

Shortly after 7 p.m. of the same day, we arrived in Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory since 1898, now a self-governing commonwealth.

The next three hours can best be described as a horror story. It was an experience that us frustrated, mad at the airlines and sorry for our fellow travelers with bigger problems, such as a lady in a wheelchair, coupled with two small boys and five — count them — five large boxes that my wife said must have been glassware. She not only had to worry about the boys, but carry those five boxes all over the airport. We were made to wait in line for customs, to deal with airline workers who spoke English and Spanish, and who were taking their time trying to satisfy over fifty weary travelers who had missed connections to various locations in the United States,

ranging from the east coast to Arizona.

**EACH PERSON OR COUPLE** had to be given new tickets. We were in the back of the line. When it was our turn, everyone had to move to a different level, as the customs department was closing for the night.

At this point, an uneasiness among the travelers became very apparent. Soon after we arrived and were waiting to be checked by customs, I stopped the captain of the crew as he entered the terminal. He knew of our situation. I asked him what would happen if we didn't get out that night. "Demand that the airline put you up for the night," he said emphatically.

The next step was to take our luggage to a different location, which was a problem not only for that woman with the boys and five boxes, but for myself and my wife as well. Due to a fall, I wasn't much of a help to her. We did manage to get to the "next plateau." Looking back, it was difficult, but I'm not laughing about it, even now. After satisfying all the passengers with new tickets, some for the last flight out that night, or as a standby, or on a 7 a.m. flight the following morning, which we accepted, it was now 10 p.m. Remember, we hadn't eaten since 8 a.m.

The next stop was in another part of the terminal, which was probably a mile away (like from Terminal A to B in Bradley). For what? To get taxi fare to a hotel, plus a voucher to eat in their cafeteria. At this point, we wanted to get to the hotel, have something to eat, go to sleep and be ready for the 5 a.m. wake-up call that was to come in six hours.

**FORTUNATELY FOR US**, the hotel was as far from the airport as Bradley is from Route 75. The next day, other travelers told us they were driven to a hotel over an hour away.

We got our first taste of Puerto Rico night life. The hotel next door had about five restaurants, still open and going

strong, plus a gang of people trying their luck in the casino. It was our first trip to the island and we had no idea of the extent of the gambling.

After a quick meal, we made a tour of the establishment and watched all the night owls doing their thing. But it was soon time for sleep, in order to be ready for that early wake-up call. We were up at 5 a.m., at the airport by 5:30 a.m. and taking off from the island, thinking we could never see Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A., soon enough. A forty-minute ride from Bradley ended our vacation. Because we took an early flight, instead of waiting eight hours in the city of "Brotherly Love," we had to return to Bradley that evening to retrieve our luggage.

### EPILOG

Our trip to Barbados was great. It was just getting home that made for a rather interesting adventure that needing mentioning in this space, usually reserved for the people of Windsor Locks.

We have all read the stories about a harrowing experience connected to flying. We had been lucky in the past, having had no real problems.

When we look back, the airline did its best, under strained circumstances, to satisfy travelers at a very busy time of the year. It's just the feeling that you, as an individual, can do nothing but accept the facts . . . you are at the mercy of others, be you rich or poor, or with two small children and five boxes. My wife figures that that husband and father will never buy his wife any more china unless it's from a local store and they deliver.

Someone once said, when describing a traveler, "One who usually returns bag and baggage." We got our baggage home, safe and sound, and ourselves with a few laughs and a small story to tell.

## **Name Park after Reilly**

To the Editor:

The following letter has been sent to Francis J. Aniello, chairman, Windsor Locks Park Commission.

To the Editor:

I would like to recommend to the Park Commission and the Board of Selectmen that the baseball diamond at Southwest Park be named the Bill Reilly Baseball Park.

Bill, who passed away last year, was a former ball player and local businessman who contributed a great deal of time and energy, not only as fire chief for many years, but in other civil endeavors.

I sincerely hope you will consider this appeal as a lasting tribute to a fine gentlement.

Jack Redmond  
48 Pershing Rd.

May 2, 1988

Mr. John Redmond  
49 Pershing Road  
Windsor Locks, CT 06096

Dear Jack:

First of all, please excuse the tardiness of this letter. We have undergone some secretarial changes in the Park Department office, and it is my fault that this letter has not been written before now.

As much as I agree with your thoughtful suggestion that a park be named after the late Bill Rielly, it has long been a standing policy of the Park Commission that we do not name parks after individuals. There have been numerous suggestions in the past, all very deserving, as are your thoughts regarding Bill Rielly, however, the Park Commission has consistently chosen not to dedicate parks in this manner. The Park Commission has turned down requests to name Spring Park after Ella Grasso, even when she was alive, and after young men who have died and who spent a lot of time in the parks.

In closing, Jack, Bill Rielly and his family have been close personal friends of mine for many years. His name is revered and his memory will not be tarnished by time and as much as I share the sentiments that you have expressed, the Commission's position I think is firm.

Jack, if this letter does not satisfy your interest, feel free to attend a Park Commission meeting the second Monday of every month and perhaps you can present your thoughts once again.

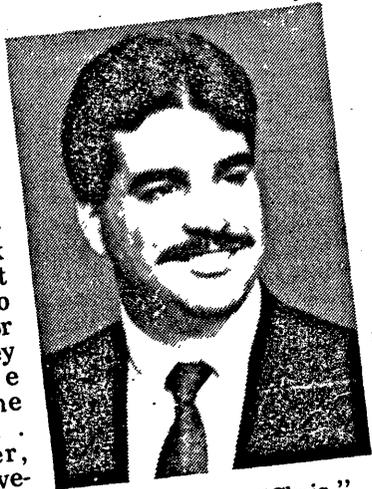
Sincerely,



Brian C. McKeown  
on behalf of the  
Windsor Locks Park Commission

# Chris Kervick -

His full name is James Christopher Kervick. He is listed as J. Christopher Kervick when it comes to looking for an attorney in the telephone book. However, the native-born



lawyer is better known as just "Chris." Chris is beginning his new career under the veteran guidance of local attorney Phillip A. Post. Chris and his old brothers have already left their marks on the sports scene in town, from the Little League to high school activities, like winning varsity letters and other honors.

The story of Chris and his pretty bride, Michele, is being told just one day after St. Patrick's Day, as they both qualify with Irish names like Kervick and McElwaine.

Chris tells of his grandfather, Frederick Kervick, who came from Springfield to settle in Windsor Locks on South Main Street in the late 30s and to bring up Daniel J. Kervick, Chris' father. Mr. Kervick still makes his home in town with his wife, Claire Donnelly, who is originally from Newark, N.J. They had met at Seton Hall University in New Jersey.

Chris grew up on Elm Street, where his folks still live, attending local schools and graduating from the high school in 1980, where he played baseball and was co-captain of the football team. In addition, Chris was vice president of the Student Council and had the lead in the senior play that year, which was "Oklahoma," in the role of Curly.

WITH ANY STORY of the Kervick boys, we must mention their enthusiasm for sports. It all began with Little League. Dan, now married to Lourdes Jimenez,

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shared his talents, not only in the classroom with the math team, but with his teammates on the soccer field as well. Kevin, married to Karen Frevel, was a three-sport letterman in football, baseball and basketball, and won the Most Valuable Player Award in American Legion Baseball. Chris duplicated the honors the following season, winning the John Cressotti Most Valuable Player Award. The Kervick boys have a younger sister, Anne Marie, who is married to Alan McKinstry.

Chris received a partial academic scholarship to Fordham University in the Bronx. At the end of his junior year, he decided "to explore the possibility" of attending law school. But, he said, "(he) wasn't sure," of his next career move. After graduation from Fordham in 1984, where he majored in communications, he made up his mind concerning his future and traveled to the nation's capitol to attend Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America.

DURING THE FIRST YEAR of law school, the boy from Connecticut met a girl from Maryland at a party, given by the girl's best friend. The future lawyer and the student at the University of Maryland were married in May of 1987. The bride, Michele McElwaine, daughter of Jim and Alfreda McElwaine of Upper Marlboro, Md., graduated from the Maryland college

in 1985 with a B.S. in biochemistry. Michele has three younger brothers — Jim, Mark and Mike.

They agreed that it was a busy two months that year, what with Chris receiving his juris doctor degree in May, the wedding, and then on June 1, the young couple moving to Windsor Locks to their new apartment on Concorde Way.

In August of last year, Chris joined the Phillip A. Post law practice in town, as a law clerk. After passing the Connecticut Bar Exam, he assumed the title of associate attorney. As for Michele, she has grown to "love Connecticut" and was prepared for the worst that the New England weather had to offer. She is currently employed at St. Francis Hospital as a lab technician in the research department of the hospital.

It did not take Chris long to become involved in community affairs. He was recently appointed to the Windsor Locks Board of Selectmen to serve as a representative to the Area Eleven Cable Television Advisory Council. His chief responsibility will be as chairman of the sub-committee on government regulations. Chris says he keeps "abreast of changes in cable television activity" and is "on the watch for any feedback from cable users."

CHRIS' PRIME CONCERN is his career as a lawyer, and the development of his own law practice. At some point he hopes to "get involved in politics," adding, "I'm glad we came back to Windsor Locks. (It's) where I wanted to practice my career as a lawyer."

He's a young man into golf and volleyball. As a spectator, there has been only two teams to root for, these being the New York Giants and the Yankees. As a student in the Bronx, he wasn't that far from Yankee Stadium and took in several games. His wife, according to Chris, is a "good cook and baker," and on the Connecticut scene, does her rooting for the University of Connecticut Huskies Basketball Team.

Chris has his serious side, saying, "A philosophy of life? I'd say, eventually good things will happen to good people." When he was asked to mention who he most admired, he said, "My father. (As a family,) we had some good and bad times. I admired my father, who helped us enjoy the good times and (endure) the bad times. He worked hard for us."

### Epilog

"Here's to the law. May it ever be a synonym for justice."

J. Christopher Kervick, who came back home to practice law. And that's what happened to young man who played Curly, moving beyond the stage of the high school, and into the new role of a home-grown lawyer.

# - Young, Home-Grown Lawyer

# For Mike Barile,

*"(I) loved Texas. . .but Windsor Locks (has) always (been my) home. . ."*

Michael Barile, who received honors as a young athlete in Windsor Locks, is now receiving honors in the real estate field.



The Hartford-born son of Joe and Phyllis Barile, grew up in town, spent four years in the U.S. Army and then returned to Windsor Locks with his Texas bride, after beginning a career selling homes in the Lone Star state.

Talking to the local real estate agent,

## cabbages and kings

By JACK REDMOND

now associated with Sid Manning, Mike hasn't forgotten the grass roots training he received from Coaches Russ Mattesen, Jim Rumbold, Dave Farr and Bob O'Connor, and the respect he has for them for teaching him the game of baseball.

Mike left the capital city at the age of five, attending local schools in town and graduating from high school in 1973. In the early years, Mike played Little League, starting at the age of eight. Russ Mattesen was his first coach, and by the age of eighteen, Mike had participated in the Senior League under Jim Rumbold, and played American Legion ball for Coaches Farr and O'Connor. Mike was an All-Star for several years in the local program. One honor he is quite proud of is his being named one of the top outfielders during the 1970s in the American Legion program, along with Mike O'Connor and Steve Farr.

While in high school, Mike admits that he

was a jock, playing some basketball, soccer and co-captaining the tennis team. He also played indoor hockey, in the original set-up, along with John Magnani. Today Mike is still a jock, playing basketball three nights a week and ice hockey once a week in Enfield with the "over-25 gang."

MIKE SIGNED UP for the Army during his last year of high school, volunteering for the infantry. In August of 1974 he began a four-year career, taking him to Kentucky, Louisiana, Hawaii and finally, Texas. He admits to enjoying the army, especially for six months out of the year, during which time he played baseball, making the All-Army team. After the cancellation of baseball (and any veteran knows how the army operates), Mike was asked to play softball, again making the All-Army team.

Mike, after his discharge, was "not sure what he wanted to do (with his life)." Remembering how much he enjoyed his service time in Texas, he left home once again, moving to Houston, where he became a real estate agent during the boom period in that area. He stayed several years, where, he said, "the (opportunities were) better." It was there that he met his future wife, Lupe Arismendez, who grew up near the city of Houston. He met Lupe by selling her a house, and as they say, "the rest is history." They were married on Mike's birthday, November 11, in 1984. Lupe and Mike now have a sixteen-month old boy, Michael Joseph Barile.

How did Lupe find moving to the colder northeast? She adjusted well, Mike said, for a girl who had never seen snow before. Looking back, Mike said, Lupe was in the same predicament that he was in when he left his home state, that being one of having "no friends or relatives (except for him)." However, everything has worked out just fine.

With his experiences in selling homes in Texas, Mike, on his return to Connecticut, joined Manning Realty in town, under the leadership of Sidney F. Manning.

CONVERSATION WITH MIKE Barile always leads to his favorite topic, the Barile family. His three brothers, Dan, Jim and Joe, who like their brother, were all active in local sports. Their father, Joe, a firm believer in the art of self-defense, has a long history in boxing as a coach and trainer. Ten years ago, the story of Joe Barile was told in a "C and K" interview. Mike said their dad never pushed the boys into boxing, knowing full well they had to find their own way in sports.

When Mike was asked whom he most admired, he said "Not to be corny, my father, (for whom) I have the greatest respect. (He's) a man who is always busy. He worked many jobs when we kids were growing

up. It was his way. I really didn't appreciate (his way) until I got older (and wiser), (and realized) he was doing everything for the family." Today Joe is semi-retired, though still interested in the boxing game.

Back to young Mike . . . He's a member of the North Central Connecticut Board of Realtors and the 1988 communication chairman for the local board in Enfield. This week Mike was honored by the Greater Hartford County Realtors with the annual Producer's Club Award, honoring him as top salesman associate in his field. Mike recently completed a four-month course at the Graduate Realtors Institute, sponsored by the Connecticut Association of Realtors in Hartford.

Mike's personal philosophy is "no matter what you want, with hard work and dedication and honesty, you can reach those goals (for which you set out)."

### EPILOG

That's the Mike Barile story . . . The young jock in Windsor Locks, who began a new career in Texas, a place he learned to love. But when it came down to it, "Windsor Locks (was) always home," and that's where he decided to work and raise a family.

Mike probably found out in Texas that "selling (homes) is easy if you work hard enough at it," and he probably heard this story, in which the cub real estate salesman asked his boss if he could refund money to an irate customer who discovered that the land he had bought was under water. "What kind of salesman are you?" demanded the boss. "Get out there and sell him a motor boat."

# Windsor Locks Is Home

# Windsor Locks Columnist Packs Up Typewriter for Good

That's right. I've had it. No more interviews with the interesting people of Windsor Locks, with the folks from the GHO or with anyone from any other town.

After 12 years and 11 months, I'm packing up my Olympia for the easy life of doing nothing. After 568 interviews, which means

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## cabbages and kings

By JACK REDMOND

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I have looked across the kitchen table at approximately 1,200 individuals, leaving

just about 11,000 folks in Windsor Locks to whom I haven't spoken, I'm putting "Cabbages and Kings" to rest.

I KNOW ALL the cliches — "I love being a writer. What I can't stand is the paper work." Or "There's nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and open a vein." And then there's the one I love best; "Writing a column is like riding a tiger. You don't want to stay on, but you don't want to get off either."

In addition to all the wonderful folks in town, I have also spoken with a few big names — Bob Hope, Sammy Davis Jr., Jim Rice, Fuzzy Zoeller, Ron Francis. Of course, as you know, I have always been a name-dropper, which reminds me of that old saying, "I am all in favor of name-dropping . . . names are the raisins in the rice pudding of conversation." Now, don't you think that's great?

I must admit there are a few characters in town I haven't had the pleasure of interviewing, like Sy Preli, Ray Roncari and Dan Sullivan. I have tried, in at least two of those examples.

I WANT TO THANK Evelyn Lee, wherever she may be, Steve Mauren, Keith Griffin, Nancy Steffens, Dotty Gill and the rest of the Journal crowd who put up with me for all those years.

I'll have to admit that over the years I've felt like quitting the column, but I guess a little ham in me said, "Keep going. There is someone out there reading those stories."

I must not forget the personal editor I've

had all these years — my wife, Rita. She had to read all those columns before I submitted them to the paper.

Writing about the kids in high school, especially the ones involved in the Raider sports program . . . they were always such nice kids. Writing about the coaches in Little League or at the schools . . . those teachers were always good copy.

The politicians . . . now, there's a group of people (only kidding). I salute Cliff, Ed, John, Barry and my old friend from the Senior League, George Hall.

I never got to interview Ella T. Grasso. But my picture was taken with her at a political convention when she was governor.

IF ANYONE HAD told me I would be writing stories this long, I would have bet the farm, if we lived on a farm, that they were wrong.

In between the stories of people, which are the most interesting, I have made up stories about Christmas, St. Patrick's Day and Valentine's Day, but never one about people.

I better end this . . . I've said enough.

Oh yes, today is April 1 . . . *April Fool's!* . . . I'll be on the pages of the Windsor Locks Journal as long as I can type and talk to all the great folks in town.

To end all this, I'll paraphrase a singer's words — I love writing. Life is so tentative and short that I want something to remain as proof that I existed — the Journal and you nice readers make that possible.

## IN WINDSOR LOCKS

**CABBAGES AND KINGS:** Jack Redmond bids a fond farewell to the readers of Windsor Locks in his final column.

Page 24

# Reaching Out through Education

## Rosalynn Santacroce, a Dedicated Director

*"Whether you seek to recover lost opportunity or enhance existing knowledge and understanding, there's a place for you...Join us."*

The above is an invitation from Rosalynn Anne Santacroce, director of the Windsor Locks education program since 1985.

Last month we stopped by her high school office to find out more about the program. We found a dedicated, well-traveled and educated lady who, before assuming the role of director, was a local school teacher for many years, from Union School to the high school. She is the wife of well-known athlete and educator himself, Dave Johnson.

**THE STORY OF ROSALYNN** begins in Enfield where, as the daughter of Joe and Til Santacroce, she grew up on the family dairy farm with her sister, Marilyn, and brother, Jim.

After grammar school, she attended and graduated from Enfield High School in 1966. She admits to being a "lady jock" as a young student in the early days when girls' were first participating in sports, such as softball and basketball. She wrote for the school newspaper, a role she continued at the University of New Hampshire, where she received a bachelor of education degree four years later. Rosalynn also was active in student government. Years later, her advanced education program included a master's degree in art from St. Joseph's College in West Hartford. Currently, she is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Connecticut.

Saying, "I always wanted to work with people, young and old," she decided during her high school years to become a teacher. Her first positions were in the Windsor Locks and Union schools, teaching at the second and fifth grade levels. She hasn't left town since. When the Union School was closed in 1977, Rosalynn was transferred to South School as a fourth grade teacher. Three years later, she became a special education instructor at Southwest, until that school was closed. To complete the cy-

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### cabbages and kings

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By JACK REDMOND

cle of local schools, she taught at the middle and high school before being named, in 1984, interim director of the Adult Education Program. The following year she assumed the role of full director.

**LAST MONTH, MARCH 21** through 28 was the annual week dedicated to adult education. Here in Windsor Locks, Rosalynn emphasized the importance of this educational program, which she said was combined with "general adult education programs and adult high school education, which offer a variety of opportunities for adults to improve basic skills and prepare for the General Educational Development Examination and earn a Windsor Locks Adult Education High School Diploma. (It also) recognizes and rewards adults for what they have learned through their experiences as parents, workers and responsible citizens; adults whose education was interrupted or terminated prematurely."

Rosalynn was in praise of the "quality of the staff (in both the general adult and adult high school programs) for its abilities, skills and professional services rendered." Her main concern was to "make people (of all ages) aware of this local program at the high school."

From a personal standpoint, Rosalynn has found that teaching and being director are "not different. Both must give leadership" to students. She "has enjoyed the challenges and opportunities" of both.

Those challenges and opportunities are well defined in the listings of the Adult Education Program, be it the High School Education Plan or career and professional development, personal development, health issues and exercise and various classes for young adults and senior citizens. Rosalynn would be the first to say

to all adults, "Join us. There is a place for you."

**MORE ON THE LADY** from Enfield and Dave from Windsor Locks. They were married in August of 1980, having met as teachers at South School. Currently, Dave is assistant athletic director at the University of Hartford and physical education teacher at South School. In 1977 he was honored in local sports by the Veterans of Foreign Wars as "Sportsman of the Year." They are both active in sports; tennis and long-distance bike riding. Traveling to Europe and the Far East has been one of their activities away from school responsibility.

Rosalynn is a member of several professional organizations and is on the board of directors of various community agencies. When asked who she most admired, she said, "I have three individuals that easily come to mind: Eleanor Roosevelt; Mahatma Gandhi; and a black woman writer, Sojourner Truth, who, during the Civil War, assisted slaves (to) escape to the North by way of an underground railroad."

However, closer to home, Rosalynn said, "My father encouraged me (to take advantage of) opportunities and (to try) to provide others with the same opportunities that they may not have had (by way of education). The (main thing in life) is to give something back." In her office at the high school is a large Norman Rockwell painting of people (from all walks of life) with the following words, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." It's not hard to figure — Rosalynn's philosophy of life.

#### EPILOG

Rosalynn Anne Santacroce has been doing for others for many years, first as a teacher and now as director of the Adult Education Program. When we first talked it was to be a story on the teachers and instructors in the program. It was difficult to separate Rosalynn, the teachers and the program; they are all doing for others. And to paraphrase . . . Join them . . . There's definitely a place for you.



WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL, APRIL 8, 1988

# Tom Kenney:

*He profit most, who serves best. . .” Rotarian Creed*

The past four years, Thomas James Kenney has been serving the community, as a member of the Windsor Locks Rotary Club. He is the local Rotarian president of this service-minded organization, made up of business and professional men and women.

He is better known as just Tom Kenney, a familiar face in the weekly Thrifty Reminder, usually shown with the weekly speaker at their meetings. His own professional career has covered insurance, the trucking and car business and for nearly ten years, he has worked for the Friendly Ice Cream Company. He entered their training program, and today is district manager of the northwest territory of Connecticut.

Tom, who lives in Windsor, was born and raised in Wallingford, with his two brothers, Gary and Kevin, sons of Thomas and Clair Kenney. He attended Wallingford schools, graduating from Lyman Hall High School in 1965. Tom had all good intentions of becoming an accountant as he entered Boston University. However, in 1969, he received a BS in marketing and personal management, giving up the idea of debits and credits as he progressed in the college years.

Careers have a way of changing, and for Tom, that was his path after leaving Boston. He sold insurance for a few Hartford companies over a period of three years. He switched gears, and with his brothers, entered the trucking business in Wallingford. After three years, due to the high cost of gas, he said, “We were priced out of business.”

Not one to stand still, Tom took on the position of assistant manager of a MAACO Auto Painting and Body Works shop in Wallingford. In 1979, he again switched gears, from trucks and cars to food and ice cream, answering an ad from Friendly. He entered the training program and work-

ed himself up to his present position. He started at a Friendly in North Haven, was soon over to his hometown of Wallingford, moved on to assistant manager of the West Hartford Bishop’s Corner store, transferred to the Simsbury Farmington Valley Mall and, in 1984, came to the Windsor Locks location on Ella Grasso Turnpike.

If you have ever wondered what happened to “Farm Shops”, Tom was put on special assignment to convert existing shops to Friendly’s, in the state of Connecticut.

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## cabbages and kings

By JACK REDMOND

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There were 24 in all, and Tom was involved in eight of the conversions.

When Tom is not watching the operations of those Friendly establishments, he is an “avid boat enthusiast,” with Long Island Sound as his base of pleasure in his 30-foot “well-craft”. He’s been a bowler and golfer, with the golfing part usually on vacations to the islands. As a Friendly employee, Tom has earned trips to Nassau and Orlando, for winning the “Tradition of Excellence” awards two years in a row.

Tom has two young sons, Thomas Jr., 16, and Todd, 13; and a daughter, Jamie, 11. They attend schools in Wallingford. Both boys were active in the local Little League program there, in addition to the Pop Warner Football League. Jamie is a cheerleader for her brother’s team, the Wallingford Vikings. Tom Jr. is now working after school at a Friendly, where his dad started in the business of ice cream and food.

Their father also has a strange kind of loyalty towards baseball teams. As a young boy living near New York City, he cheered for the Yankees, but while stationed in Boston, he became attached to the love of the Red Sox. He follows both teams, and when they play each other, he’s neutral, and hopes one of them wins the eastern part of the American League division.

This month, Tom will be in Bermuda for the Rotary Club spring conference. As a rotarian, Tom began as sergeant of arms, moved to secretary, and then became president. This office he finds a challenge: being involved in fund raising, setting up the budget and “orchestrating the functions of the club” that meets weekly at the local Steak Club.

He said the community service of the club covers a wide range of projects, . . . to name a few: “Hospice, 4-H, Food and Fuel Bank, Meals on Wheels, Little League, High School Scholarships and a new project, . . . Polio-Plus”. The club’s main raising of funds is the selling, by members, of poinsettia plants during the holidays. Adding, he said, “The Rotary Club is a cross-section of the community’s business and professional men and women.” Tom is assisted by the following officers: Dr. Alan Soroka, vice president; Clinton “Red” Burnham, secretary; Chester Groch, treasurer; and Stanley Szwed Jr, Sgt. of Arms.

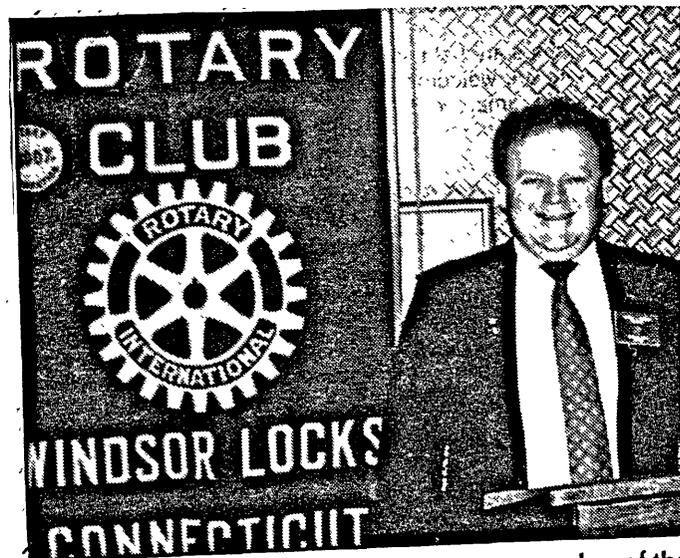
Tom is an advocate of “working hard and playing hard.” In his travels during a diversified career, one individual stands out, as a person he most admires: Matt Isenberg, owner of Simon Ford in Norwich. He related the following: “Matt is a self-made man, a man of his word, and a man with a handshake (a bond), and a man who, I found, also works hard and plays hard.” Adding, “(I met Matt) while we had a business relationship and we still have a personal relationship.”

### Epilog:

That’s the story of Thomas James Kenney, a familiar face, be it at Friendly’s or at the weekly Rotary Club meeting.

The best way to end his story is with a restaurant tale, of sorts: A customer in the restaurant complained that the lobster he had ordered had a claw missing. “I’m sorry, sir,” said the waitress, “but our lobsters are so fresh they fight one another in the kitchen.”

“Well, take this one back and bring me one of the winners,” snapped the customer.



Tom Kenney serves the community as a member of the Rotary Club.

# Friendly Rotary Club President

# Alice Marconi Clack Is GOP Chairwoman

The Republican Town Committee recently named a new chairwoman — Alice Marconi Clack. The name of Marconi is familiar to Windsor Locks. Alice's father was the late and respected Angelo "Wuzzy" Marconi.

Alice and her husband, T. Dean Clack, intend to carry on the tradition and have had an active life of higher education, travel, teaching, army service, research and clinical work.

They are Connecticut-raised people who lived in Michigan for many years (before coming home), and now, they are members of the GOP Town Committee, with Alice as chairwoman. When asked how he felt about Alice's new role, Dean said, "I'm delighted . . . because I know she will do a good job."

In April 1979 we had the pleasure of interviewing "Wuzzy," and at the time, Alice, Dean and their daughter, Dianna, were living in Ann Arbor, Mich. The Clack family returned to Connecticut when Alice's father took ill. He died last September.

The daughter of "Wuzzy" and the late Alice Boldway Marconi, was born and raised in town. Her family lived in the older section of town on North Main, Suffield, Chestnut, Spring and Wedemeyer Streets. Alice grew up with her two brothers, Raymond (better known as Billy) and Joseph. A third brother, John, died in infancy.

Alice attended St. Mary's and graduated from the local high school in 1952. Her college years were divided between Skidmore, in Saratoga Springs, New York, and the University of Connecticut, where she received a bachelor of arts in psychology, with minors in economics and art. Alice continued her education, and has two master's degrees, one in math education and one in math.

With T. Dean Clack, it was the case of being born in the midwest (Akron, Ohio) and, to folks who traveled a lot. At the age of seven, he and his family settled down in the Darien and Norwalk section of southern Connecticut. He attended local schools and a prep school in that area. At prep school, Dean was captain of the "Horse Show," and played some basketball and football, graduating in 1950.

From there he enrolled at UConn, and received a B.A. degree in psychology with a minor in sociology in 1956, and the following year he received his master's degree. In 1963, Dean earned the degree of Ph.D. in experimental psychology.

It was at UConn that Alice and Dean first met. However, before their meeting, Dean had served nearly two years in combat, during the Korean War. After basic training in New Jersey, he left the states for Japan before being shipped to Korea where, as a combat infantryman, he participated in several major battles. After action on the front, Dean served on General Maxwell Taylor's honor guard. When asked his opinion of the show, "MASH," he said, "I enjoyed the show, but there was a more serious side of the war."

On June 10, 1956, Alice and Dean graduated from UConn, and six days later, they were married. They lived in Mansfield, in the Storrs area, where Dean continued at UConn, working on his master's, while Alice drove to her first teaching job at her own Windsor Locks High School. She taught at WLHS for a year, and from 1957 to 1964, both Alice and Dean were teachers at UConn — she as a math teacher, and Dean, with the departments of psychology and statistics.

Their daughter, Dianna, was born in Connecticut. When the Clack family moved to Ann Arbor, their young daughter attended the local schools, and years later, she earned a college degree at Middleton's Wesleyan University. Today, Dianna is married to Milton Herbert, a Florida native, who she met in Michigan. They now live in Acton, Mass. with their four children, Elizabeth, Catherine, Geoffrey and Christopher. Mr. Herbert is a Vice-President of a computer software company.

From 1964 to 1986, the Clacks lived in Michigan, where Alice taught in public schools for 17 years. For two summers she worked as a real estate agent. Dean, who prefers to be called a "scientist and clinician," instead of teacher, has a long list of accomplishments, "where he has gained a reputation in those fields."

Dean's career covers a wide range of activity . . . teaching at the University of Michigan in the departments, otorhinolaryngology, speech and hearing. He has had consultantships with the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Ann

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Arbor, and research work with Eaton, Yale & Towne. In addition, his scientific and professional contributions include being the author of 29 articles in scientific journals, the publisher of 20 abstracts, the author of six book reviews and he has orally presented 52 papers at professional meetings.

Back home in Connecticut, Alice and Dean became involved with the GOP town committee, with Alice being named as an alternate with the Planning and Zoning, Inland Wetlands Committee and the Capital Region Council of Government.

She says that these days, "Politics fill a lot of my time," but she still enjoys reading, as a hobby, "aside from shopping," according to Dean. For him, he manages to find the time to go to a health club and play tennis. They are still Big Ten rooters in Michigan football, and now, "getting back to the east coast," means cheering for UConn basketball. In those Michigan years, they always came back home for the holidays. Traveling has been one of their favorite activities — they have visited Mexico, Europe, Greece and the islands in the Atlantic.

They both are Bush supporters on the national scene. Locally, as mentioned, both are active in town affairs. When asked what her role as chairwoman will be, she said, "As Chairwoman of the Republican Town Committee, my aims are maintenance of full membership, expansion of activities and visibility, and increased participation by all members. Importantly, we will encourage unaffiliated voters, especially the young or the new residents, to consider becoming registered Republicans."

Alice and Dean both admired "Wuzzy," saying, "He was a kind, generous and understanding individual in human conditions." Dean added, "I knew him well . . . (I would say) he was a genuine hero . . . he took care of his own."

### Epilog:

Alice Marconi Clack and T. Dean Clack, both with illustrious careers in several fields, have been back in town since the fall of 1986. Windsor Locks has always been on their minds. Alice summed it up this way: . . . "We are just regrouping . . . as to what we are going to do . . . and (definitely) we're staying in town."



Alice Marconi Clack and her husband T. Dean Clack carry on the family tradition.

Lisa  
Bellissimo



*"What a job these little kids have. . .but they do it. . ."*

Lisa Bellissimo is a person who "loves traveling, baseball and people," and especially the young students who have been the recipients of her teaching techniques over the years at Union, Southwest and North Street schools.

Lisa's life began in a little village in the southern part of Italy; a village called . . . Valelonga. At the age of 6, Lisa, with her mother; sister, Anna and brother, Vincent, came to America to join her father, a mason by trade, who decided to raise his family in New Canaan.

Mr. Bellissimo earned his living by traveling from his native Italy to the states every two years, visiting different locations on the east coast and in the south. In 1938, he notified his family that he was settling down, and they would make their new home in America.

Lisa remembers the large ship, called "Roma", that carried her family to America. The trip took 15 days, with Anna seasick but Vincent, Lisa and their mother, weathering the new experience.

Back in her native village, Lisa had been enrolled at age 5 in a private school. After arrival in the states, actually two days later, she was put into first grade. She did not know a word of English, as was the plight of her mother, Anna and Vincent. Luckily, a fellow student translated the subject matter for young Lisa. Math was her subject, and she was actually further advanced than her American counterparts. Lisa recalled that it took about a year before she could learn English and the many different ways and customs of her adopted country. Today, her parents have passed away, but Anna still lives in New Canaan and Vincent resides in the nearby Stamford area.

Lisa attended the local schools of New Canaan, graduating from the high school in 1950. As a young student, Lisa "always wanted to be a teacher," for she enjoyed working and being with other students (her

own age or even older)." However, in those high school years, she said, "I changed my mind. . .I loved foreign languages, and wanted to be an interpreter." During high school, she wasn't all book work — she played field hockey, softball and basketball. Reflecting on those times, she said, with a smile, "I was terrific in sports." She was also involved with the school newspaper.

In 1955, she received a degree from UConn, majoring in foreign languages (Italian and Spanish), with a minor in business. "In truth, I guess I really wanted to be a teacher, changing my mind, and entered Willimantic Teacher's College (now Eastern State), where I received a master's in elementary education." Lisa's first position in teaching, in the fall of 1955, was in Somers, at the second grade level. While at UConn, Lisa knew a Windsor Locks student, Anita Miller, and when Lisa said she was interested in teaching here, Anita said, "Go see my dad." Her dad was Paul Miller, principal at the time, and C & K interviewee, June 1980. Lisa applied and was accepted for a teaching position by Robert Jackson, who was then superintendent of schools.

Her teaching career in Windsor Locks began at Union School in 1956 where she taught until 1961. She was transferred to the North Street School and, during the years 1961 and 1964, taught reading at Union and Southwest. Today, Lisa is at North, and over the years has been a teacher in different capacities: at the first and second grade levels, coordinating reading programs, conducting a literature class. In addition, Lisa was co-chairwoman, with Barbara Willet, on the Accreditation Committee for the North and South schools in town, in a "self-study in all areas of education." Lisa, active in the PTO, furthered her personal education by attending the University of Hartford and St. Joseph's College in the Sixth Year degree program.

Looking back over her years in town, she said, "When I started, the classes were larger and mothers were home." Today, when asked to compare, she said, "The classes are much smaller and in some cases, children are being babysat by grandparents and others, obviously due to the economy." She said she enjoys teaching the young students and knows "what a job these little kids have." "But they do it," she added. Lisa is especially proud of the literature class, saying, "It gives the students a chance to put themselves into (the classic) plays."

In 1956, Lisa and three other teachers, (from Windsor) lived on the West Street property of Hilda Preli. When the other teachers left two years later, Lisa became a permanent resident at Hilda's home. The summer months have meant traveling to Europe, Scandinavia and her native village

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in Italy, where she has renewed her acquaintance with a cousin. In this country, one of Lisa's "great trips" was as chaperone for the local Girl Scouts on a cross-country trip to California.

As mentioned, Lisa "loves traveling and baseball," and that means the New York Yankees. In addition, she watches tennis, basketball and the Super Bowl on television. When it's quiet time, there are books and crossword puzzles.

When asked who she most admired, Lisa said, "We'll have to go back to my UConn days, where I and a group of students were interested in organizing a college sorority, which would be non-sectarian. We were

fortunate in having Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt come to the college and attend one of our meetings. She felt it was a wonderful idea just meeting her was a great thrill." Lisa was proud to be a part of this type of sorority and what it stood for, and said that the idea spread to other colleges over the years. It certainly depicted the philosophy of Lisa. . . "a love of people. . . people are all equal, regardless of race or religion."

### Epilog

Lisa Bellissimo came from Italy as a child, to become a dedicated teacher in the Windsor Locks school system. Teaching the young has been her art form for many years, which reminds one of the following, "The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterward."

# Lisa Bellissimo

# Loves Being A Teacher

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL, APRIL 29, 1988

# Jim O'Brien, from Coach to Bird Watcher

James Edward O'Brien Jr. enjoys life as a father, teacher and coach; and to say he is diversified in his talents would be an understatement. Jim's lifestyle goes full circle, from bird watching to CPR, with an awful lot in between.

Jim, high school coach and teacher, is a Hartford native, the son of Jim Sr. and Anne O'Brien of East Hartford. Jim has four brothers, Steven, Dennis, Peter and Tim, and a sister, Sharon. They all grew up in the capital city. His father, now retired, is a former steel worker and served admirably as a U.S. Marine on Guadalcanal during World War II.

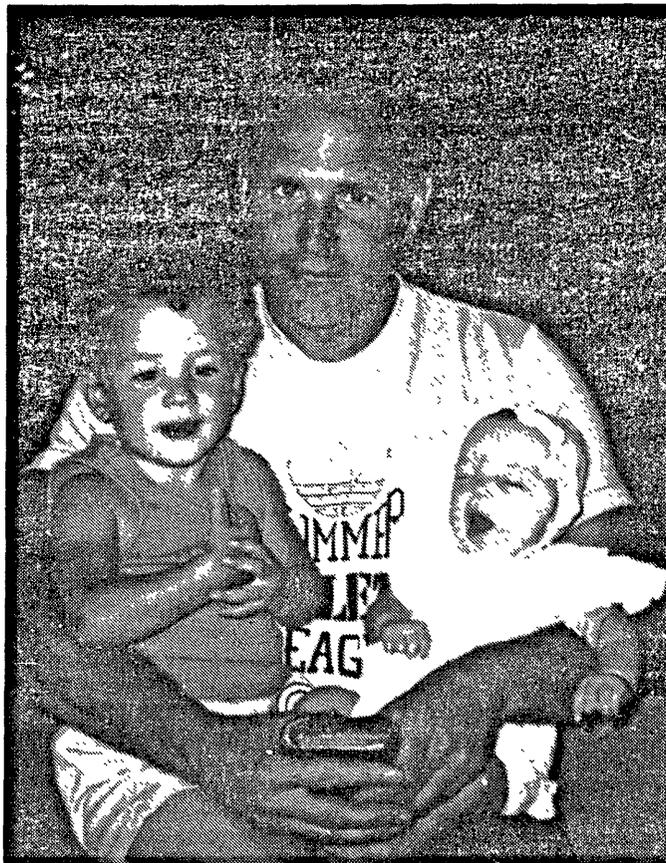
Jim Jr. graduated from Hartford Public High School where he performed on the track and football teams, two sports he would later coach at the local high school. He went to Central Connecticut for two years where he played football until he was injured in the second year. He was drafted in February 1967 into the U.S. Army, which he said "totally changed my life."

Jim took his basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and soon afterward was in Vietnam. His 11-month stay there was at the height of the Tet Offensive, where Jim received two Purple Hearts. Another injury, which, ironically, happened on May 30, the same date his father was wounded during a major battle on the islands, was serious enough for the government to send Jim back to the States. He was discharged in February 1969. Looking back, Jim said, "It was a learning experience . . . I met and lost a lot of good friends there." It is obvious that the Vietnam experience had an impact on Jim O'Brien.

**RETURNING TO CONNECTICUT**, Jim did not waste any time. He went back to Central, receiving a bachelor of science degree in biology in 1971. At the time, he recalled, "There were not many job openings; however, I was fortunate, as I was contacted by Windsor Locks officials for a position at the Middle School." So, at the opening of the fall school session (in 1971) Jim O'Brien was the Physical Science and Health teacher, until 1975. He was transferred to the high school, where today Jim teaches chemistry, biology and health, and participates in other activities, which make for a very busy schedule.

Jim's coaching career began as freshman football coach, which lasted four years. The past 10 years Jim has coached the Girls' Track Team, and for nine years he coached Cross-Country (boys and girls) in the fall and, in addition, Indoor Track. Jim said he has had many outstanding performers in track over the years. He mentioned a few: Jimmy Reilly, Barb Grandahl, Melissa Blevins, Carrie Schiessl, Diane and John Christopherson.

Under the title of other jobs at the high school, Jim has been "behind the scenes" the past seven years working on the sets for the popular Senior Class plays. The Adult



Jim O'Brien Jr. with his son Christopher and daughter Ashley.

Education program has had the benefit of his expertise in many things — from flower arrangements to CPR. "I do a lot of things," he said. That includes bird watching, fishing, and gardening in the summer at their East Windsor "small farm," raising beef cattle, horses and chickens. He is far from alone in his schedule away from school. Jim's big help has been his wife, Diane Teske O'Brien, his bride since 1984. She is from Enfield. They met at high school in 1979 when Diane was a student-teacher. Today, Diane is "a homemaker." And with her are their two children, Christopher, 3, and Ashley, just 1 year old a week ago.

**GETTING AWAY** on vacations for Diane and Jim means, ". . . a lot of camping." Opening day for the fishing season also means a reversal in role playing, Jim said. Years ago his father took him fishing on the first day, and

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now it's Jim's turn to take Christopher.

Just to add exercise, in the form of running, to Jim's long list of accomplishments, he has only missed two Manchester Road Races since 1971. In 1982 he ran in the Boston Marathon, and finished the 26 mile, 385 yard race. His comments about the race, "I thought I was going to die the last 10 miles; it was a hot day and I had cramps." To Jim, it was another experience he can now tell about.

When he is not farming, teaching, coaching, running or being a father, Jim is active in several organizations: Connecticut High School Coaches Association, Windsor Locks Teachers Association, National Science Teachers Association and, in keeping with the bird watching, the National Audubon Association.

When Jim was asked who he most admired, he quickly said, "My mother. She gave us good basic values." For Jim, who has tried many things in his years as teacher, coach, soldier and athlete, he became philosophical when he related the following: "It's OK to fail . . . (but) to get up and try again . . . failing is part of life, but one must get back up and continue on."

### Epilog

I met Jim several times at Reillys, and interviewed him on a break at the high school, and he always has a smile ready whenever we met. He served his country, as his father did before him. Now he's doing what he likes best.

He summed it up by saying, "After 17 years, I still enjoy the kids and the job. . ."

## Kimberly Burke: 'The Music Girl' of Windsor Locks

Kimberly  
Burke



Kimberly Donise Burke, a well-traveled young lady, recently starred in the high school musical, "The Music Man", as "Marion the librarian". Kim comes by her talents naturally. Her parents, Gary and Patricia Burke and two brothers, Mark and Jeffery, and herself, are all musically inclined.

Kimberly made her stage debut at the age of seven at Eastern New Mexico University in "Fiddler on the Roof". Now a high school senior, she said she "is going to give it a try," when she spoke of her future plans in the field of music, which include college, and maybe even the sounds of Broadway. The life of Kim did not start near Broadway, but in Norman, Okla. She also lived in Iowa and New Mexico before her family settled down in Windsor Locks at the beginning of her high school years. At the age of nine months, Kim moved to Iowa City, Iowa, where she began her schooling at age five. At seven, Kim and

her family moved to Portales, N.M. While there, her father taught at the Eastern New Mexico University. In 1984, Windsor Locks, where friends and college classmates of Mr. Burke lived, was their next and final home, where Kim began her freshman year at the Raider School. Today, Mr. Burke is in the insurance business in Springfield.

**KIM HAS BEEN VERY MUCH INVOLVED** the past four years, namely as a representative of local students with the Hartford Courant Youth Forum and as editor, her freshman and sophomore years, of the school newspaper, "Raider Review". Music has been her main interest however; she has been in the concert and marching bands, chorus and jazz chorus and jazz band at school. In addition, Kim has been in the Regionals, the NCCC (music) All State and the National Honor Chorus. This past February, Kim was one of eight Connecticut students who met in the city of Philadelphia as members of the National Honor Chorus and performed with other students from all over the country, singing a classical piece in Latin.

Instruments and singing along have been the Burke family trademark. Kim's mother plays the piano (as does Kim), and Mrs. Burke and her husband were gospel singers while living in New Mexico. Kim also plays other instruments, as do her brothers Mark and Jeffery — on the sax-

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ophone and drums, respectively. Mark is 15, a freshman at the high school, and Jeffery, 12, is at the Middle School. Jeffery recently made a trip to Maryland as part of the annual Sixth Grade Basketball game.

Kim's future plans? To attend the Oklahoma Christian College in Edmond, Okla. this fall. She is to study Music Performance, trying radio work and doing musical plays. She auditioned and received a "Distinguished Performance Scholarship", from the college of which her parents are both graduates.

**THE YOUNG LADY**, who starred in another successful local musical with Al Gordon, as "Howard Hill", had seen the movie of "The Music Man" before starting rehearsals for the show. She admitted that, she hasn't seen a Broadway show, but hopes to in the future.

As for aspirations in the theater, Kim had this to say: "I realize it is a tough field (to break into), but I'm going to try...college (should) develop my talents." How does she feel about appearing before a live audience? "I frankly, do not get nervous. . . no butterflies; but its a lot better than appearing, say, before just two in the audience. I prefer 1,000 people to two." Her parents, who she said, "were

very supportive," were in the audience at more than one performance of "Music Man".

Does Kim have other hobbies and favorites? "I love art and try to go to art museums, whenever I can. . .and (also) photography." Her favorites are cheese, music of all kinds except country, James Bond movies, comedies, Meryl Streep, Moonlighting, The Cosby Show and Cybill Shepherd.

Kim has lived in four states, and with her family, has traveled and seen thirty-seven of the states. Last summer, the family went back to Oklahoma and journeyed throughout New England, which included Cape Cod.

When asked if she had thought much about a philosophy of life, she said, "Life can only be what you make it," and to Kim, the best part is that her parents have been supportive. Kim admires them greatly, adding, "I have put them through a lot. . .they have strong religious beliefs and (to me) are wonderful."

#### Epilog

Kimberly Donise Burke: add her name to the list of female musical stars that seem to shine each year in the annual Senior Class presentation. From past years, two young ladies, we remember. . .Janet Frawley (My Fair Lady) and Diana Runde (Dolly), both interviewed in C&K columns, back in 1976.

Break a leg Kim, when you hit Broadway.

# Lenny Patient: A Devoted Volunteer in Town

Leonard Joseph Patient has been a resident of Windsor Locks for the past 16 years. As a young citizen, he has volunteered in several civic programs: the Lions Ambulance Corps, the town's Civic Preparedness Department, and last year, he joined the local fire department.

Lenny is another example of a talented citizen becoming involved for the common good. The father of four, he is originally from Fitchburg, Mass.

Lenny's father, the late Leo Patient, and his mother, Yvonne Surette Patient, who resides in the Southwest Housing for Senior Citizens, are also from our neighboring state. Lenny came to Connecticut at the age of seven, where his father accepted employment at Pratt & Whitney and the family moved to East Hartford. After grammar school, Lenny attended East Catholic for two years, then graduated from South Windsor High School, where he played basketball. The Patients moved to Windsor soon after Lenny joined the United States Air Force in August of 1964. The next four years found Lenny serving in Texas, Ill. and Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, as an aircraft mechanic. Upon completion of active duty, Sgt. Patient joined the Bradley Field National Guard unit.

As with many returning veterans, his future plans were in the "what to do next," stage. He took a few odd jobs, one being at Pratt & Whitney, but found the various positions "uncomfortable." Taking a hint from his parents, who had attended a Motel/Hotel school in Florida, Lenny went south for some special training. After their indoctrination, Lenny's parents operated a motel in Brattleboro, Vt. With Lenny's training and additional expertise, from his parents, he was able to work part-time at a hotel in Amesbury, Mass. for a year.

As a hairdresser in Windsor, Dora Ghiggeri had met a great many ladies. One of her customers was Lenny's mother. As the story goes, Lenny's mother introduced Dora to Lenny. Lenny, thinking back to their first meeting, and their subsequent engagement period, remembered that working at a hotel in another state and keeping long hours

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was not a good arrangement. He left the hotel and returned home. Lenny and Dora were married in July 1970, the boy from Fitchburg and the girl who was born and raised in Windsor Locks. Today, Dora is still a hairdresser, but only part-time, and they have four children: Matthew, Wendy, Tina and Michael. The oldest son, Matthew is 14, a freshman at the high school, where he plays JV soccer and is a diver on the swim team. A few years back, Matthew played Little League, and today, he roots for the New York Mets, while his dad is a faithful Yankee fan.

Wendy, 11, is in the fifth grade at South School. Tina, five, goes downtown for nursery school at the Congregational Church. Michael, at two, completes the family.

When Lenny returned to Connecticut, he worked at Dexters for a few years. But in 1974, he switched gears, joining the Department of the Army at Bradley as a Civilian Technican. That's where he works today; close to home, on Stevens Street, where the Patients have lived for the past 12 years.

Lenny's contributions to town programs have included the Lions Ambulance Corps for three years, five seasons with Civic Preparedness and, as mentioned, the Windsor Locks Fire Department, which he joined last November. When asked about his new role as fireman, he said, "I'm new . . . just want to help out . . . it's a great group of guys . . . (which goes along) with the town of Windsor Locks — it's small and we like it."

Lenny has had several hobbies: fishing, working on cars, woodworking, just "tinkering around the house," and relaxing, "If I can." He's been a member of the Yankee Power Boat Racing Association, and one time, was into hydroplane racing.

A few years back, Lenny, Dora, Matthew and Wendy made a trip to Italy. The Patients have also traveled down south, with Texas a special place, the same category that Italy falls into, according to Lenny. These are two places that he would like to return to, in keeping with his new philosophy of life: to "try to slow down a bit."

When asked who he most admired, Lenny said, "My father . . . after he passed away, I realized what he did in his lifetime . . . and the help he gave to the family. He was a busy man . . . I (truly) miss him . . . I didn't take the time



Dora and Lenny Patient

(to appreciate) him, until he was gone."

### EPILOG

Leonard Joseph Patient, young man on the go, always ready to help out where needed. Danny Thomas sums it up: "Success has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It's what you do for others."

# Al Gordon: Young Man with Ability to Go On

Al Gordon was Professor Harold Hill in the senior class musical "The Music Man." He has now taken on a different role — as valedictorian of the Windsor Locks High School class of 1988.



Al Gordon

As a high school student, Alfred Sebastian Gordon has been an active member of the high school music department's five performing groups. When he was 12, Al performed as young Patrick in the school's presentation of "Mame".

Al is the son of Sam and Carol Gordon. He was born and raised in town, attending local grammar schools, and after graduation next month he plans to attend Cornell University, to pursue a career in consumer economics. But, you can bet, if there are

songs to be sung, and musical plays to be performed, Al Gordon will be on stage at the university, which is located in Ithaca, N.Y. Al's sister Linda, a local high school graduate of the class of 1986, is now a sophomore at UConn.

Before high school, Al was a boy scout, played basketball and was a member of a little league team. He delivered newspapers and was a member of St. Robert's CYO. He is now also a member of St. Mary's youth group, with both churches having the benefit of Al's singing talents.

Al's list of high school involvement reads like a Who's Who in the school's musical agenda: jazz band and choir, concert band and choir, show choir and drum major of the marching band, which earned the title of State Champion. Al made the recent Florida trip with the concert band and choir.

THESE DAYS, when Al is not at the schoolbooks, he works at the local First National store, then sandwiches homework and musical rehearsals into his busy schedule. Television watching is limited, but Al has two favorites, "Cagney & Lacey" and "L.A. Law". His favorite TV performer is Bill Cosby.

As a veteran performer himself, in "Mame", "Bye, Bye Birdie" and (in the orchestra) "Annie, Get Your Gun" and "Oliver", Al's favorite Broadway show is "My Fair Lady." When asked if there is a movie that stands out in his mind, he said, "Stagedoor, with Katharine Hepburn". A 1937 movie is a long way back for this young man.

Where does this love of the theater and music come from? According to Al's mother, Carol Ciccaglione Gordon, a native of Hartford, "I love music, but have no talent myself, but Al's interests comes from his grandmother, Lucy Ciccaglione, who sang semi-professionally, a few years ago."

Saying his mother is "not a typical backstage mother," Al, in identifying her role, said, "My mother goes beyond being just my mother, she's everybody's mother," referring to her active part as chaperone at different functions of the

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school's music department.

Al also referred to his mother, who made the trip to Florida with the concert band, as "Mom Band-Aid", a loving title she has earned over the years as the mother with the necessary pins, band-aids, and other items, the kids may need at the last moment.

WHEN THE SUBJECT OF VALEDICTORIAN, and its honor, was mentioned, naturally, Mrs. Gordon said she was proud of her son. Thinking about it, she said, "Al has always been a top student . . . I wish every mother could have a son like Al."

Al is a member of the National Honor Society, and he is a National Merit Commended Scholar. In addition to the musical groups, he is a member of the school's math team, which recently placed second in the state and sixth in a New England meet.

As mentioned, Al plans to attend Cornell. He was interviewed by the "Cornell Tradition", an alumni association whose main function is assisting prospective Cornell students. Al intends to study economics, but feels he has the ability to do what he wants. "I do enjoy music, and am confident I can be very happy (doing) something dif-

ferent. I have the ability to go on. . ."

Al had only admiration and praise for his mother, saying, "When I think of the future, I want to treat (my kids) as fairly as I have been treated by my mother." The young scholar and musical enthusiast has a very simple philosophy: "I feel you should do what you want, what makes you happy. You can achieve what you want."

### Epilog

In "The Music Man", Professor Harold Hill is a salesman of musical instruments and band uniforms. He eventually leaves town on a freight train after collecting his money. He breaks a few local hearts, falls in love with a librarian, is exposed, and then is forgiven by the townspeople when it becomes apparent that the town is a happier one, even if poorer, for his presence.

Al Gordon's presence in "The Music Man" left the audience happier and richer. As this young man goes on to college, he brings with him high hopes for the future.

# John Flanders: He's Giving Something Back

*"Life should be fun . . . (but) you must give something back . . ."*

John Mark Flanders, born, raised and educated in New England, has experienced working in the south, and today, is quite settled back home, in business, politics and civic duty.

He is the son of C. Glenn and Dorothy Flanders. He is a young man who enjoys life, but realizes you must give something back. He's doing both, with plenty of gusto.

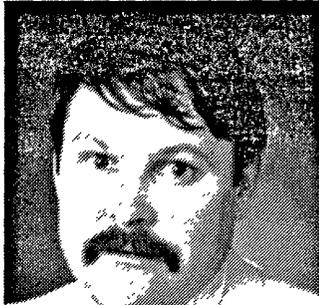
This is not the first time, we have had the pleasure of interviewing members of the Flanders family. Back in October 1976 it was the patriarch of the family, Cy Flanders, John's grandfather, and in May 1979, his mother, Dorothy Flanders, was the subject for Mother's Day.

John attended St. Mary's and graduated from the local high school in 1975. He played soccer and was a shot-put specialist on the track team. Growing up in a "democratic house," John had a taste of the political life as early as the fifth grade. In high school, he worked on Con O'Leary's first try at office.

Further schooling and politics were on John's agenda during four years at Brown University in Rhode Island, the alma mater of his grandfather and father. He said, "I did some politicking . . . not a great deal — worked on Sen. Frank Church's presidential campaign." He was also a member of the Brown Key, which he said, was a "facsimile of the Lions Club, doing charitable work in the area." The political science and math major also found time during the four years to play rugby, a sport he still occasionally plays in Hartford, as a member of the "Outlaws."

AT BROWN, JOHN WAS RECRUITED by a southern textile company, and after graduation he journeyed to Charlotte, N.C. to work as a Quality Assurance Engineer, which he did for a year. He was then transferred and promoted to quality control manager in Dalton, Ga. for a four-year period.

Christmas 1983 marked John's return to his hometown in Connecticut. He said, looking back to that time, "I just



John Flanders

wanted to work for myself." He entered the world of insurance as an independent agent for Aetna. In February of last year, John joined his father as a member of the Brett-Flanders Insurance Agency, with which his father has been associated for the past two decades.

John has had a diversified career since leaving college. As a young student, he wanted to be a teacher, then planned a career in law. He worked in industry and now seems settled in the business of insurance. Not being one to stay still, John intends to go back to school in the fall, "to get my MBA . . ."

John is a member of the Democratic Town Committee. Does he have any political ambitions? "If the opportunity presents itself," he said with a smile.

**HE IS ALSO THE CHAIRMAN** of the Municipal Resource Recovery Authority. John said, "The authority was formed to establish a (new) trash collection and separation procedure." On July 1, the separation of "recyclables," will begin. John emphasized, "We want the collection to be as simple as possible," adding, "This month (June) there will be additional information explaining the new procedure in more detail . . . containers will be supplied to all homes for the collection of the following: newspaper; clean and unsoiled, which includes newsprint, all newspaper and newspaper advertisements, supplements, comics and enclosures; glass jars and bottles and all types of metal cans."

John's other civic and fraternal activities include the North Central Connecticut Governor's Committee on Hiring the Handicapped. "My grandfather is very involved in this activity and also acts as historian," he said. John is also a member of the University Club of Hartford; the Central Connecticut Brown Club; and for the past year, the Mensa organization.

John describes himself as "an avid reader . . . (who) enjoys music, from jazz to the blues . . . skiing in Vermont and playing golf." As far as sports, he is "disappointed in the Red Sox, but still follows them — along with the Whalers and Celtics."

He admires "a lot of people, (but) if I (must) name one, it would be Teddy Roosevelt . . . he did something with this life." He added, "I see a lot of my grandfather in me, who (as we all know) is outgoing." For John, "life should be fun, and we must give something back."

## Epilog

John Mark Flanders, an outgoing individual who went south only to return to his roots, believes in getting into the

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action right away. John is giving something back to his community; and keeping the tradition of being active, as the Flanders have before him.

# Marshall Brown:

Marshall Brown and I go way back. In the early 1960s, we were both employees of the Combustion Engineering Inc. accounting department. Today, Marsh is still working with numbers. He is a veteran GOP member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, where he has taken his role "very seriously," since 1972, as he does his position at CE and as the father of three active children.

He grew up in West Hartford, the son of the late Warren and Lily Brown. His mother was from New York City. His father, who was from Williamstown, Mass., was a well-known CPA, and is best remembered for his work on the famous Waterbury, Conn. political trial, a big headline story in the late 1930s.

His son, whose full name is Marshall Hughes Brown (all family names), has been a Windsor Locks resident for the past 26 years. He graduated from Hall High School. Even in high school, he wanted to follow his father in the accounting field. At Hall, Marsh, a member of the class of 1949, was involved in the preparation of the yearbook, and had an after-school job.

After graduation, Marsh went west for a year at Tri-State University in Angola, Indiana. He returned east to work a year, before being drafted into the U.S. Army in September 1951. With basic training at Fort Lee, the young soldier was "off to Korea" for the next two years. Recalling those days, he said, "in Korea, the winters were cold, the summers very humid — a country filled with rice paddies. . .sure, I have watched the television show M\*A\*S\*H. . .and I know where they were coming from. . .we had a M\*A\*S\*H unit in our area."

RETURNING TO CIVILIAN life, Marsh lost no time in continuing his education, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in accounting from Hillyer College, now the University of Hartford. His first post-war job was at Kaman, lasting four years, and after a short stay at Hamilton Standard, he joined CE in 1963. Today, Marsh has a quarter of a century at the Windsor-based company in the Nuclear Contract Accounting Department.

Back in his high school days he met a Hartford girl, Joan Bellefleur, while she was enrolled at Mount St. Joseph Academy. They attended each other's high school proms. Joan went on to St. Joseph's College, graduating in 1953, with a bachelor's degree in child psychology. They dated frequently before Marsh went off to the war zone and they were married a few years after his return. Joan taught first and second grades in Hartford, for over three years, until their first child, Susan, was born.

Marshall and Joan now have three children: Susan, Marshall Jr. and Christopher. The Brown children all went to Northwest Catholic High School. Susan graduated from Bay Path College and is employed at Cigna. She was married on her parent's anniversary last year to John P. Giovannucci, a Hartford lawyer. The newlyweds reside in Windsor. John is active with the Greater Hartford Jaycees, and next month will be busy as beverage concessions chairman at the annual Sammy Davis, Jr. GHO golf tourney in Cromwell.

Marshall Jr. who attended the University of Hartford, is self-employed as a light and sound engineer. Christopher, a University of Connecticut graduate, lives and works in the Fairfield area as a salesman.

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ONCE THE CHILDREN were in school, Joan went back to her role as teacher. Today, she's at North Street School, and has taught first graders for the past two decades.

Although they have often taken vacations close to home — the Browns are ones to travel to other countries. They have visited Sweden and Denmark, and did something different when they traveled to Europe (on another trip) by plane, returning on the ocean liner, Queen Elizabeth Two. They loved it; there was no jet lag. Time spent on Cape Cod meant boating for Marsh. He has recently taken up the game of golf. Marsh and Joan have a dual hobby: cooking their favorite foods.

In town, Marsh has been an active citizen, with six years service on the Republican Town Committee. He's been a regular on the Zoning Board of Appeals the past 16 years. "I feel (serving) is a responsibility to the town that I take seriously," he says.

Both Marsh and Joan admire former presidents. Joan mentioned Harry S.

Truman, "a humble man, with a lot of guts." Marsh admired Franklin Roosevelt — a man with a lot of spunk."

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# Serving Is a Responsibility



Marshall Brown Sr. (back row) and his family including son-in-law John P. Giovannucci and (front from left) Marshall Jr., Joan, Susan and Chris.

#### EPILOG

Marshall Hughes Brown is a quiet man, who has a lot of spunk himself. It's not always visible, but it's always there. Joan

was asked for a few words to describe her husband. She said, "very loving and caring."

She had to leave the room during our talk for a few moments, and Marshall was asked the same question. Without hesitation, he said, "She's my best friend." You just know Joan would agree.

# Chuck Bonadies: 'Needs of Students Come First'

As a young boy growing up in Hartford, baseball was Chuck Bonadies' life. Today, he is still interested in the national pastime, but his full attention is geared to the education of his three children and the students in his adopted town. The former baseball player and teacher of over twenty years was recently named to the Windsor Locks Board of Education.



Chuck Bonadies

Charles Nicholas Bonadies was recommended by the Democratic Town Committee to fill the vacancy when Shirley J. Hespelt resigned.

He is the son of Nicholas and Eleanor Bonadies, Hartford natives, now enjoying their new roles as retirees in Vermont. Chuck is married to the former Linda Drouin, a Willimantic girl. They have three children: Nicholas, Charles and Kimberly, who are presently in the school system.

But before the story of Linda, their children and the influence of Chuck's parents, we must go back a few years.

As mentioned, baseball was Chuck's life — night and day. He even had dreams of becoming a major league catcher. He played Little League and American Legion. Chuck was captain of the Weaver High School team, class of 1961. An injury before the final year at the school curtailed his playing time, but he never lost the desire to play the game he loved best.

With a baseball career just about over, Chuck entered Central Connecticut State University. He left school in his second year. "I wasn't sure what I wanted," he says. He tried construction work for a time, had second thoughts, and realized, "I guess I always wanted to be a teacher." He returned to school, receiving a bachelor of science degree from Central in education. Nine years later, Chuck earned a master's degree in administration and supervision from the University of Hartford.

**HIS FIRST TEACHING** position was in Southington with fifth-grade students, lasting a year. He returned to his native Hartford to teach English and math in the seventh and eighth grades at the Brackett/Northeast School. Another assignment found him at the Fox Middle School until 1973, when he moved on to the Naylor School, again teaching grades seven and eight. The past two years he has taught the fourth grade because he "wanted a change." Chuck has also served as an acting vice-principal during his tenure in the educational field.

Chuck has two brothers: Gerald, who lives in Simsbury,

and John, who is in the Navy out on the west coast. They come from a political family. Their father held several positions in the Hartford Democratic party. He retired as the Registrar of Voters for the capitol city. With these types of family connections, Chuck was bound to be interested in politics, and has been in Hartford and as a follower of local politics since moving here twelve years ago. He became a member of the local Democratic Town Committee in January of this year.

**AS FOR HIS FAMILY:** eighteen years ago young Charles met Linda at a friend's house in Newington. In November 1971, they were married, living first in Hartford for four years before moving to town in 1976. Linda is a graduate of Windham High School, and a full-time real estate agent. Both Linda and Chuck (he's a broker) are members of the Greater Hartford Board of Realtors.

Their oldest child, Nicholas, is 15 and a freshman at the high school. He played Little League, and this past fall he was on the school's football team. Charles, 13, is an eighth grader at the Middle School, where he played baseball after his Little League days. Kimberly, 10, is in the fourth grade at the South School and wasn't about to be left out in following in her dad's footsteps. She, too, has taken up the game, as a member of the Little League softball Lions team.

Chuck is looking forward to serving as a member of the Board of Education. He does not want "to be a passive member, (but) an effective member, bringing (effective) changes, where necessary . . . . The needs of the students come first . . . . The core of any educational system is being in the classroom . . . ." The father of three and an educator for twenty-one years, he adds, "I believe the Board of Education should lead, not follow . . . (it should be) the spokesman for the people of Windsor Locks."

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**WHEN IT COMES** time for relaxation, Chuck is an avid reader, with politics and the Civil War (his favorite period in history) occupying most of his spare moments, in the comfort of their new home on South Center St. The family sport is skiing in Vermont. Chuck's favorite personal sports are bike riding and running, with one marathon to his credit. He has taken young Nicholas for a long bike ride. The two bicyclists made a 100 mile trip to Vermont, visiting the grandparents, in six hours. As for spectator sports, he grew up in a New York Yankee family, and today still roots for the Bronx Bombers.

Admiration for others is no mystery for Chuck. He says, "My parents, for the love they have given me, my wife and children, over the years."

His personal philosophy was quite poignant: "The most important thing in my life is my relationship with my God . . . . I believe if I set my priorities right with God, everything else will fall in line . . . (for me) it's God, my wife and children . . . ."

### Epilog

Charles Nicholas Bonadies leads the full life. Family, work, sports and quiet relaxation fill his daily agenda. He has taken on another role, is serious about his responsibilities and looks forward to the challenge.

To paraphrase some words of a famous writer: They could have chosen a sparrow, but instead, they chose an eagle.

# Sandra Kanigowski: Making the World Better

Sandra Kanigowski is working on a new project with other local concerned citizens as member of the newly-organized Windsor Locks Housing Task Force, named by the Board of Selectmen.

The New Jersey native has lived in town for the past five years, attending PTO and Board of Education meetings. "People should not complain, if they do not know all the facts . . . (we) should all show an interest in town affairs . . . Dave (her husband) and I want to know what is going on," she said.

As mortgage counselor for the Connecticut National Bank, Sandra plans to use her knowledge, with nearly 10 years in the banking community, as a member of the task force, its main function being making "recommendations in connection with creating affordable housing in town."

Better known as Sandy, her story began in Camden, N.J. just across the Delaware River from Philadelphia. She attended grammar school in Camden and graduated from Camden Catholic High School in 1973.

Today, Sandra Herman Kanigowski is active in banking circles, although at first, she did not pursue that line of a career. In high school, where she was a member of the National Honor Society and on the yearbook staff, she said, "I knew what I was going to be . . . a veterinarian."

But the "competition was fierce, getting into a veterinary school," she said. She had to seek another career, so she entered Rutgers University.

At the New Jersey college, Sandy had various jobs outside of class, which included her "love for animals" — working for a veterinarian and at a pet shop. She recalls: if you remember the first "Rocky" movie, the boxer met his future wife at a pet shop. Sandy met her future husband, David Kanigowski, as he wandered into the pet shop, although he was not a boxer. He was working in a bank which was located in the same mall as the pet shop.

On Nov. 18, 1978, Sandy and Dave were married. He was from Riverside, N.J. and a graduate of Holy Cross High School. He

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attended college in his home state and is now a student at nearby Asnuntuck Community College. Dave gave up the banking business and is now a computer technician.

The day after their wedding, the newlyweds moved to East Hartford, where Dave accepted a position in the area. They lived there for a year, moved to Vernon for the next four summers and then to Windsor Locks in 1983. After five years, the young couple has found the town "warm and a place called home . . . we love the very small town feeling."

Six years ago, their daughter, Carolyn Kanigowski was born. She's a kindergarten student at the North Street School. Carolyn already has a claim to fame . . . she was in the Miss American Princess Pageant, held at the University of Hartford. Her proud mother said, "Carolyn has no problem meeting people — you might say she's a little ham . . . takes after me, I was involved in college theatrics — and she has even won a trophy for bowling at Bradley Lanes . . ."

For Sandy, her involvement with the task force is not the first time she has had an interest in a delicate housing situation that confronts most communities. She has worked with the Hartford Neighborhood Housing Services, assisting in the purchase of homes. Sandy is also a member of the National Association of Banking Women.

Concerning housing in Windsor Locks, she said, "The task force wants to explore all possibilities in affordable property in town . . . it's been an issue (with the town) for a long time . . . we hope (prices of homes) will soon level off . . . Personally, I wanted to be a part of the situation, and with my banking experience, I was selected for the task force." She said that Father Timothy A. Meehan, co-pastor at St. Mary's Church, was selected as the chairman, with Edward V. Sabotka as

vice-chairman. She has the role of secretary. The following citizens make up the balance of the force: Charlene Kearns, Marilyn Amato, Raymond W. Grazyk, Lawrence E. Savoie, Paul H. O'Donnell, Stuart G. Blackburn, Theodore Malec and William P. Frederick Jr.

When Sandy is not attending meetings or providing services as part of her banking position, she's an avid reader, does needlepoint and something she never forgets: . . . " (I) play with my daughter, Carolyn."

Dave, on the other hand, is a handyman around the house, especially in the wood-working department. She's the baseball fan in the family and still roots for the Philadelphia Phillies. Her all-time Phillie favorite is Bake McBride. Today, she looks to see if Mike Schmidt is still hitting homers. Vacations for the family have been highlighted by two trips to Disney World. Sandy is also the outdoor type, with a strong desire for deep sea fishing.

Sandy spoke highly of her father, who passed away two years ago. Mr. John A. Herman, originally from Salt Lake City, Utah, "was a good friend to me," she said. "My father was a man with a very healthy outlook in life." Her mother, Stella Herman, is in a nursing home in New Jersey.

Putting it all together, Dave and Sandy "want to know what is going on in town." Looking at the whole picture, Sandy said, "We want to make the world a better place and (what better way) to start with our adopted town of Windsor Locks.



Dave, Carolyn and Sandy Kanigowski

# Hats Off to Joe Ditto: A Grand Old Gent

When you talk about old-timers in Windsor Locks, Joe Ditto is right up there with that special group of seniors who have left their marks in various fields of employment and benevolent societies.

For Joseph Edward Ditto, it has been the railroad since 1920 — and currently, he is the oldest member of the local Knights of Columbus, Riverside Council 26.

Joe has been a resident of his adopted town since 1941. Come this September 20, Joe will be eight-six — and he is still going strong. He remembers the old days of railroading, when you worked seven days a week; and he has other fond memories of times before he was bitten by the railroad bug.

Joe, son of the late Abraham and Margaret Ditto, was born and raised in Palmer, Mass. His dad, an old railroadman himself, was from Plattsburg. He married Margaret Connelly, who had come to the states from central Ireland. The Dittos

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were a large family, with four boys and three daughters. Joe has a son, Joseph (Jed) Ditto who is a retired pharmacist.

The future railroadman attended grammar schools in Palmer. Joe recalled playing baseball (he was a catcher) on fields, better used as cow pastures. "No fancy fields in those days," he said, "we used an old ball, usually held together with black tape . . . but we enjoyed the game." During those days, when baseball games were over, Joe worked for a local store, earning about ten cents an hour, delivering food to homes in a horse-drawn carriage.

ANOTHER EPISODE in Joe's young life was his role as altar boy at Palmer's St. Thomas Church, over a period of several years. He said that it was a lot different in those days; altar boys had to learn Latin. Looking back, he now feels that, "Folks have a chance to learn their religion better, with the English Mass." These days, Joe attends daily Mass at St. Mary's, not far from his apartment home on Main Street.

Back to the old days, after leaving school, Joe went to work for a brush company, where he earned twenty-nine dollars a week, if you made piece work, he said. He lasted two years at this adventure, saying, "I got sick of being indoors, at a bench. It was for the birds — I enjoyed the outdoors more."

During World War One, with most of the young men off to France, Joe worked on local farms. He was listed for the next draft, but the war ended, and Joe never saw Paris.

In 1920, he joined the world of railroad with the Central Vermont Railroad, starting as a repairman on freight cars. In those days, the other prominent railroads — New York Central, Boston-Maine and New York, New Haven and Hartford — came through the area for any necessary repairs. Joe and his crew worked seven

days a week. He switched to the Boston-Maine for a short time, and in 1926, he went over to the New York, New Haven and Hartford RAILROAD AS AN INSPECTOR OF PASSENGER CARS.

IT WAS ON THOSE passenger cars that Joe met his future bride. Irene Gourley, a Windsor Locks young lady, was a daily commuter from town to Springfield where she worked in an insurance company with several other local girls. Joe and Irene fell in love and were married in June of 1930. Mrs. Ditto passed away on December 29, 1971.

During the more than forty-seven years with the railroad, Joe worked on different shifts. He said that probably the hardest was the "three to eleven," which did not leave much time to socialize with his wife or friends. Joe did recall going to the movies (in Springfield) to a 11 a.m. show, and viewing for the first time a real live "talkie" from Hollywood.

The odd hours also meant he couldn't get too involved in Knights of Columbus affairs. Joe joined the Knights in 1922, when he went through the Third Degree in Munson, Mass. When Irene and Joe moved to her hometown (on Spring Street), Joe transferred his membership to Council 26. Looking back, Joe regrets not knowing more of the local folks, due to his schedule. For the record, Joe is also a member of the Knights Fourth Degree. Joe has been retired from the railroad since September 30, 1967.

In 1977, Joe moved to Spring Garden Apartments. He relocated in 1986 to his present apartment home on Main Street, across from the canal and the Montgomery Building. Joe still remains active, drives his own car, does the shopping, and at home, watches his favorite television programs. He admits, "I know I don't have the speed I had years ago, buttry — had some narrow escapes (in the railroad), but I lived through them."

Reminiscing on the old downtown area, he said, "(The changes) hurt the old people . . . it was a place to meet friends and talk



Joseph Ditto

. . . its been taken away."

While he was growing up in Palmer, Joe said, everyone was a Red Sox fan, but Windsor Locks is New York Yankee territory. A friend of Joe's managed to take a picture at Fenway Park of Ted Williams in action, after the great hitter retired. The picture has a special place of honor in Joe's living room.

When Joe looks back to all those years with the railroad, he says, "I was just one to work; however, it was interesting and I liked what I was doing." Admiration? Joe said, "That would be my dad."

Epilog

Joseph Edward Ditto is an early riser. Henry David Thoreau, once wrote . . . "Cultivate the habit of early rising. It is unwise to keep the head long on a level with the feet."

Hats off to this grand old gent for his lifetime of service in the railroads of the east coast and as a worthy Knight of Columbus.

# Norm Messier: A 'Family-Oriented' Man

Norm Messier spreads his time and energy among many activities. Chiefly, he said, "Everything we do is family-oriented," when it comes to camping and scouting. The Jewett City native still manages to be involved with the local Lions, and holds memberships in the Suffield Knights of Columbus and the Hartford Elks Club.

For Normand Joseph Messier, Jr. its been, what you might say, a normal American way of life: school, sports, service to his country, marriage, family, and now service to his state, working at the Bradley International Airport, at the trade he was taught at the Norwich Regional Vocational Technical School.

Norm, son of Normand, Sr. and Therese Messier, who are retired and living in Florida, grew up in Jewett City with two brothers and a sister. Looking back at that period of his life, Norm said he admired his parents for all they provided at an important time of his youth.

He played Little League in grammar school, and he was into basketball — at the trade school he played two years on the court. In later years, he gave a lot of time coaching Little League and girl's softball.

Learning to be a practicing electrician, after high school he began work at the famed Electric Boat in Groton. For nine months, Norm worked as an outside electrician on submarines. Did he work on any famous subs of the navy? "You might say that," he said. "I worked on the sister ship of the Thresher, atomic sub — sank in the North Atlantic in 1963."

**AFTER GRADUATION** from high school in 1965, the short stay at the Electric Boat was interrupted by the draft into the service. But Norm decided to join the U.S. Air Force. He served from July of 1966 through May of 1970 at Plattsburgh, New York with the 8th Air Force.



Norm Messier Jr.

Norm had met Carolyn Bullock, also of Jewett City, at a teen dance when they were both in high school. She is a graduate of Griswold High School, also the class of 1965. They attended each other's proms and were married in May, 1967, with Norm still in uniform. Carolyn joined her new husband, living in base housing at Plattsburgh. Did she like it? "We were together," she said, and that was most important.

With his service hitch over, Norm and Carolyn moved back to their hometown,

where he went to work for a wire company. He stayed two years, but at that time of his life, he wanted a change. He worked construction for two summers. Another two years at the wire company, until 1972, when Norm accepted a job with the State of Connecticut. He operated from Wethersfield, traveling all over the state. In the summer of 1979, the young couple moved to Suffield, when Norm was given his next assignment, working at Bradley International Airport. The following year they moved to Windsor Locks. Today, Norm is the electric supervisor at the local airport.

**NORM AND CAROLYN** have two sons: Jeffrey and Jason. Jeffrey is 13 and will be in the middle school's eighth grade this fall. His brother, Jason, ten, will go into the fifth grade at North Street School in September. Both boys are into scouting, soccer and basketball. Jeffrey is the singer in the family, while his brother plays the piano.

While Norm is checking the electrical operations at the airport, Carolyn, a licensed practical nurse, is supervisor of patients at the Southend Medical Center in Hartford. In their off-hours, both are very involved in local scouting circles. Carolyn is responsible for the Webelos, as cub master of Pack 261, which has 66 members. The Boy Scout Troop 261 numbers 14, with Norm as committee chairman and scouting coordinator between the Lions, the sponsors of the scouting unit.

Norm has been a member of the Lions for the past six years. He has served on the board of directors, as third vice president and is currently the first vice president. As for the Lions, he said, he "enjoys putting action in Lions projects — it's a good organization. The Lions not only help the people of town, but serve as an international organization."

"We do everything as a family, especially with scouting, and camping, mainly with fishing, which the boys and I enjoy," Norm said. He has been active in other sports: bowling the ducks at Villa Rose in the

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winter, playing an occasional game of golf. The Messier family follows the Red Sox, Celtics and the football Giants. The thrill of meeting big names in sports has not been overlooked by Norm. At the airport, he noticed this big man getting off the plane — it was Larry Bird of the Celtics, who gave Norm a big handshake. On another occasion, Norm and a group of young boys got on the Fenway Park field, where they met another big guy, Walt Dropo, of Moosup, Connecticut.

When the town of Windsor Locks was mentioned, Norm and his family agreed, "It's been a town...we like...super folks...a real pleasure living here."

### Epilog

Normand Joseph Messier lives by a profound and simple philosophy... "Do not rock the boat...do the things that are right."

He emphasized the value of schooling, camping with the family, scouting and sports, adding, "I love the kids... (I get) a lot of gratification from scouting."

Norm found out, "The greatest aid to adult education is children."

# Dick Brennan: Windsor Locks' New 'King Lion'

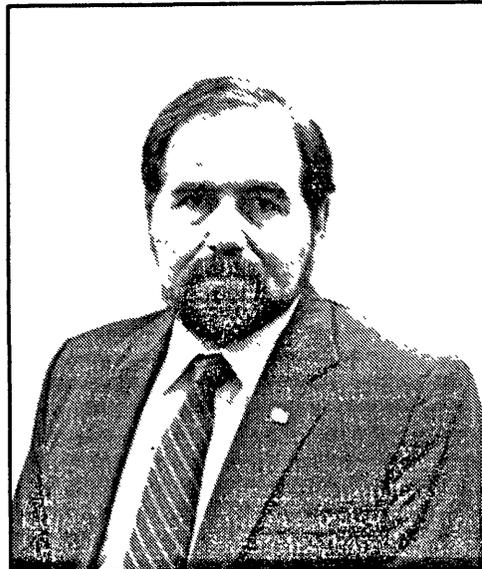
The Windsor Locks Lions recently installed its new slate of officers, with Richard William Brennan as the president for the 1988-1989 year.

Dick Brennan, a member of the "We Serve" organization, is a native of Schenectady, N.Y. At the age of one year, his family moved to East Windsor. Therefore, he is actually "Connecticut-grown" and has seen, as an employee of the state, Bradley Airport develop into an international facility since the early 1950s.

The father of five, Dick is the son of Mike and Helen Brennan. The Brennans are retired and live in Warehouse Point. Mr. Brennan was an employee of American Locomotive in Schenectady before moving to Connecticut.

Dick graduated from Ellsworth High School in 1951, where he excelled in track, basketball and soccer. The three-letter athlete ran the 440 and high jump. Dick's highest jump was 5 feet 6 inches. Discussing today's track stars and higher performance marks, he said, "The kids are unbelievable." Case in point: Carrie Schiessl, our local high jump specialist, recently came in first in the New England Championships, with a jump of 5-feet, 9 1/2 inches. Dick also remembers Ellsworth High School as former state champs in basketball and soccer and the keen rivalry between the Raiders in Windsor Locks and his high school.

**AFTER HIGH SCHOOL**, Dick received his "on-the-job-training" as an electrician, at the Balch Appliance Company, in the fuel and heating field. Three years later, he joined the State of Connecticut as an apprentice electrician. The date: February 1, 1954, when Bradley Field was in its early stages of development. Dick recalled, "The small building, where it all started, not as we know it today. . . the Murphy Terminal Building, the International wing, and the new Terminal "A", built in 1986." Today, with all its changes, Dick has the responsibility of Plant Facilities Engineer, who "organizes and directs the Facilities Department, which includes maintenance of all airport utilities, airfield, grounds and buildings. . . the day to day work related to all authority facilities."



Dick Brennan

We have to go back to Dick's high school days, when he first met Alma Carlson of Broad Brook. The "high school sweethearts," were always close at hand, when Dick was on the field and Alma was one of the cheerleaders. They graduated in June 1951, and the next month married and "honeymooned in Vermont."

The newlyweds lived in East Windsor the first three years, until Dick accepted the job with the state, moving to airport housing, located on west side of the airport, where the Air National Guard facilities are now housed. In 1980, they moved to their current location on Heather Lane, recalling they were in the process of buying their new home at the time of the 1979 tornado that hit our area.

**DICK AND ALMA** have five children: Glenn, Nina, Dean, Brian and Todd. The Brennan clan all graduated from the local high school. The oldest is Glenn, who lives in Windsor with his wife, Phyllis, and their two children. Glenn was in the high school band and like his dad, on the track team. He has an electrical engineering degree from the University of Connecticut. Nina,

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the only girl in this family of boys, is married to David Martineau and lives in Windsor Locks. They have three children. Nina is currently back to school for nurses training.

Dean, a football player for the Raiders, lives in Florida, working at the famed Turnberry Island resort. Brian and his wife Kathy and their two children, live in town. That makes seven grandchildren for Dick and Alma to spoil. Brian was a boy scout, as was Todd, the youngest of the Brennan clan. Todd spent four years with U.S. Navy and now lives at home.

Dick Brennan believes in the Lions, saying, "its a worthy organization, that supports the community." As mentioned, Dick became "The King Lion," after serving "Tail Twister," and three vice-presidents positions. He has had perfect attendance these past five years.

He is an avid golfer, with a creditable sixteen handicap for 18 holes. He bowls at Bradley Lanes, went through the camping stage with the family when the kids were growing up, and a few years back, he was into scuba diving. With this sports background, no wonder the Park Commission in town added Dick (a GOP member) last fall.

**THE LIONS ANNUAL** conventions (held all over the world) have played a dual role for Dick and his wife, who have attended the activities in San Francisco, New Orleans and a trip to Taipei, Taiwan, with a side trip to mainland China. Looking back to that trip, Dick said, "It was a cultural experience." They have just returned from this year's clambake in Colorado.

To sum up Dick's involvement, he is a former member of the Elks, but lately, the Lions are his main activity. He has served as assistant scoutmaster for local Boy Scout Troop 263, which probably goes along with Alma's description of her husband, when she said, "I'm always amazed at the things Dick knows." Adding, "He is a quiet and conservative individual."

Dick said he admired "many people" as he was growing up, but there was one man who stands out — his grandfather, William Van Auken, who "was honest and hardworking."

### Epilog

Richard William Brennan was named after his two grandfathers. He wanted to make that point clear. Dick makes things clear, be it his responsibility to the family, the Lions, or his tasks at Bradley International Airport. When asked his philosophy, he didn't have to think too long. "Be true to your fellow man." Which goes along with the Lions motto: "We Serve."

# Kevin Goes to His First Big-League Game

Last month, at Fenway Park, Boston, seven-year-old, Kevin Joseph Creech witnessed his first big-league baseball game. The young boy's credentials and family heritage for going to a great park or playing, go way back.

Kevin is the nephew of Tom and Jeff Creech, both outstanding local former Little Leaguers; the son of Bob Creech, a member of our town's great 1965 World Champions of Little League; and grandson of this writer, whose only claim to fame was playing baseball before Little League was organized.

Bob Creech went to his first big game at the age of 11, when he saw the Yankees — vintage: Mickey Mantle, Yogi Bera — beat the Red Sox 8-0, back in 1964. Kevin's grandfather, at the age of ten, traveled to the famed Polo Grounds in New York City, with Kevin's great-grandfather, to see the Chicago Cubs play the New York Giants of old, with names like Bill Terry, Carl Hubbell and Mel Ott. That was in 1932. (Sorry, but it was too long ago, I can't recall the score of the game.)

Kevin, his dad, and I, traveled up to Fenway Park in June, to watch the beloved Red Sox do battle with the not-so-hot Baltimore Orioles. The end result was great for the Sox fans, with the final score 10 to three, a victory for the home team.

WHEN A BOY GOES to his first big-league game, it has to be indeed a special event. A boy has to take in everything: the food (hot dogs, popcorn, ice cream and soda), Dad buying souvenirs (a Red Sox hat and helmet, pennant), and a special treat: having his picture taken with five of the top Red Sox stars. The cost was five dollars. However, the money goes to a worthy cause: The Jimmy Fund. The players are cut-outs, with Kevin standing between Hurst and Evans, with Boggs, Rice and Barrett, in front, making Kevin a part of the star treatment. It's got to be something to remember from your first game, no doubt about it.

By this time, Kevin had forgotten the long trip up the Mass Pike and the number

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of times he asked, "How much farther, Dad?" We were at Fenway by 11, plenty of time to eat and get those souvenirs.

It's difficult to figure what's on the mind of a seven-year-old. He was probably amazed at the park and the large crowd. When the game started, it was announced that 34,573 were at the park.

Our seats were in Section 7, right field, up from the yellow foul pole. The gates were opened at eleven-thirty, and we had over an hour before the first pitch. After finding our seats, Kevin and his dad went down, as close to the field as they could, in hopes of catching a foul ball, but no luck.

With some of the 34,000 still trying to find their seats, Cal Ripkin of the Orioles hit a two-run homer in the first inning. The Sox came back in the third inning to go ahead, 3-2, however, Eddie Murray had a solo shot, making it 3-3, in the fourth inning. The Sox, much to the delight of Kevin and the partisan crowd, put together seven singles, and two walks, to score seven runs to seal the victory.

DURING THAT BIG INNING of the Sox rally, the crowd got into the game with those section-by-section waves, with Kevin, his dad and I joining in. Before that, the lack of action meant another hot dog and soda for Kevin, plus filling out an all-star ballot, with the help of his father. No doubt, they voted for most of the Sox players.

After the final out by Baltimore, with Bob Stanley (who relieved Bruce Hurst, one of Kevin's picture buddies) the winning pitcher, the fans stayed a few minutes, just to savor the win: the mighty Sox had won, and had certainly gained a new fan. So, with new hat, helmet, and pennant, it was back to the car, for young Kevin, Dad and "Papa."

I have many memories of past games I

have seen at the Polo Grounds, Yankee Stadium, Fenway, Detroit, San Francisco and Chicago over the past half-century. Bob's twenty years saw a lot of games with his brothers and parents. One of the big moments, as a member of the World Champs, the boys of that summer of 1965 went to the famed Stadium and got to meet Mickey Mantle.

So now it's Kevin's time to fill a new memory bank of games, as player and spectator, of our national pastime. . .because "we play (or watch) a boy's game all our lives. . ."

As we left Fenway, I asked my young grandson if he would give me one word to describe the day. Not one to mix words, Kevin Joseph Creech said, "10 to three," with a big smile on his face. It told the whole story.

### Picking A GHO Winner

With the coverage of the GHO the past ten years (Wethersfield from 1978 to 1983 and Cromwell, 1984 to 1987) I do not consider myself an expert in picking winners, but this year might just be different.

Many writers give handicaps to certain golfers: Raymond Floyd 12-1, Mark Calcavecchia 15-1, and Joey Sindelar 20-1. I'm coming right out and saying who will win.

But first a little background. In 1978, the late Rod Funseth won at Wethersfield, followed by Jerry McGee, Howard Twitty, Hubert Green, Tim Norris and the last year at cozy Wethersfield, Curtis Strange. Peter Jacobsen, Phil Blackmar and Mac O'Grady won the first three years at the

TPC in Cromwell. Last year, Paul Azinger won the event by a stroke over Dan Forsman and Wayne Levi.

As you can see, over the years, that I have covered, there has not been a repeat winner, or in fact, since Ted Kroll won the first golf tournament in this area (1952), there has not been a single golfer who has had a repeat victory, among the top golfers in the United States and Europe.

As mentioned, this year might just be different. I predict that the winner and the golfer who will walk up the 18th fairway on Sunday evening, to the sounds of 40,000, will be Mr. Paul Azinger.

# A Week of Winners: Cromwell, Atlanta, Boston

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## cabbages and kings

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By JACK REDMOND

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Unless you were in Tahiti, or somewhere beyond the limits of a radio, television or newspaper as part of your daily routine, July 18 through 24 had something for everyone, be it golf at the GHO in Cromwell, politics in Atlanta, or baseball in Boston.

Everyone has a choice, but if you know me, I picked all three to watch and listen to, with seven days at the TPC of Cromwell, the nights with my eyes on the television and the Democratic Convention and ear plug to the games at Fenway Park and those rejuvenated players of Manager Joe Morgan.

And the winners: 27-year-old Mark Brooks, from Fort Worth, Texas, who won the 37th GHO tournament in a play-off over Dave Barr and Joey Sindelar; Mike Dukakis won the hearts of the Democratic Party — and what can you say about those Red Sox? At this writing (July 25) they had won 11 straight.

With all three goings on, there are bound to be favorites. I had picked Paul Azinger to win the GHO (he tied for 28th place). Jesse Jackson didn't win either, but proved that he is well-liked inside and outside of Atlanta.

We will not go into politics or baseball any further, not after spending a week at my favorite course, despite the rain and mud. Before we entertain a recap of the week that was, some readers may wonder what a person would do for a week on a golf course. Good question. The 1988 Canon-Sammy Davis Jr. Greater Hartford Open was my 11th year reporting the golf, first at Wethersfield and then, the TPC at Cromwell. As you all know, by now, it was Sammy Davis Jr.'s swan song. Sunday, as my wife and I were walking past the club house, a big black limousine passed by, with Sammy sitting in the front seat waving to the crowd. It was the last hurrah for "The Candy Man."

Back to the week that was: you can deal with that rain and mud, we mentioned, if you come prepared. A big golf umbrella, golf shoes and a jacket. It all boils down to how you want to tackle the course. During the week I only followed certain players (Azinger and Trevino). Not walking with

the crowd, but getting a hole or two ahead, and when they came up to putt, I had the best seat in the house, so to speak.

Before I forget: the following Windsor Locks residents took some time of their own to watch Sammy and friends at the GHO: Ed Ford of the Lions; Peter Linqua and his daughter, Gina; Bob Rumbold, now with Channel 22 in Springfield, doing weekend sports; Marshall and Joan Brown, with their daughter, Susan, who helped her husband, John Gionvannucci, the GHO Beverage Concessions Chairman this year. I must have missed a lot of local folks, but it's a big course, and there were a few thousand around the place for me to spot.

July 18: Farewell from Sammy Davis Jr. with a "thank you from the heart," at the opening ceremonies at the Tournament Players Club of Connecticut. He received a special medallion of the state and replica of the Connecticut flag from Lt. Gov. Joseph Fauliso. (Governor William O'Neill was in Atlanta.) There was golf: a pro-am, with Bob Thompson shooting a 65, and old favorite George Archer in a 67 (He won the GHO in 1971). It was the start of the Red Sox continuation winning streak. Monday, made it five in a row.

Super July 19: The fun day for the kids and the older ones who want to see some different looks at the game of golf. There was rain in the morning; I carried an umbrella for the afternoon, but didn't need it. Hubert Green conducted a clinic for the kids and grown-ups, followed by a longest drive contest, with Dan Forsman winning. Would you believe 319 yards off the first tee? The Red Sox won their sixth in a row, and in Atlanta, Jesse Jackson had his big night.

July 20: It was a day for celebrities to show up, and a few did; chiefly, the big man, any year, Bob Hope. Mr. Hope got the crowd in, and also brought along some fair weather. He was joined by baseball star

Boog Powell and movie stars Leslie Nielsen, Al Freeman and Efrem Zimbalest Jr. The Hartford Whalers were there: Kevin Dineen and "Mr. Hockey", Gordie Howe. Looking fit, former TV star Gregg Morris came along for the ride. Paul Azinger shot a 65 to lead the pros, followed by Connecticut's own Ken Green with a creditable 66. Small World Department: On the fourth hole, I started up a conversation with one of the security guards (it's good to be on their side), John Turro of Middletown, a teacher during the school year. He was a friend and fan of our town's leading coach and manager, Leo Bravakis, who couldn't make the GHO — too busy with his American Legion baseball team. The Red Sox won their seventh straight.

July 21: Let the the serious golf begin. The weather was awful. Play was delayed until 9 a.m. At the end of the first round, Roger Maltbie was at the head of the class with a 64. Joey Sindelar headed a group with 65. He's a good friend of writer Keith Griffin, also from Windsor Locks. Oh yes, the Red Sox won again, and Mike Dukakis had his big night in Atlanta.

July 22: The sun came out, after some rain. I followed Paul Azinger. He was nine off the lead after 36; so much for picking a winner. Young Mr. Brooks came into his own, leading by one stroke over Maltbie and another young man, Clark Burroughs. Brooks had a 66 and 65 for a total of 131. Joey Sindelar was a 137. No more politics, but the Red Sox keep winning.

July 23: The crowd was big and the weather perfect. Now we get down to the final two days, and at the end of the day, a three-way tie featuring Mr. Brooks, along with another new name, Ronnie Black. To complete the threesome was Mark Calcavecchia, all at 13 under par 200. Mr. Calcavecchia has a new caddy, his wife. Those fellows from Boston won again. Tomorrow is the big day at the GHO, but the weatherman (straight from the fair-weather man himself, Charlie Bagley: it doesn't look good).

July 24: We all woke up to rain. Indeed, it didn't look good, but the gods prevailed. A crowd, estimated to be about 65,000, looked on to a sunny afternoon, with the pros teeing off at the first and 10th holes. By 5 p.m., 10 men had a chance to win the GHO. Like I said, if you just got back from Tahiti, Mark Brooks won the GHO, after five years on the tour, his first win. The young blond from Texas won in a playoff on the 17th green with a birdie over Dave Barr. Joey Sindelar was tied with Brooks and Barr after 72 holes at 269. Joey departed on the first extra hole after hitting his tee shot into the water on the 16th. Brooks birdied the par-4 17th to defeat Barr and win the \$126,000.

That was the week that was: The Red Sox kept winning, Mike Dukakis was a winner, but here in Connecticut, the golf fans, The Hartford Jaycees and the charities they support, along with young Mark Brooks, were the real winners.

"Awesome:" that's one word to describe Bob, by his wife Barbara.

Bob Glamuzina has all the right tools, talents and attitude to be the historian of the Lions Club for the 1988-89 year. He's involved in photography, videotaping, believes in the Lions and tackles all assignments with an air of enthusiasm.

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## cabbages and kings JACK REDMOND

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Before joining the Lions five years ago, Robert Walter Glamuzina, a Worcester native, has had a busy history of his own: three-letter High School athlete, Army officer, college graduate with a chemical engineering degree.

Now the father of two, Bob is an employee of Combustion Engineering in Windsor and has lived in town since 1976 with his wife, Barbara, also a Massachusetts native.

Bob is the son of Walter and Pauline Glamuzina who lived in Worcester. "in the same house I grew up in," Bob said, along with his brother, Walter Jr., now of West Palm Beach, Fla., and their sister Melanie, also of Worcester.

The former athlete graduated from St. John's High School in nearby Shrewsbury, class of 1964, where he excelled in basketball, baseball and football. The St. John's football team was a "real powerhouse," losing only one game in the four years Bob played. After high school, Bob entered Worcester Polytechnic Institute, playing a limited game, leaving most of his time for class work, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering in 1968.

Bob met his future bride, Barbara Wolanski, at a dance. She was from Gardner, located north of Worcester, while he was a freshman in college and she was in nursing training. They were married in July 1969. He was doing graduate work on his masters, which he received the next year. The newlyweds lived just off campus for a year.

Bob and Barbara moved south to New Orleans for a year when he accepted a position with Shell Oil. Thinking of making the service "a possible career" after his ROTC training in college, Bob left Shell, joining the U.S. Army as a first lieutenant. After training in Alabama and Washington, D.C. for 11 months, Barbara joined her husband for a three-year stay in Maryland. It was during their time in New Orleans that daughter Brenda was born, who they now say is "our

cajun girl."

In 1974, after Bob's active duty, they came to Connecticut, when he received a job offer from Combustion Engineering. They lived in Windsor for two years. Bob traveled the country as a project manager. In 1979, he switched to Hamilton-Standard, returning to C-E in 1982. Today, Bob is a product manager in the Industrial Boiler Group.

Barbara graduated from Ayer High School in 1964, which most of us remember as the town in which Fort Devens was located, as we passed through, during World War II. Today, she is a registered nurse and for the past 11 years has worked at Kimberly Hall Nursing Center in Windsor.

The Glamuzina family (you may have noticed) all have named beginning with "B." Bob, Barbara, Brenda, and three years ago their son Brian was born. The family pet is a dog — you're right, Bandit.

Brenda, this fall, will be a senior at the

local high school, class of 1989. As a junior she has been active: a member of the National Honor Society, Yearbook Staff, attended Girls' State, treasurer of her class, captain of the Girls Diving Team, member of the concert and marching bands, and was a member of the cast for this year's musical, "Music Man." Brenda and her parents agreed, the class of 1989 is following an active '88 class. Her brother Brian, a Windsor Locks native, this fall will attend nursery school.

Their father, in addition to the Lions, has been active at St. Mary's Church as Lector and Eucharistic Minister. As for his new role as historian of the Lions, Bob's duties include "recording the events through the year." He has been a member of the club's Board of Directors and involved in several projects, but none as rewarding, he said, as the June successful graduating party for the senior class of 1988, held at the Knights of Colum-

bus. B

worked the casino events and the serving of breakfast in the wee hours of the morning agreed, "a rewarding experience and the best way (the planners) could have come up with for the students." Bob videotaped portions of the party in addition to the entire graduation ceremonies.

When it comes to the Lions, Bob remarked, "It's a community service organization, a group of individuals who are proud to serve, a real teamwork unit."

When not at C-E or on some project of the Lions, Bob is a handyman around the house, in the garden, landscaping, working on cars (big ones and radio-controlled race cars), playing golf, photography and fishing in Maine with his father. To round it all off, he roots for the Red Sox, New York Giants and the Celtics.

Admiration for others? Bob's parents came immediately to mind. His father, "a hard worker, mechanic, who wanted his children to have a good education," his mother, "sacrificing for us." Bob admits at one time being in "the rat race" but finally decided to "stop and smell the roses and now I feel a lot better about myself." Why, he even takes Barbara out dancing once in a while.

The "society leader," Brooke Astor, once said, "I believe that the good life is more than doing the best you can for your fellow man, vital as that may be: it involves doing the best you can, in a civilized sense, for yourself. There should be order and grace in your personal life; there should be laughter and friends and, if possible, beautiful things."

Bob is involved, in a civilized sense, be it Lions projects or his personal life with Barbara and the children. He's really smelling the roses.

Note: Parents and/or graduates (Class of 1988) who would like a copy of the video tape (graduation and party) may call Mr. Glamuzina at 623-6167.

# Lions Historian

Bob and Barbara

## With His Own Story



WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL, AUGUST 5, 1988

# 'Everything Can be Solved,' Says Carterud

"It doesn't pay to get upset..."

Bob Carterud came to Windsor Locks via Hartford and Newington. Kathy Carterud came to Windsor Locks via West Simsbury.



They are constantly kidded by friends as being carpetbaggers. They did come to town 12 years ago but are far from being carpetbaggers.

"(We) love Windsor Locks," Kathy said, the more serious one in the family of four, with Bob, the ever-optimistic plumber by trade. Kathy had to admit, "He's a wonderful guy, and with Bob, nothing is a problem" They have a daughter, Julie, and a son, Jeff.

Before the congenial couple met and were married, he was growing up in Newington, his family had left Hartford when he was three, she was enjoying the lifestyle of West Simsbury, when it was much quieter and thinly populated, just west of Route 10.

Bob is the son of Elmer and Doris Carterud, who still live in Newington. Kathy's folks, Ed and Ruth Ahearn, live in "the house I grew up in West Simsbury."

Robert Meade Carterud, the middle name

## cabbages and kings

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is his mother's maiden name, is a big man, with a bigger smile. He learned the rudiments of plumbing at the Goodwin Tech Trade School in New Britain. In his younger days, Bob was an active player in Newington's basketball, football and Little League circles. Kathy and Bob's son Jeff is an all-star, just as his dad was. Speaking of fathers, Elmer Carterud is a retired toolmaker, member of the Windsor Elks and reputation as a fine singer, performing over the area. Bob has a brother, Dick, who resides in Vernon.

Kathleen Ahearn Carterud graduated from the Rock Point Schools for Girls in Burlington, Vt. She attended Morse Business School and met Bob at the Newington McDonald's, when she said "The prices were a lot lower." She went to work at "Little Aetna," and guess who was her boss ... Bob's mother.

They were married in September 1967, living in Bloomfield for seven years before moving to their current home on North Main Street 12 years ago.

Their daughter Julie, 19, is a June graduate of the local high school and is now attending hairdressing school. Julie played on the town's girls softball team, with her father as coach.

Jeff, 12, an eighth grader this fall at the Middle School, has been playing Little League ball since he was nine. Last year Jeff made the All-Stars, and again this year. He was a member of the Lions team with a 16-0 record. He's a pitcher-outfielder in Little League, and was a member of the All-Stars in basketball that yearly traveled to Maryland. His dad is the equipment manager of the town's Little League program.

After family activity, Bob is concerned with his job at Bradley International Airport and an active role in the projects as a member of the local Lions Club. As for Bob's working career ... he joined a plumbing

contractor in West Hartford as apprentice plumber after leaving Goodwin Tech. For eight years he worked as an employee, then deciding he "would go into business for himself."

Bob operated the business out of Canton for the next seven years, specializing in all types of plumbing projects. He sold the business, returning to this first job (with the plumbing contractor) until 1982, taking a job with Combustion Engineering for four years. In December, 1986, Bob took on his current position with the state as Plumbing Supervisor at the Bradley International Airport.

For six years Bob was a "weekend warrior" for the U.S. Army Reserves at the West Hartford Armory, serving in a medical unit as a Spec. 6, or as the World War II veterans would say, staff sergeant.

As a member of the local Lions for five years, Bob has been active as a Lion Tamer, Tail Twister, and the past four years on the

club's Board of Directors. Two projects he has had a "lot fun doing" has been his role as Santa Claus, where he said, "the biggest thrill is when you see the little kids pop out their eyes when you enter their homes," and the recent "super time" he had, with other members, being in charge of the early hour breakfast for the seniors at their graduation party at the Knights of Columbus. Bob only has high praise for the Lions, "an excellent organization working together for the people of Windsor Locks."

When asked what his hobbies were? ... Kathy said, "For Bob, you name it." He is into camping, fishing and an avid car buff, who follows the Red Sox, Celtics and New York Giants. (That seems to be the Lions' favorite three teams.)

Bob has a serious side, when he said "Who do I admire most? ... it would be my father ... a man who worked two jobs all his life. As

kids, my brother and I didn't get to see him much. For a few years, he operated a fish market in New Britain, lost it because he was too good to his customers: but now, he is into golf and enjoying the life of a retiree."

He also had some advice for his children and the world around him... "Everything can be solved ... it can be worked out. It doesn't pay to get upset." His favorite saying ... "You've never done anything, that I haven't tried."

That's the story of the big guy, with the bigger smile, and another lion of a guy, we recently met and talked to ... we have quite a few in town.

"Be fair and honest with people..."

Dick Rolocut lived on Rolocut Road (named after his grandfather) in Broad



Brook. He grew up across the river, however, attended St. Mary's School in town for three years. It was at the grammar school he met his future bride, a local girl, Ann Siemionko.

Ann's father, William Siemionko, now retired, was a builder of big custom homes in Windsor Locks and surrounding towns. Ann is still never far from the building trades; she married Dick, who for nearly 20 years has his own business, preparing land for other big custom homes, with his bulldozing organization. Dick has performed this type of preparation, plus industrial, in practically the same towns as his father-in-law.

As for names, and for the record, Dick's full name is John Richard Rolocut, but due to the many mixups with his dad's name, he's always been known as Richard, or better still, just Dick. His father, John Rolocut, was born in Germany, came to the States when he was three, lived on a farm, married, and with his late wife, Clare, (who was from Fall River) raised four girls and Dick. Looking back at those days, Dick smiling, said, "I was the spoiled brat, with four sisters ... Doris, Blanch, Joyce and Melisa. They lived on the farm, where the family raised chickens, corn and tomatoes. This type of living did not leave much time for Dick to play sports. He said, "None of the kids played (organized) sports, too much work on the farm." But he has no regrets, he said. After leaving St. Mary's, he attended Hartford Technical Trade School to become a tool and die maker. Dick managed to play some football at the trade school.

Dick's first job was inside, at Ziggy Bednarz's Pine Meadow Machine Co. in town, where he served as an apprentice tool and die maker. He lasted three years, "I couldn't stand being inside all the time." He switched to bulldozers (and outside work), obtaining a job, which took about a year, learning the right moves with an outfit in Hartford. Working around the state, Dick stayed two years, moving to another company in Torrington for a summer of outside work. The next eight years he was employed by O.J. Thrall of Windsor, staying with his new found trade of bulldozer operator.

In 1969, Dick went on his own, doing his specialty — site work for new homes and industrial locations in Windsor Locks, Suffield, Enfield and East Granby.

### No Formal Dating

Looking back at his first meeting with Ann (in the eighth grade), he said there wasn't any formal dating but some weekends he would ride his bike from Broad Brook and meet Ann for a movie at the local picture show (that's what they called it then) on her hometown Main Street. Dick also remembers, "Ann was the only girl I went with...." Ann graduated from Our Lady of Angels

## cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

Academy in Enfield in 1953. On April 23, 1955, the girl from Windsor Locks and the boy from Broad Brook were married. Ann is the daughter of William and Helen Siemionko, who live a few houses away from Dick and Ann on Elm Street. Ann has a brother, William, and sisters, Jean, Betty and Rose. Betty and the younger William are twins. The Siemionko family have lived on Oak Grove and South Center streets in town.

Dick and Ann lived in Broad Brook for three years before moving to Windsor Locks 30 years ago. They have six children — the girls came first — Deborah, Marlene and Cheryl, followed by John Jr. (Ricky), William and Steven.

To say the Rolocut children are active in different fields would be an understatement. Deborah, a nurse for the handicapped, is married to Michael Gundersen and they live in Litchfield. Marlene, married to Ken Szelgwa, is a former employee of the Air National Guard. She and Ken live in Bolton. Cheryl and Christopher Davis live in Massachusetts, with Ann and Dick's only grandchild, Jessica Davis, a year old on Aug. 11. Cheryl was a teacher at South School at one time.

The boys, Ricky, studying to be an anesthesiologist (spelling in the dictionary also gave this information: a person trained to administer anesthetics) at St. Raphael's Hospital in New Haven. William, a pilot with the U.S. Air Force (at Westover) for the past four years, "has been flying planes since he was 15." He played Little League in town and football at the high school. Steven works for his father, and like his sisters and brothers before him, graduated from the local high school. He's in the Air National Guard and was recently wed to a local girl, Karen Doak.

As mentioned, a nurse, teacher, service-involved pilot, bulldozer operator and anesthesiologist, and when we say the parents are proud of their kids, it would also be an understatement.

### Enjoys His Work

Dick Rolocut was best described as a "workaholic," a man who enjoys work, be it at home, woodworking, or on the job site. At times, he listens to baseball games, but does not have a favorite team. When it comes to vacations for Ann and Dick... "You name it, we have been to all the islands," Ann said. When their son William was flying around the country, mother and dad just happened to visit Arizona, Texas, Tennessee and California to see and visit him in action. Hawaii, Florida and Spain have also been on their itinerary.

Their favorite place (not as far away) is Rockport, Mass.

Grandfather Dick has a new "love of his life" in year-old Jessica, describing her as "precious." When it came time to give one word on her husband, Ann said, "Yes, workaholic," but added, "a great person." Dick has also been a member of the Knights of Columbus, Lions, the local Fire Department for a decade, the Windsor Locks Chamber of Commerce and the Home Builders Association. Dick had only praise for his adopted town. "It's great, gave my kids a good education." The Rolocut family has another member — a great-looking Boxer — goes by the name of Junior.

### EPILOG:

Dick Rolocut only hesitated a moment when

asked who he most admired. "My father," he said, "he was a hard-working man for his family — fair and honest." This family trait has obviously rubbed off, with Dick, especially when it comes to his business connec-

tions... "My philosophy, be fair and honest with people (I do business with)." Yes, a simple philosophy, but with Dick, a few words by Jon Franklin fit: "Simplicity, carried to an extreme, becomes elegance."

# Dick Rolocut The Bulldozer Man Around Town

# Nick Bott — Well-Traveled Hotel Manager

From the famed Gateway Arch in St. Louis, to the historic past of Boston, Nick Bott has managed hotels in those cities and several others in between, and further west, for the past 16 years.

The Missouri native now makes his home in Windsor Locks, working at his latest assignment as general manager of the Sheraton Hotel at Bradley International Airport.

Locally, in addition to his duties as hotel executive, Nick is an active member of the Rotary Club and the town's Chamber of Commerce.

Nick, with the full name of Dane Nichols Bott, was born in St. Louis, Mo., the son of Tom and Helen Bott, who still reside in the city on the Mississippi River. Nick has a sister, Suzy.

The story of Nick Bott goes back to his early days learning the restaurant and hotel business as a kid. He really became interested when his folks operated a family restaurant.

He played Little League in the city made famous by the St. Louis Cardinals and Stan Musial and proudly said he once played at the old Sportsmans Park, home of the old St. Louis Browns and Cards. I reminded Nick there were a few faithful fans of the Cards, right here in Windsor Locks.

After leaving high school in 1967, Nick attended Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Mo., where he entered ROTC training and earned an associate degree. He continued his higher education at Oklahoma State University, with a bachelor of science degree in hotel and restaurant management.

Nick immediately went into management training for the Stouffer's chain, advancing his new career in three cities — Chicago, Detroit and Boston — spending one year in each metropolis. Which city did he enjoy the most?



## cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

Boston! ...but he remained a faithful Cardinal fan. The Red Sox were in the American League and not the senior circuit.

With his new-found career off to a good start, Nick decided to go on his own, working a year in a restaurant and lounge in Conifer, Colo. Looking back, he said, "I got out ... it was a year of learning in the foothills of mountains, and not a very lucrative business venture."

Nick's next job was "back to Stouffer's," and it meant coming home to St. Louis. He was now into hotel management in his home town. As with all hotel employees, there's a better place or position, and with Nick that was the rule, obviously to better himself. After a year in St. Louis, he moved to his first hotel at an airport, close to the nation's capital, in Arlington, Va. He served three years at this busy section of the country; however, he went west again, in 1980, to Kansas City and the Adams Mark Hotel, near the large Truman Sports Center where the Kansas City Royals (baseball) and the Kansas City Chiefs (football) perform. Actually, the stadiums are in Independence, Mo., home of former President Harry S. Truman.

Nick also managed a Sheraton Independence until March of 1983, when he accepted a job at another airport hotel, this time in Denver. August of 1985 found Nick in Connecticut for the first time at the Danbury Hilton. He was now getting closer to his present position. In the summer of 1986, Nick became the manager, during the construction period of the Bradley Sheraton, and since the opening in April of last year, Nick has settled in town and his new hotel assignment.

During Nick's tenure in Kansas City, he met and married Kim Sharp, who worked at the same hotel. Kim is from Independence. They were married in May of 1981, in her home town. Currently, Kim is employed at the McKenna Travel Agency in Hartford.

Nick and Kim "do travel as much as their schedules allow," he said. When they moved east, and to be near Nick's Windsor Locks connections, they lived in Enfield for a time, then moved to the lock town in December of last year.

Nick's association with the Rotary Club and as a member of the board of directors with the Chamber of Commerce, had this to say, of their adopted town, "Windsor Locks has a lot of promise, because people care, especially the people I have been associated with (since getting involved)."

As mentioned, Kim and Nick live the life of a busy schedule. "We do enjoy our boat on the Connecticut River in South Hadley." Spectator sports cover the baseball St. Louis Cards, but only with Nick. Kim's loyalty still is with the Kansas City Royals. Nick's favorite is still "Stan the Man" Musial, for his role model for all the youth of America.

Back to the hotel business... hotels at an airport? Any difference between them and the so-called normal location of hotels? "Yes," Nick said, "people who travel are in and out (in most cases), they are here only for a short stay (plane schedules and meetings) ... they are on a tight routine, and (it's our job) to satisfy their needs on a timely basis."

Nick Bott, when asked who he most admired, had to go back to his military training at Wentworth... "The Commandant (Col. Perry) taught us self-discipline and he was a man who could reach a lot of people." Nick's own personal philosophy... "Work hard and play hard."

## EPILOG

Nick Bott is a man from the "Show Me State." He has certainly been shown the hotels from the mountains of Colorado to the narrow streets of Boston. He started in military school, but soon found his niche in hotel management.

I'm sure Nick has heard all the hotel jokes, but we could not resist a few short ones... Upon entering a room in a Washington hotel, a woman recognized a well-known government official pacing up and down and asked what he was doing there. "I'm going to deliver a speech shortly," he said. "Do you usually get very nervous before addressing a

large audience?" "Nervous?" he replied, "No, I never get nervous." "In that case," demanded the lady, "what are you doing in the Ladies' Room?"

A pro football player was fined \$100 by his coach for breaking training. He had gone to a party the night before the big game. "Don't think I don't know about that hotel episode in Detroit," the manager roared. "You're way off!" retorted the husky halfback. "There ain't no Hotel Episode in Detroit."

# Redmond Considered

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL AUGUST 26, 1988

## for Fire Commission

BY ANDREW NELSON

Staff Reporter

To fill a vacancy on the fire commission, the Republican Town Committee last week nominated a man best known as a writer.

John P. "Jack" Redmond will become the new member of the fire commission if commission members approve his appointment at next month's meeting. Mr. Redmond, longtime writer of "Cabbages and Kings," received nomination from the GOP to fill the vacancy left by James W. Rumbold, who resigned from the fire commission this month.

With "Cabbages and Kings," a weekly feature on Windsor Locks people that appears in the Journal, Mr. Redmond said he stays involved with town politics and its people. But Mr. Redmond said he wants to join the fire commission to continue a family tradition.

"There was quite a tradition of Redmonds in the fire department in New Haven," said Mr. Redmond, a retired accountant who worked at Combustion Engineering for 21 years. "My dad was a firefighter and my grandfather was an (fire) officer in the turn of the century in New Haven."

With a rich family tradition in firefighting Mr. Redmond said he has sought a place in the fire department since he and his wife Rita moved to town 24 years ago. "I was always interested in getting involved with the fire department," he said.

Presently, Mr. Redmond is an alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals, a position he must forfeit if named to the fire commission. On the ZBA, Mr. Redmond said he has seen much activity this year because of absences. "This year," he said, "I was fortunate to be called in so many times."

He sat on the ZBA for most of the summer, but decided he might have to wait longer for a permanent position on the ZBA. Serving on two town committees would also create a difficulty, he said, because of "Cabbages and Kings."

Since he wrote his first article for the Journal in 1973, Mr. Redmond said he has interviewed more than 600 people and writes an article every week.

In other activities, Mr. Redmond is a

member of the Knights of Columbus, the National Association of Accountants and the New Haven Sheriff's Association. In addition, he volunteers at the information desk at Bradley International Airport one day a week.

Previously, Mr. Redmond coached Little League Baseball in Windsor Locks for two years. He said he coached the Villa Rose Restaurant Team with George Hall, chair-

man of the Democratic Town Committee.

Mr. Rumbold said last week that he resigned after 15 years on the fire commission to spend more time to pursue other interests. The fire commission accepted Mr. Rumbold's resignation with regret on Aug. 7.

Former chairman of the building committee that erected the safety complex on Volunteer Drive, Mr. Rumbold stayed on the commission after the building opened in 1973.

He also coached Little League baseball in town.

Mr. Rumbold received praise from the fire commission after his resignation. The commission plans to send him a letter of appreciation.

The fire commission serves as the regulatory body for the fire department and holds monthly meetings at the safety complex. The next meeting is scheduled for 8 p.m. Sept. 8.

### WINDSOR LOCKS

#### New commissioner joining fire board

John P. Redmond will attend his first meeting as a fire commissioner tonight, replacing former commissioner James Rumbold, who resigned.

Redmond, who resigned as an alternate on the zoning board of appeals to accept the position, has a family tradition of fire service. His father, Joseph, was a fire commissioner in New Haven, and his uncles, James and Patrick, were firefighters.

The board of selectmen appointed Redmond, who was recommended by the Republican town committee, last week.

#### Redmond Named Fire Commissioner

Jack Redmond has been appointed fire commissioner by the Republican Town Committee.

Mr. Redmond previously served as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals for one year before attaining his new position on the Fire Commission.

"I'm very delighted to be on the Commission," said Mr. Redmond.

Originally from New Haven, Mr. Redmond said he has always been interested in the commission and that it was "a well-known fact" in town.

Mr. Redmond's interest may have stemmed from his background. His father and two uncles were firefighters and his grandfather was a fire commissioner as well.

For 21 years Mr. Redmond made a living as an accountant for Combustion Engineering in Windsor before retirement. He also has a background in journalism and is known for his "Cabbages and Kings" column in the Windsor Locks Journal.

THE HARTFORD COURANT: Wednesday, September 14, 1988

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL SEPTEMBER 30, 1988

"There are so many things to do with (one's) life..."

Betty Smith is a happy person. Her outlook on life is refreshing. For this Maine native, hobbies can be fun. Her initial hobby, hooking rugs, began when she was only 9, under the guidance of her grandmother, and her newest, what she calls, "my retirement hobby," of impressionism painting, makes for a busy and satisfying schedule.

Margaret Elizabeth Thulen Smith was born in Kingman, Maine, a small town (way up) in Aroostook County. She was one of five children, of George and Lucy Thulen. Mr. Thulen died in 1985, at the ripe old age of 91. Betty's mother, lived to be a wonderful 95, passing away this past June.

Betty's family moved to Melrose, Conn., when she was 2. She and her sisters, Ruth and Katherine, and brothers, Phillip and Charles, all grew up in Connecticut, when their father decided to come south, "so his children could have a better education."

Betty said her dad worked hard all his life, first as an employee at the Thompson Cider Mill with its vast dairy farm. When Betty was 9, the Thulen family moved to Poquonock where her dad had his own farm, with "outdoor tobacco (broadleaf), and all the kids had to help out (with the farm chores)."

Betty remembers her first three years of education ... in a one-room school in Melrose, which she says still stands today. She graduated from John Fitch High School in 1940 and recalls, "I was lucky to have a job ... with a Hartford insurance company." just before World War II broke out.

In the seventh grade, Betty met Charles Alden Smith, who was born and raised in Poquonock. They were "high school sweethearts," and were married in June 1945, just before Alden, as he is better known as, was discharged from the U.S. Air Force. He had served from 1942 to 1945, mostly in South America. The young couple corresponded for the three years he was away from home. Mr. Smith was a tool and die man, and worked at Royal, Kaman, Hamilton Standard and Pratt and Whitney (as a process engineer) until his retirement in 1983.

#### Two Children

They have two children: Robert and Marjorie, both graduates of Windsor Lock High School. After the war, Alden and Betty, moved to Windsor Locks, (looking back, she said, it was the only place we could get an apartment). They lived on River Road for a decade, and then moved to their present home on Spring Street.

And the children, Robert and his wife, Lynn Phillips Smith, a South Windsor girl, now "live on the top of a mountain," in Troy, New Hampshire, where they enjoy the life

## cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

with their two children, Jeremy 15, and Robyn 13. Robert works in nearby Keene, as assistant superintendent for the Keene Water Works.

Marjorie, who taught elementary school in town for ten years, still resides in Windsor Locks, with her husband, Mark Goodstein, who works for Pratt & Whitney, and their four children, Aaron 15, Dan 13, Douglas 4 and little Sarah, 2 years old.

This most happy grandmother of six, has also had her share of a working career, once her own children were grown. Betty worked for the Hartford Gas Company for three years, and locally, for Fournier Trucking during seven summers, retiring in July of 1982, after additional employment for freight forwarding companies at the airport.

As mentioned, when Betty was nine, her grandmother, Sarah Meagher taught her granddaughter the art of "old fashion hooking" of rugs. Betty's handiwork, skillfully made over the years, is quite evident at the Smith home. Her grandmother has her own place in the history of Windsor Locks; one of

her rugs is "hangin in the Reed House," a rug, she made for Betty's parents, when they were married in 1917.

Hooking rugs has stayed with Betty, as a hobby, and her "true love." She said, "It's fun to do." Betty has earned her share of blue ribbons for this labor of love, especially at the Eastern States Big E. This month she'll be busy exhibiting her talents at the Arts and Craft Building in West Springfield.

#### Turned to Painting

In July, Betty's paintings were on exhibit at the Warehouse Point Library. It was her first public showing, which she calls "my new retirement hobby." Always the optimist, she said, "It's a lot of fun, this rather new type of painting, (actually to her, an easy technique) and something I took up, even though I can't draw a straight line," she said with a smile and her concerned way of saying things. Adding, "About two years ago, I watched on TV, this wet on wet technique an envied others who could paint ... I found it interesting and wanted to prove to myself, I could do it." she did just that and the rest was a public exhibit.

To further explain impressionism painting, a style of painting characterized chiefly by concentrating on the general impression produced by a scene or object and the use of

unmixed primary colors and small strokes to simulate actual reflected light.

#### Also Teaches

Betty, the lady with the well-rounded list of hobbies, also includes teaching CCD at St. Mary's Church. With a friend (Helen), they began a rosary group at St. Mary's over five years ago. She said the attendance at these Tuesday morning meetings at 11, are "most rewarding."

And who does Betty most admire? Not some painter or someone who hooks rugs, not that there are many with known talents, but she chose a famed Windsor Locks resident, the late Ella Grasso. Betty said, "Mrs. Grasso was a woman who had courage ... (the country's) first woman governor, a brilliant woman, who governed the state by herself."

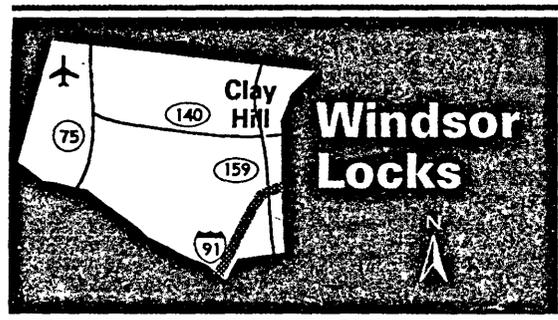
As mentioned, Betty is a most happy lady. To her, "Life is just (being) happy...there are so many things to do with your life...there are things to do every day and just be happy at them."

For Betty, she knows that..."Time is the coin of your life...it is the only coin you have... and only you can determine how it will be spent..." Betty hooks, paints and is involved in church work and most of all, is happy at them all.

# For Betty Smith, Hobbies Can Be Fun



Above: Joe Netolicky scoops shiners to be used for bait into a net inside his bait shop off Dickerman Avenue.



Joseph Netolicky Jr., whose father owns Joe's Bait Farm & Tackle on Dickerman Avenue, has a similarly fond — but somewhat unusual — perspective on the attributes of Clay Hill.

“Our shop’s been open here for about 20 years now and during the spring we get enough worms and nightcrawlers to keep ourselves in supply right from our own property,” he said. “There’s a clay base to the soil, and the topsoil is very rich.”

Joe Netolicky is native born. He grew up on Dickerman Avenue in the Clay Hill section of town. His wife, Carol, was raised in the Big Sky Country of Montana.

The Helena-born mother of their two sons met Joe when he was on active duty out West with the U.S. Air Force. The boy from the East Coast met his young western (bride-to-be) in the late '50s. Today, Joe and Carol reside on Dickerman Avenue where they operate the Joe's Bait Farm and Tackle business.

It's a classic story of two down-to-earth people, from different regions of the country, meeting, corresponding, telephoning, and finally getting together after his completed tour of duty, he from Connecticut, she was back home, exchanging wedding vows in Montana, however, setting down in his home town.

Joseph Stanley Netolicky was born on Dickerman Avenue, the son of Joe and Veronica Netolicky. His father, who was from Westfield, Mass., passed away in 1976. His mother, the former Veronica Stick, is a local girl, and still a hearty 75 years young. Joe has a brother, Emanuel, and sister, Mary, all living in Clay Hill — a real close-knit family.

Joe attended St. Mary's School and after one year at the high school, quit to join the Air Force (November, 1956). Joe served until October 1960, in Texas, Arizona, Montana and South Dakota, as a jet aircraft mechanic. During his service time, Joe completed his high school education, receiving a diploma. Most of his service time was in South Dakota, and what were his impressions? "I loved it ... the scenery was fantastic ... the winters were somewhat colder than Connecticut, but the fishing and hunting made up for it."

During Joe's stay in the Dakotas, his outfit was placed on temporary duty in Glasgow, Mont. The meeting of Joe and Carol ... this is the way she tells the story ... her and a girlfriend were at a local swimming lake and a group of airmen came upon the scene. Carol admits she was attracted to one special airman — Joe. Carol said, "I knew he was the one." On Joe's return to South Dakota, Carol sent cookies, wrote letters, and they shared a few telephone calls.

As they say, the rest was wedding bells, but not right away. Joe returned to Connecticut after being discharged, the letters and calls continued cross country. Joe made the next move — he went West to marry Carol and meet her folks. They were married in November, 1961 and came East to live in Connecticut. During his time, before the wedding, Joe worked at Hamilton Standard.

For the record... Carol Austin was born in Helena, capital of the big sky state. She is the daughter of Alvin and Laura Austin. Her



Joe Netolicky

mother, now 74, was from Seattle, Wash., and her father, a Montana native, still active at 80, as a freelance butcher of cattle, which includes buffalo and sheep. Carol has two brothers, Ernie and George.

#### Two Sons

As mentioned, Carol and Joe have two sons, Joseph A. and Alvin J., both grads of the local High School. They live at home and are employed, like their father, at Hamilton Standard. Alvin was a track star at the Raider School, winning several awards.

Joe's Hamilton career was interrupted several times but he always managed to rejoin the local company and has worked there since 1977.

And speaking of careers, Joe's hobby of fishing will be discussed next, however, Joe did tell of a "high point in (his) military career," back in 1958. His squadron (54th Fighter Interceptor) was honored by winning the Hughes Trophy Award, while on two-week maneuvers in Arizona. Joe, an Airman First Class, was part of the squadron's establishing many new maintenance and other military procedural operations. Joe said the trophy now holds a special place of honor at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo:

Now to the bait and fish tales ... more than 20 years ago Joe decided to turn his hobby of fishing into something he could share with his many friends. Fishing requires bait, and due to the clay base of Joe's property and rich topsoil, worms and night crawlers were in abundance. Joe had a surplus of bait and

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that's how "Joe's Bait Farm & Tackle" got its start.

But Joe doesn't take all the credit. Today, as Joe tells it, "Carol runs the business, no doubt about it. She orders the supplies and does all the work ... she's the co-owner and manager." Carol debated the kind words, only to say, "Joe and our sons are all avid fishermen and I decided long ago to join them, and now we all love to go fishing. I'd rather go fishing than to go shopping."

The last two years Joe had become involved in breeding two types of bass — largemouth and calico (black crappie). On their small farm, Joe has constructed several large water ponds that house the bass in the different stages of development.

### **Growing Too Fast**

How did the young girl from Montana make out in Connecticut? Just fine, but does "miss being away from her parents ... we visit them (as much as our schedule permits) but (frankly) I wouldn't want to live there," Carol said. What about Joe's feelings on Windsor Locks? "I do have one regret, the tearing down of the downtown area and (I feel) the town is growing too fast for me."

Is fishing Joe's only hobby? "Well, I used to save coins and stamps, not anymore ... watch some television, especially the outdoor programs on fishing and hunting, and enjoy the Olympics, and we do go camping."

Carol and Joe, in addition to their bait and fish business, raise a few chickens, turkeys and pigeons. Carol summed it up best... "We have (what you might call) a regular old farm."

Joe quite proudly said, when asked who he most admired, "My mother, who had the foresight (back in the '30s) to buy this land, hold it all those years so we kids could live

here." Joe has a simple but profound philosophy: "Do the best you can ... live each day to the fullest."

Just had to add a fisherman story for Joe... "Here's to our fisherman bold: Here's to the fish they caught; Here's to the ones that got away, And here's to the ones he bought..." And probably at Joe's.

# ***Windsor Locks Native***

# ***Runs Bait and Fish Farm***

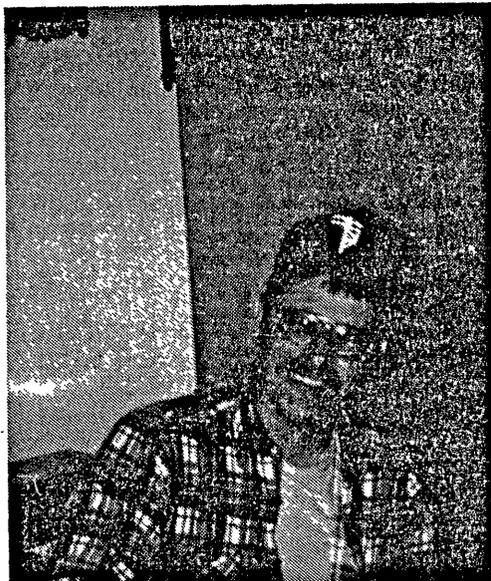
## Vietnam Veteran Finds Lions Tamer

Ron Tirio served more than a year in Vietnam, at the height of the war, mostly in the Mekong Delta. The past four years, the Pittsburgh native has been an active member of the Lions Club and was recently chosen Lions tamer.

From the city of steel to the beaches of Nam, Ronald Curtis Tirio returned to the States to work for two telephone companies as a linesman. In November, Ron will have completed 20 years, first with the C&P Telephone Co. and SNET.

First, the story of the younger Ron Tirio, son of Nick and MaryFran Tirio of Pittsburgh. His father is still in the baking business, in the city made famous for the Pirates and Steelers. Ron did play some sandlot football and Little League before going to high school.

At the age of 18, Ron quit high school to join the U.S. Navy. In August 1964, after boot camp at Great Lakes, Ron was sent to Washington D.C. for a year. The next assignment, before going overseas, was to San Diego for an eight-month stay, learning the operation of the Landing Ship Tank. This training proved invaluable, as Ron was shipped to Nam in September 1966, serving there until November 1967. Ron's main duty was transporting soldiers to the beaches, saying, "I saw some action, and (frankly) it was enough for me."



Ron Tirio

It was in Washington D.C. that Ron met his future bride, Colleen Goodwin of Clinton, Md., just outside the nation's capital. Ron and Colleen were married in November, 1967. Ron still had service time to fill, returning to the West Coast. Colleen stayed home and worked for the telephone company.

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When Ron was discharged from the Navy, he and Colleen lived in Clinton until 1979. They have two daughters ... Rhonda and Teresa. Rhonda, 18, is a recent graduate of the local high school, is employed by the Delta Industries in East Granby, and this month will attend Bay Path College to study business administration. Teresa, 16, is a junior at the Raider School and works part time at the First National Store.

Today, both Ron and Colleen are employed at SNET, and have been since their arrival in 1979. Colleen works close to home, in customer service at the local phone store. Ron, as a linesman, operates out of Enfield. What made them come to Connecticut? They moved to town after spending some vacation time visiting one of Colleen's cousins. They have not regretted the move. Now vacations are limited to Pittsburgh and some camping in Massachusetts.

After being discharged in 1968, Ron joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion and holds memberships in the local veterans' organizations. Four years ago, he became a member of the local Lions Club. Ron has served on several committees,

worked on the Christmas parties and the recent high school senior party at the Knights of Columbus. This past June he was picked for the role of Lion Tamer ... "the member who is in charge of the equipment, used at the meetings." Ron takes the position seriously, and feels "The Lions are a great organization ... always doing something for the community."

Ron is not one into hobbies but does follow sports, especially the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Pirates. However, he has become a Celtic and Red Sox follower since coming to Connecticut. Colleen, on the other hand, being from the Washington D.C. area, hasn't forgotten the Red Skins.

When asked who he most admired ... Ron went back to his Pittsburgh days and said, "Roberto Clemento (the late Pittsburgh baseball player and Hall of Fame member) ... he was great in everything he did on the ball field, and a good family man ... (he died) helping others."

Helping others is also a trait of Ronald Curtis Tirio. Colleen said, "Ron is an easy-going man ... and (best of all) he volunteers for just about everything." This tribute went along with Ron's philosophy— "Do what you have to do ... each situation calls for different methods."

Ron exemplifies the Lions' motto: "We serve."

# Balfore Is on His Way to His Goal

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*"To become one of Windsor Locks finest..."*  
*From Mike Balfore's 1980 Class Book*

Some kids want to be cowboys or astronauts when they grow up. Not Michael Joseph Balfore. At the age of 5, the New Britain native wanted to become a police officer. He also became a volunteer firefighter, another career little boys desire to be when they grow up.

For Mike, it was full-time duty, as a Windsor Locks police officer, in January 1987. He had served his apprenticeship as a supernumerary police officer on a part-time basis. Ten years ago, Mike joined the town's junior program for volunteer firefighters, and it was this relationship, he developed working with police officers, as a young fire-fighter, that led to his eventual status as one of the town's finest.

Mike's family moved to Windsor Locks when he was 4. He attended South School, Windsor Locks Middle School and graduated from Windsor Locks High School class of 1980. He played Little League, "as a kid," but during the high school years Mike worked most of the time in a local garage. With Mike, a young man who had several local jobs, until it was his time to fulfill the childhood desire to be a police officer.

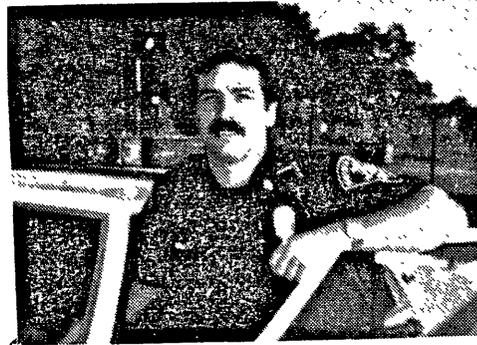
Mike is the son of Donald and Denise Swanson. He has three brothers. . .Salvatore and Vincent Balfore, Donald Swanson Jr., and two sisters, Debby Cosker and Diane Swanson.

When Mike was 5, he shared the dream of becoming a police officer with his grandmother, Veriene Swanson of Windsor.

Mike's working career began at the Mid-Town Garage. He said he did have plans for college, but "it just didn't pan out." This next job was a four-year stay at Bill Reilly's station (where I first met young Mike). He had found memories of the late Fire Chief, saying, "Chief Reilly always treated me well... he was a man who never had a bad word for anyone, and he certainly loved the fire department."

After Reilly's, Mike joined the town's Highway Department on a full-time basis, which lasted over two years. It was during this period he became a supernumerary police officer.

Mike took part in a three-part program in becoming a police officer. . .training in Granby, with law interpretation and different phases of police techniques. At the Hartford Hospital, Mike attended classes in advanced medical training and earned the title



Mike Balfore

of emergency medical technician. The third phase was a thirteen-week training at the Police Academy in Meriden.

If Mike has a hobby, it's an active role, as time permits now, in the fire department. Mike explained the difference, the way he sees it, between a volunteer firefighter and police officer. He said, "as a firefighter, there

is a quick response to the fire and assisting (if you can) people affected by the fire." In police work, he went on, "you are more directly involved with the people in several different circumstances." Mike's schedule, as a police officer, can change week to week, with his main duties as follows: directing traffic, motor vehicle enforcement, medical aid, criminal investigation and general citizenry assistance.

Does Mike watch many of the police shows on television? Once in a while, have seen "Miami Vice and Cagney & Lacey" a few times," he said. Mike's bit interest in sports, are the Hartford Whalers, and he has season tickets watching Ron Francis and company.

Mike summed up his police career, so far. . . "I really enjoy it, I look forward going to work, each day. . .there is a lot going on in Windsor Locks daily, and the average person is not aware of the different situations." When asked about his future plans. . .Mike smiled and said, "In ten years, would like to

have some type of rank in the department." The young man's philosophy. . . "Take one day at a time and always try to better yourself."

When it came time to name someone who he most admired, Mike said, "My father, Donald Swanson. . . a man who accepted any challenge and responsibility (to the family) and always treated me well." For Mike, whose sincerity is a trademark, added, "The town has always treated me well also, and I've met some interesting people."

### Epilog:

Michael Joseph Balfore is a good example for the youth of today, to know what they want in life. In Mike's case he pursued his chosen profession. . . enjoying what he does, be it the protection as police officer or as volunteer firefighter. Both noble endeavors. Indeed, Mike is on his way as one of Windsor Locks finest.

## Claude Kidwell Is a Gentle Man from the South

"I was taught to like everyone...."

Claude Franklin Kidwell is better known as "Rebel" to his co-workers, fellow athletes over the years and to his many friends.



The congenial transplanted Southerner was born in Clinton, Tenn., located in the eastern part of the Volunteer State.

He married a girl from North Carolina, Louise Boshears. This couple from the South have lived in "Yankee" country for the past 30 years, and Louise summed it up best.

"This is (now) home," she said.

The veteran Hamilton-Standard truck driver was raised in Norris, Tenn. and spent several summers on his grandparents' farm nearby where wheat, vegetables and some animals were raised. His father, Frank Kidwell, has passed away. His mother, Mossie Kidwell, spent more than 25 years in this area, working 10 years at a popular restaurant on Route 75, called "Kays." Today she is retired (to a degree), at age 77, still spry, in Tennessee, and according to Louise, when they return for a visit, "runs circles around us."

Claude and Louise live on Center Street in

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a brick home built more than 100 years ago — one of the town's oldest buildings.

Claude attended schools in Norris until he was 17. He remembers well the early '50s when "everyone in the South seemed to go to Detroit for a job."

#### Off to the Army

He only stayed in the motor city a few months, returning to Norris and then joining the U.S. Army in August 1953. He spent three years as a soldier, in Oklahoma and 26 months in Germany. He said, "I loved it ... and got to see most of Europe."

After his discharge in September 1956, Claude found jobs still hard to find. His brother, Condly Kidwell, was living in Warehouse Point and convinced Claude to come for a visit. He stayed in Connecticut a short time, returning to Norris, but still the same routine — no jobs. He liked this area of the state and returned in May 1957, gaining employment at Hamilton-Standard..

In point of service at the aircraft company, Claude recently completed 30 years. It was in his first year at Hamilton and 21st birthday, he not only received some gifts but during the celebration met his future bride at the Point Restaurant in Warehouse Point.

#### Residents Since 1968

Louise was born in Concord, N.C., and

came north when she was 8 years old. She graduated from East Windsor High School. They were married on Dec. 13, 1958. Louise worked at Hamilton for five years and four summers at the East Windsor Receiving Home. They have lived in Warehouse Point, Suffield and, since October 1968, in Windsor Locks.

Claude and Louise have a son, Michael, a graduate of the local high school, who now resides in Broad Brook with his wife, Mary Plasse Kidwell, a Windsor native.

Michael has played softball, basketball and hockey in the area. Mary and Michael have three sons, Joseph, 5; Peter, 3; and Patrick, 1.

When it came to sports, for the grandfather of three boys, Claude became active in later years. During high school, he had to work. In his later years he began playing basketball in the service, bowling big pins in the area, softball in the town leagues, which included Enfield, East Windsor and Windsor Locks.

However, pitching horseshoes is Claude's current hobby, which he calls a "real gentleman's game ... where you make many friends and meet people from everywhere."

When it comes to spectator sports, Claude changed from a Red Sox fan (when he first arrived here) to a Yankee fan.

Claude and Louise, as mentioned, are transplanted folks from the South, but they do return on vacations to visit his mother and other relatives in Tennessee.

One note: Louise saw her first real snow

when she moved to Connecticut and now calls it "our home."

Claude has had many experiences driving for Hamilton, and one long trip stands out. Last year, he and two other drivers drove three tractor trailer trucks, loaded with hay for the drought-stricken area around Atlanta, Ga. They were gone a week, and certainly felt they were part of a good cause.

#### Epilog

Claude Franklin Kidwell has always been called "Rebel" since coming north and his job at Hamilton-Standard. He recalled working with one man for a long time, and one day the co-worker was asked if Claude Kidwell was around. The man said no ... he only knew him as "Rebel" and therefore there was no Claude working with him.

Louise Kidwell, with the nickname of "Red," was asked for one word to describe her husband. She said, "Hard-working....," adding, "He's not one to become discouraged about anything." Claude remembers a lot of people who have helped him along the way. Maybe it's his philosophy, "I was taught to like everyone."



The Hamillton brothers – (from left) Bill, Mal, Jack and Doug – have each made their marks on the town.

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL OCTOBER 7, 1988

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***Bill Hamilton: A Navy and Insurance Veteran -***

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***- with Lions Connections***

Bill Hamilton is a Navy veteran. He is also a veteran employee of the Hartford Insurance Group. The past three years, as a member of the local Lions Club, the Massachusetts native has served on several projects and was named "Man Of The Year ...1987-88."

It is true, Bill is a native of the Bay State, but grew up and went to high school in Maine, as did his three brothers and sister.

The Hamilton name, is not only big in the aircraft industry locally, but likewise, the

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name of four brothers, who have made their mark in Windsor Locks, and a sister in Florida, with close connections to the space center in Cape Kennedy.

Now for the background ... especially with Bill, with the full name of William Charles Hamilton, named after his two grandfathers. Bill was born in Medford, suburb of Boston, as were brothers, Mal, Jack and their sister, Margaret. Doug, the youngest of the clan, was born in Leominster.

However, in 1946, their father, Hollis Hamilton, decided to work in the family business (plumbing and heating) in Houlton, Maine, way up in Aroostook County, three miles from the Canadian border, and as Bill tells it, "Bob Steele is always noting (in the winter) that Houlton is the coldest spot in the USA."

A few months after Bill graduated from high school (1954), he joined the U.S. Navy. The December entrance into the service, was also the day for brother Mal's wedding. Looking back, Bill said, "I was always somewhere else when my brothers and sister were to be married." During the four years in the Navy, Bill went to school in Maryland, served two years in Panama and eight months on the

U.S.S. Potomac in the Mediterranean Sea. This duty took place in the late '50s, when his ship landed troops in Beirut and Lebanon, on orders from then-President Eisenhower. Bill served four months in the troubled Middle East.

Bill was uncertain as to his future plans in December, 1958, upon discharge from the Navy. He went to Boston for a year, attend-

ing radio school. He went back to Maine, but jobs were scarce. He came to Connecticut and picked Windsor Locks. Why? "Because Mal was living here."

He left the radio talent (he learned in the service and at school) to join the Hartford Insurance Group. Next April, Bill will have 29 years of service in the insurance business.

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## Cabbages and Kings

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He said, "I started with EAM (electronic accounting machines), was the first computer operator, and for the last 20 years, have been in the systems end of insurance." Today, he is in charge of a support group as an automation specialist.

October must be the month for the Hamiltons. In October, 1977, we interviewed (for C&K) Mal, currently the chairman of the local Board of Education. In October, 1983, we talked to Doug, who, along with his brother, Jack, coached Little League in town.

The brothers three have a sister, Margaret McClelland, who is married to Roland McClelland, living in Florida. Roland and their two sons, Bill and John, all are involved in the Kennedy Space Center. The boy's Uncle Bill, who has visited Florida frequently, has watched unmanned spaceflights, but one day hopes to see the astronauts go into space.

When Bill is not vacationing in the sunny South or in a colder Bar Harbor, Maine, he is into photography, with emphasis on video recording (VCR). He has captured several local weddings on film for newlyweds. He hasn't forgotten his Boston connections and roots for the Red Sox in the American League and the Mets in the National. But is very anti-New York Yankee and Giants.

Along with Bill's involvement with the

local Lions Club, he was a member of the Enfield Jaycees, the Hartford Club and Twenty-Five Year Club. Bill joined the Lions three years ago, is currently on the board of directors, has served as chairman of the annual Pancake Breakfast and Bickford Christmas Party and was on the committee at the class of 1988 party for the high school students at the K of C.

For Bill Hamilton, the Lions Club "is the best group of men I have ever served with," adding, "they are hard-working, and I enjoy every bit of it." For well over 20 years, Bill has traveled Route 91, going to work, and has seen the Lions Ambulance rushing to a Hartford Hospital, to him, a constant reminder of their good work. At the meetings, Bill and Doug Hamilton are called "book-ends," for obvious reasons.

How was it growing up with three brothers? "We did have different interests ... but were never competitive."

Who does this quiet man admire? Bill has to go back to his Navy days. During time in Panama, his executive officer was a captain, Allan Ross. To Bill, "Captain Ross was a fine gentleman ... he always treated the enlisted men fairly. Captain Ross had been captured 13 times by the Japanese during World War II. I ran into Captain Ross in Maine, after I got out, and got to know him and his family better."

Bill Hamilton is another member of the Hamilton men who are serving their adopted town with different interests. They epitomize the Lions motto... "We Serve."

## Bob Barenbaum — Memories of Fast-Pitch Softball

Sixteen years ago, Bob Barenbaum retired as one of the area's premier fast-pitch softball pitchers.

The Providence, R.I. native, who grew up in the north end of Hartford, played softball for many years, when fast-pitch (unlike today's popular slow-pitch

softball) was the only way to play the game. Comparing the two different types of softball, Bob said, "Fast-pitch was a challenge... today's slow-pitch (variety) is just hit and run." Old-timers, who played the faster type, would heartily agree.

Robert Barenbaum was more than just a softball pitcher. He is the father of four active sons, a career in steamfitting for more than 30 years, a staunch follower of local high school sports, and (I'm told) can still beat anyone at one-on-one on the basketball court.

Bob is the son of the late Jack Barenbaum. Bob's mother, Esther Barenbaum, recently reached the octogenarian stage in life and resides at the Hebrew Home and Hospital in Hartford. The Barenbaum family moved from the capital city, of the smallest state, when Bob was 3. He attended Brackett Grammar School, Northeast Junior High, and in 1954 graduated from Weaver High School when John Egan was the star basketball player. Bob played some intramural sports (mostly basketball), saving his sports activity for after high school.



Bob Barenbaum

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Bob has never let a misfortune he received early in life stop him in sports, nor did it prevent him from living a normal life and having a hard-working career. While riding a bike when he was only 9 years old he was struck in the right eye by an arrow shot from the other side of the street. Bob lost the sight of the eye, but in no way did it hinder him later in life.

After leaving Weaver, Bob enrolled at the Hartford Regional Technical Trade School to take up plumbing and heating. The two-year training period led to an apprentice steamfitter's job. For the past 32 years, Bob has been a member of the steamfitter's union and for the past two decades, an employee of the C.N. Flag Co.

In the summer of 1954, before Arlene Shoopilsky entered Weaver High School, she met Bob Barenbaum through a mutual friend. She was the chief supporter in his sporting activity, until it was time for Bob to hang up his glove. (Having four sons and a husband playing all the time was Arlene's contribution to sports in town.) She graduated from Weaver in 1958, and was married that September to Bob. They just celebrated their 30 years together on Sept. 28.

The newlyweds had an apartment in Hartford until 1960, when they moved to Windsor Locks (to their present home on South Elm), because, as they tell it... "It was a town with city water and all the (right) facilities, unlike other area towns," and they were out of the city.

Arlene worked a few years at Aetna, until their first son, Michael, was born. Three sons followed — Jeffrey, Steven and Neil. Michael, an apprentice painter in the area, was in the "Three-R" program, in East Windsor, playing basketball and baseball under Coach Leo Bravakis. Jeffrey and his wife, Renee, live in Los Angeles with their two sons, Jeffrey Jr., 5, and Cory, age 3. Jeffrey Sr. is a supervisor for a large bus company in the big city and recently returned to Windsor Locks, with his family, for the first time in seven years. He played Little League in town and at the high school, was on the football, soccer and basketball teams.

Steven is an apprentice steamfitter (welder). He followed his brother at high school, playing soccer and basketball, and was a Little Leaguer as a youngster. The youngest member of the Barenbaum clan is Neil. He's a member of the Class of 1989 and, to complete the cycle, has played soccer and

basketball at the Raider School.

Back to the artistry of Bob on the softball mound. However, in all fairness to this quiet gentleman, we must mention he has done more than throw a softball pass many a hitter in his day. Examples... Bob coached, along with Russ Mattesen (of 1965 LL fame), for four years in Little League play, when Jeffrey and Steven were playing. (The boys hit homeruns in the same game, the proud father remembered.) Bob holds a 170 average in big pins and, a few years back, he and Arlene were regulars at the Villa Rose Lanes in hitting the ducks. On the basketball court, according to Leo Bravakis and Carl Schiessl Jr., Bob is known as "dead-eye" because of his consistency in making baskets, and making it look easy.

Now to softball... Bob actually began playing in the Hartford Park Department League at Love Lane Park. His first look at softball was as a bat boy (in the late '40s) and watching Walt Smith who was, at that time, the fastest pitcher in the area, with the Westland Tavern. In the '60s, Bob pitched for the Chef's Hat, followed by the Queen City Barber Shop and Brass Rail. Locally, he performed with Brett Insurance, with so many familiar names... Bob Murray, the Levesque twins, Stan Morey, Russ Mattesen, Neil Daniel, Lou LaTorra, Tom Frechette Sr., to mention a few. The team played most of their games at Pesci Park, at times, in Massachusetts.

Bob, with a windmill style of pitching, had three no-hitters to his credit. He remembers pitching five nights in a row. In a tournament, Bob pitched a double-header, won the first game, lost the second 1-0, when a player dropped a fly ball. Some exciting moments were recalled, when the locals played at the Wethersfield and Somers prisons.

Looking back a few years, Bob said, "Arlene made me quit." With a little coaxing, and some time to warm up, he feels he can still throw the softball past fellows like Lou LaTorra. (Had to use some name, Lou.)

Arlene and Bob are members of the Hartford Mutual Society. They have traveled extensively — Aruba, Bermuda, California, and their "best place? (we fell in love with) Hawaii... we're still talking about the five islands we visited." Bob is different, when it comes to rooting (Red Sox and Yankee country) for the Detroit Tigers and 49ers in football. As mentioned, Arlene and Bob are always found rooting for the Raiders, in all sporting events.

Bob is "not one to worry about things." According to Arlene, "Bob can be a tease (not mean) ... a very strong person." His Weaver class book probably said it all: "A quiet look (can be) very deceiving."

# Andrew Davies – – The Patriarch of a Sporting Clan

Andrew Davies has a lot going for him. Father of three basketball (with other sporting talents) players, volunteer fireman, stock car racing enthusiast, veteran car fixer, and probably the only native of Kingston-on-Thames, England, in this area.

The Davies children...Wendy, Andrew Jr. and now Dave, were, and are involved in

## cabbages and kings

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Windsor Locks sports. Starting with Wendy, in the early 80s, the class of girls' basketball, with other players, that followed, shooting at her records on the Raider court. Andrew Jr. played Little League, high school basketball, baseball and today, is the golfer in the family. Young Dan is the goalie on the soccer team, plays on the court, diamond (also was in LL) and was captain of the tennis team for two years.

A very important part of the Davies family is the mother of this highly active clan...Claudette Lajeunesse Davies, the girl from Maine who married the boy from England.

It all began with them...for years, faithful followers to all the games, their kids so enjoy, and father saying, "They have such fun, it has kept them (and the other kids) out of trouble...they still practice and play every day." Claudette adding, "The program at the

high school is very good."

The Davies family is sincere and give compliments when deserved. One gets that nice feeling, sitting around (with the entire family) in their comfortable living room, in the house, built with the assistance of handyman Andrew Sr., his wife of 26 years and three very tall and talented children.

The Andrew Davies story must begin in England. Kingston-on-Thames (a borough of London) was his birthplace and home until

he was nine. Young Andrew left London, flying on a "strat-o-cruiser," and said he was the first child ever to fly (in that type of aircraft), and, does he remember the flight? "Yes, I was sick all the way."

Joining his mother, Edna and father, Dan King, (they picked him up in New York City), living in Suffield was a new adventure and proved just right for Andrew. He recalls the good times and working the family tobacco farm, from cutting and hanging tobacco.

However, Andrew also "loved to work on cars." A talent he was exposed to and aspired, at an early age, in England, surrounded by large and expensive cars, when he lived on an estate, with his grandfather, who was chauffeur to the owners.

Andrew soon adjusted to his new country. In 1962, he graduated from Suffield High School, and proudly said..."One of my class-



Dan, Wendy, Claudette, Andrew Sr. and Andrew Jr. Davies.

## *Cabbages and Kings*

*Continued From Page 15*

mates was Toby Moffett...our class president."

Soon after leaving high school he entered the working world of the maintenance of cars, at the Mitchell-Simsbury facility. And why did they take you, fresh out of high school? "Because I could fix cars and have been doing it ever since." Today, Andrew is the foreman of the Mitchell-Pontiac-Dodge repair department and has 27 years to his credit.

Where did Claudette meet Andrew? At Riverside Park, when they were playing miniature golf. The year was 1959. Two years before, she had moved to South Windsor from Bifford, Maine. Claudette who was raised in a French-speaking family, graduated from the Ellsworth Memorial High School across the river, class of 1960. She did manage to play some basketball, in the girls' gym classes (the old fashion way the girls were permitted to play in those days).

In 1962, she and Andrew were married. They lived in Warehouse Point for three years, and then moved to Windsor Locks (School Street) and to their present home in 1966. Claudette worked in Hartford for an insurance broker until 1964, when Wendy was born.

Some background on the Davies children...Wendy, at half an inch over six feet, was captain of the Raider's field hockey and basketball teams. She played four years and made All-Conference in both sports.

Wendy also was listed as an Honorable Mention in All-State selection of basketball, in the year of her class...1983. Wendy had two coaches in high school...Karen Collins and in her senior year, Brian McKeown. She was only seven points shy of a thousand points.

Wendy entered the University of Hartford on a basketball scholarship, graduating in 1987 with a bachelor of arts degree (major in history; minor in biology). She played basketball four years at the Hartford school, and was captain for two years. She broke several records, never missed a game, and was named Scholar/Athlete in her senior year. She is now enrolled at the Western New England College Law School (class of 1990) and is doing double duty...with class work and a job as law clerk with Gersten & Clifford in the capital city. Wendy has taught ceramics and basketball (U of Hartford), something a little extra, she was involved in during high school with the Parks Department.

Andrew Jr. (the tall one in the family at 6'6") is a 1985 grad, has worked at Mitchell, along with Dad, but now is employed at Hamilton Standard. He has been a volunteer fireman for six years and is vice president of the Social Services, for the department. His brother, Dan, at 6'3" is a senior (class of 1989) and is mentioned, all-around athlete for Coach Dan Sullivan.

Back to the head of the clan...Andrew Sr. has been a volunteer fireman for the past 17 years. Claudette is a member of the Women's Auxiliary. Andrew had only praise for "this great organization of volunteers, you couldn't know a nicer bunch of guys."

When the Davies kids were young, the

family traveled everywhere with Dad saying, "Anywhere we could pitch a tent." All members of the family made a nostalgia trip to England, visiting their Dad's birthplace. Mother and Dad, plus young Dan, made a trip to France, on an other occasion, in the states, south to Florida; and even the Mardi Gras in New Orleans. Andrew Sr. has started to bowl big pins in Simsbury, however, his real big hobby is stock car racing...going "anywhere, to Daytona to see the stocks run."

Andrew Sr. has his serious side...especially when he was asked who he most admired...saying, "Dan King, my Dad. He's been great to me...and the late Fire Chief Bill Reilly...he was a super person.

Andrew Davies, along with Claudette, have followed the activities, in high school and college of their talented kids. Claudette summed it up, when she said, "My husband is (also) very talented...can do anything." In many ways, the kids are chips off the old block.

# Family Comes First to Bob And Louise Mello

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Bob and Louise Mello, parents of four daughters and a son, wondered why they should be interviewed. There are a lot of reasons. They are faithful and concerned followers of High School sports, they play an active behind-the-scenes role in community affairs and, most important, their family has always come first.

The Rhode Island natives have lived in Windsor Locks for the past 28 years. He is a retired insurance auditor, and his wife of more than 30 years enjoys her career in hairdressing, still calling it a hobby.

This proud father, who his wife calls "cuddly," was born Robert Augustus Mello in Providence, R.I. At the age of 11, his family moved to a Naval air station in R.I. where his father accepted the position of crash fireman just as World War II broke out.

Bob graduated from North Kingston High School in 1949, and entered the University of Alabama for an accounting degree. In June of 1951, however, he switched from debits and credits to the uniform of the U.S. Army, serving until May, 1954. He served in the infantry, and was trained at Fort Benning, Ga., making 25 jumps from a plane before going overseas. Bob traveled to Japan and Korea, seeing action during his "one year, one month and 21 days" in the war zone.

Returning from the Army to Wickford, R.I., Bob worked a short time at Electric Boat, but decided to "go back to High School for post-grad courses and get into books again." He was then accepted at the University of Rhode Island and, in 1958, earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting.

In Bob's second year of college, he went on a blind date with Louise Supino to the annual Policemen's Ball. He learned that Louise was a 1949 grad of South Kingston High School and, after graduation, she went into hairdressing. They were married on Sept. 3, 1956. Louise continued her hairdressing until the first of their five children arrived.

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Roberta is the oldest of the Mello sisters, all with "R" as the first letter, followed by Rebecca, Rachele, and Romona (Mona). Their brother, Stephen, was born after Rachele.

Roberta lives in Clinton, Md. with her husband, Ken Hazelbaker, a member of the U.S. Navy. They have a 1-1/2 years old son, Ryan. Roberta, a former WLHS cheerleader, is a grad of St. Joseph's College and is currently a programmer with the Navy in Washington, D.C.

Rebecca, also a former cheerleader, and her husband, Steven Kelliher, a salesman, live in Wrentham, Mass. They have an 11-week-old daughter, Stephanie. Rachele lives in Annapolis with her husband, Daryl Sylvester, a Navy Seabee and Windsor Locks native. They have two children, Danielle age 3, and Dylan age 1. Rebecca attended the Creative School of Hairdressing, and is a grad of Cedar Crest College.

Stephen married a local girl, Donna Dixon. They live in Washington state on the Fairchild Air Force Base, where he has been on active duty the past two years. Stephen played soccer as a youngster in town and, after high school, attended Hartford Technical School.

Ramona, better known as Mona, is now a senior at WLHS. She has three letters to her credit, having played soccer, softball and basketball since her freshman year. She is co-captain of this year's soccer team. Mona received the "1987-88 Coaches' Award" for basketball in addition to the highly regarded "Underclassman Athlete Award" this past season. Mona hopes to attend her Dad's school, URI, so she can "be home on weekends, and bring home her laundry."

After Bob and Louise were married, they lived in Narragansett for two years. Later, after receiving his accounting degree, Bob



Bob and Louise Mello and their family.

went looking for a job in Connecticut. He joined the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Co. and, in October of 1960, they moved to their present home on Juniper Drive. Bob spent 26 years as an auditor and retired in February, 1985. In the next two years, he was often called for in the role of a consultant.

Back in the 60s, Bob was a member of the local Jaycees and earned the title of JCI Senator (#7066), nominated as "Outstanding Young Man of America." Bob is also proud of the years spent with the Sailing Masters of 1812, a Colonial Marching Group in Essex, Conn.

Louise was also active as a Jaycee wife and a member of the St. Robert's Women's Society. As her children were growing up, she served as both a Girl and Cub Scout leader. In addition, Louise worked in the South School cafeteria and for two years as teacher's aide in the SGI program. She also worked with the multi-handicapped in High School classrooms. Louise is now a senior citizen hairdresser, saying, "I love working and being with seniors."

Bob's hobbies include collecting duck decoys, leather crafting, woodworking, and photography. Where sports are concerned,

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he admits he only gets excited during the World Series and Super Bowl, and watched all the action in the recent Olympic Games.

When asked who they most admired, they both agreed upon Louise's parents. Bob says, "Frank Supino had a heart of gold, loved his grandchildren." Louise says of her mother, Carmella, "She had an unconditional love for her children."

Bob and Louise Mello have lived life around their five children, but have not forgotten certain civic responsibilities. This makes for a well-adjusted lifestyle and a good story. Mona summed it up with, "Be yourself." Her mother added, "Enjoy every minute with (your) family, and now the grandchildren."

## Midget Football:

According to two of its current key workers, Alan and Gail Stegman, the town's midget football program has been running smoothly since the Jaycees organized the league back in 1969.

The Stegmans have two sons, Steven and Bryan, who participate in the fall sport. Gail says that it "runs from August to December, (but actually) keeps us busy all year round." For the record, she added, "But we love it."

Gail, an active member the past three seasons, is the president of the Jet Midget

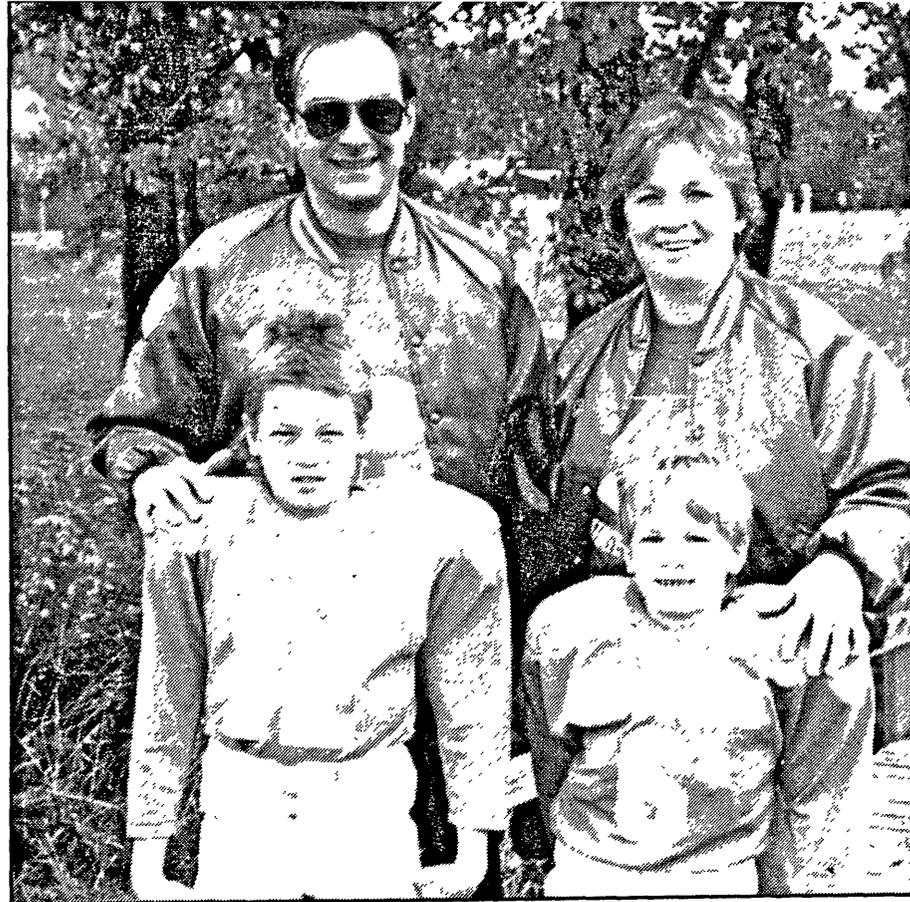
### cabbages and kings

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Football League. For the past year, Alan has had the role of equipment manager. In a town where sports for the kids, be it Little League basketball, soccer, or football, are a way of life, they are both dedicated volunteers.

When and how did Alan and Gail get interested in sports? They were not involved while in school. It began when their oldest son, Steven, wanted to play football. Here is some background on these friendly and concerned parents, residents of Windsor Locks since 1975.

Alan Edward Stegman was born in Bridgeport, and has lived in Broad Brook, Milford and, at the age of 16, moved to Windsor Locks with his folks, William and Helen Stegman. Alan did play some baseball as a Little Leaguer, but not in high



Alan, Gail, Steven and Bryan Stegman.

## A Way of Life for the Stegman Family

school. He graduated from the local school in 1969.

He attended the Hartford State Technical College for more than a year, studying Mechanical Engineering. Alan entered the work force, returning to the school years later to earn an Associate Degree. His work consisted of two years at Royal Typewriter, seven summers at Worcester Express in South Windsor, and for the past 13 years, Alan has been at Hartford Despatch in East Hartford. Today, Alan is vice president of Moving Operations. Alan has a sister, Patricia.

Gail Castonguay Stegman was born in Windsor, and at the age 6, moved to Suffield with her parents, Roger and Renee Castonguay. Gail has a brother, Roger Jr., and three sisters, Carol, Dianne and Teresa. The year before she graduated from Suffield High School in 1971, Gail was getting gas at a local station and Alan Stegman just happened to wait on her. "We met, he asked me out, we went steady, and four years later we were married on October 12, 1974," said Gail. Now she is the mother of two growing boys with thoughts of Joe Namath.

Steven, 9, is in the third grade at South and has been playing football for the past three years. During that time he played T-ball for two summers, and last year was in the minors of Little League. Steven is a pitcher and short-stop in baseball, and a running back on offense and a linebacker on defense in football. According to Steven, he plays baseball to keep in condition for football. Bryan, 7, is a first grader at South, and in his first year playing football.

As mentioned, Alan and Gail got interested in football when Steven wanted to play. Mother was skeptical. Football? The boy could get hurt. Gail had to see for herself. She went right to one of the coaches, Joe Ouellette. He showed her the equipment and what the boys do. The rest was Midget Football for the Stegmans.

Before going into detail about the operations of the football league there are a few more details on Gail and Alan. Gail now works part time for two local dentists, Dr. Nick Pecora and Dr. Dean Klein, subjects of a C&K interview in March 1985. The Stegmans, of course, follow football, and are big New England Patriots fans. During the baseball season, Gail roots for the Red Sox, but the men in the family are all loyal Met fans. After football, when snow covers the ground, the Stegmans go skiing, usually in the Berkshire hills of Massachusetts. Out-of-state trips have included Mexico, Hawaii, and Florida. Gail and Alan also share one big passion, horse racing, at Saratoga and Belmont. Someday, they hope to make the big one, the Kentucky Derby.

Now about the Jet Midget Football League. The League is made up of teams; "A" team for 13-14 year olds (Head Coach Joe Ouellette), "B" team for the 11 to 12 group (Coach Jim Ryan), and the "C" team, 7-10 year olds (Coach Ken Smith).

The teams also go by weight. The "C" team has a minimum weight requirement of 55 pounds, and the "A" team has a 140 pound maximum. According to Gail, the league has 100 players and an active group of cheerleaders ages 7 to 14, and the support of many parents.

Gail said, "The league is totally dependent on donations from the citizens of Windsor Locks. We do door-to-door selling candy, have bake sales, and sell wrapping paper in addition to the donations." When she became active with the League, Gail started as treasurer. Now she is the president. Alan, in addition to his duties as equipment manager, is vice president of the Northern Connecticut Football League, comprised of teams from Windsor Locks, Ellington, Tolland, Stafford Springs, Coventry, and RHAM (Andover, Marlborough and Hebron).

The Stegmans feel the chief reason their sons are playing, and their own dedication is so strong, is the influence of Coach Ken Smith. According to Gail, "Coach Smith has great patience with the boys, teaching them to play the game and have a good time." They also wanted to thank the local Lions Club for providing an ambulance at all the games. On Sunday, Nov. 6, the league championship game will be played at the local high school.

#### EPILOG

Alan and Gail Stegman are just normal folks who have taken an active role in midget football, so their sons can participate with modern equipment, have coaches who care and, probably best of all, knowing the kids will have fun at it.

As the great writer Grandland Rice once said, "It isn't who wins or loses, it's how the game is played."

# A 'Young Lion' at Work

In the war movie, "The Young Lions," the youth of America meet the youth of Germany on the battleground. Each generation must seek their own goals, however, it is much different in war time.

Today, there are young lions in all walks of life. And here, in Windsor Locks, there are

young, dedicated men in the Police and Fire Department. We recently interviewed one of the young firemen, Joseph Robert Killen, a volunteer fireman, since the age of fifteen. Joe, son of Murray and Janet Killen, is a full-fledged fireman training to be a Fire Inspector. Joe and another local fireman, John Cannone, were chosen to train as Fire Inspectors. They will work with the town's Fire Marshal, James McKenna, in the yearly inspection schedule of buildings. They must first successfully complete the required State of Connecticut Fire Marshal/Fire Code Inspection Certificate Course, which started in September, and will be completed next month.

Joe Killen was born and raised in town, attended local grammar schools, and is a graduate of A.I. Prince Technical School, where he took up the skill of sheet-metaling. In 1984, after completing schooling, Joe had several jobs in his new trade, and also worked in construction. But he decided to seek another line of work. Two years ago, Joe went into the trucking business, and owns and operates his own truck, which takes him up and down the east coast.

Joe has five brothers Irwin, Stephen, Gary, Murray, Jr., and the late Vern Killen. Joe's



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folks have lived in town for thirty-four years. His mother, Janet Scheidel Killen, was originally from West Simsbury. His dad, Murray Killen, was born in Canada. He came to the states as a child, living first in Windsor and then Windsor Locks. Murray is a 1942 grad of Weaver High School. He spent over four years in the U.S. Air Force during World War II, mostly in the Pacific theater. His first job after leaving the service was with the Hartford Post Office for twelve years. He then joined the Windsor Police Department and retired in 1983, with over thirty years of service, the last eighteen spent as Windsor's first detective. He was always kidded about resembling the character "Fish" on the popular TV show, "Barney Miller."

Conversation with Joseph quickly turns to his truck business and activity at the fire house. Any hobbies? "Yes, the fire department and my business," Joe said. Adding, "When it comes to sports...I root for the football Giants."

As mentioned, Joe joined the Junior Fire Department at age 15 and, four years ago at 18, became a regular member of the department. Joe has put his talent of getting along with people to use as Chairman of this year's annual Carnival and the Chicken Barbecue. Once a month, for the past year, Joe has taken on the role of instructor at the Hartford County Fire School, in Bloomfield, teaching new firemen different phases of fire fighting. Joe completed the same course himself, and earned the following certificates: "Certified Fire-fighter I, Electrical Safety, Tactics and Strategies."

For Joe's new assignment, two new positions were created at the request of the town's Fire Marshal, to assist the Fire Marshal in the inspection of the town's many buildings. Joe and John are now attending the training sessions two days a week at the Meriden State Police Barracks. The course set up by the Bureau of State Fire Marshals. "Everything is going fine, right on schedule," he said.

As to any future plans for Joe, he said, "If the opportunity (comes his way) a career fireman could be in the future." His parents support their son's activities, with his father saying, "Joe is very interested in fire protection," as proud Mom adds, "Joe lives and eats being a fireman".

### Epilog

Joseph Robert Killen is one of the young lions in today's society, with a drive to achieve something special, having that Irish sense of humor, being quiet, when it's time to be quiet, and when it's time, to speak up.

## Soccer Played With Style

### Cabbages & Kings

BY JACK REDMOND

If you have watched the Boy's High School Soccer team this year, it hasn't been one of Coach Dan Sullivan's best. However, one of the bright spots, to this observer and the spectators, has been the playing of Mike Susaya, a junior at the Raider School.

Mike is probably best known as a player with an unorthodox style of putting the ball into play from off sides on to the soccer field. Mike calls it a "hand spring, from a standing position." I call it a double somersault. You have to see it to appreciate Mike's athletic dexterity. Here are some facts on Michael James Susaya and his family, where soccer has always been number one.

Mike is the son of Rogelio and Fidela Susaya, who came to the United States, from their home in Peru, South America, in the 60s. Both parents come from families of eight children. Rogelio came to live with an aunt in Farmington in 1961. Fidela came to live with one of her sisters in Hartford in 1967. Both agreed that they wanted a "better life." Rogelio was 15 when he entered the school system, and unable to speak English. He did well for himself, and graduated from Farmington High School in 1966. His wife, in her 20s when she arrived, learned the new language by taking English at Hartford High School at nights.

This young couple were strangers to a new country and each other when they arrived, but not for long. Fidela had arrived from Peru on a Friday, and the very next day was escorted to the Peruvian Club in Hartford by her sister and was introduced to Rogelio. Talk about fate of fast action. After a courtship, they were married on December 28, 1968.

The Susaya family has lived in Hartford, Bloomfield, and two years in Tucson, Arizona, before returning to Connecticut to live in Windsor Locks. Mike has a sister, Jacqueline, better known as Jackie, and an older brother, Roger David.

Jackie is a sergeant with the U.S. Air Force, stationed in Las Vegas, with her husband, Blake Hekien, a former serviceman from Iowa. She is a graduate of the local high school, class of 1984, who was in the band, and a cheerleader. Jackie attended Central Connecticut State University before joining the service for a six-year term.

Roger graduated this past June from the Raider school, and is now attending Manchester Community College. He played soccer in his senior year, and was a member of the track team.

The father of these active kids began his working career, during his high school years,



Mike Susaya

in road construction. After graduation, he did steady work with the Black & Warner company in the construction field. In 1979, he entered road construction with his own company, and today, the Susaya Construction Company, is active in repairs to roads in the general Hartford area.

The Susaya family has made trips to Florida, Hawaii, Las Vegas and to Peru. The three children of Rogelio and Fidela saw where their parents grew up and when asked, what their reactions were, Roger and Mike agreed, "It was different ... none of the modern conveniences, that we are used to at home."

Mr. Susaya is "always working." When it comes to hobbies, he enjoys watching Sunday and Monday night football on television, and the soccer games on "Spanish TV."

Mike did play some summer basketball, but soccer is his sport. He intends to participate in indoor/outdoor track next spring. When asked about Coach Sullivan's reactions to his unusual way of putting the soccer ball into play, the long-time coach said, "From now on, you'll be doing (your thing)." In other words, he approved. Mike's teammates also approved, but some opponents, "thought it was (sort of) weird." The benefits of Mike's style is the distance, usually going from the side lines to the center of the field, and

sometimes past the center line. Did he ever score a goal from the throws? "No, maybe next year," he said, with a smile. Where did he get the idea? A friend saw it on television, and Mike just tried it.

Mike's future plans are to attend college, and yes, play soccer. After college? "Work with my dad, in the construction business," the young student and classy soccer player said.

When Mike was asked, who he most admired he said, without much hesitation, "Pele (from Brazil), the best soccer player who ever lived."

#### Epilog

Rogelio and Fidela Susaya are proud of their three children. They came to a new country over twenty years ago, established themselves in the construction business, and raised three active children. You might say they are a good example of the American Dream.

Mike Susaya may not be another Pele, but who is? Mike's aggressive style of soccer play is enhanced by a special skill in putting the ball into play. Mike certainly fits into one of Windsor Locks' favorite high school sports.

# George Doak Describes Life as a Fireman

When I first called George Doak for an interview, he was at a fire. When I finally contacted him later, I found out that he'd be at the firehouse on Mondays and Wednesday nights. So, we settled on a Tuesday night for our talk about his service as a volunteer fireman for more than a quarter of a century, his understanding wife, Claire, their two daughters, and his work at Hamilton-Standard since he was nineteen. But mostly about just being a fireman, "the best organization in town, with dedicated men, the drills, the fires," and his new role as Safety Officer.

George I. Doak, a Maine native, is a young man. However, he is truly one of the veterans of the local fire company, having served under the leadership of former Fire Chiefs Russell, Reilly, Colli, Ouellette, and the present Chief, Joseph J. LaPierre, Jr.

George grew up in a fireman's family. His late father, Edward Doak, was a volunteer in their hometown of Caribou, Me. When George was a young boy, he went along with his dad to the fires, drills, and the Firemen Carnivals.

Caribou, way up in Aroostook County near the Canadian border, was the scene of his childhood, with his late mother, Irene Doak, and his four sisters. And how was it growing up with four girls? "I was usually outnumbered and outvoted," he said, with a smile on his face. As a young boy, George knew hard work, on both the family farm and trucking business, with the famed Maine potatoes as its main product. George played some basketball, but after school it was mainly work, and not much leisure time.

After graduation from high school in 1960, George came to Connecticut, to visit an uncle, the late William Doak, in Granby. He decided to stay, and took a job at Hamilton-Standard. Today, with 28 years service in the aircraft industry, George is General Foreman of the Blade Department.

On a visit to Riverside Park, young George met Claire Tomaszek. Claire, a local girl, is the daughter of the late Tony Tomaszek, and Anna Tomaszek, who lives in town. Claire

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## Cabbages and Kings

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JACK REDMOND

has a sister, Sonia Morell, who resides in Warehouse Point, with her husband, Joe Morell, a former fireman. Claire graduated from the local high school in 1961, and was employed by Connecticut General for over three years.

George and Claire were married at St. Mary's Church in 1964.

They have two daughters, Karen and Cheryl. Karen, who played field hockey in high school, is a 1984 graduate of WLHS. She attended Assumption College in Worcester, and was recently married to Steven Rolocut. She is an accountant with Society For Savings, and Steven works with his father, Dick Rolocut, in the family construction business. Cheryl also played field hockey in high school, and is a 1985 graduate of WLHS. She is now a senior at the Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa.

In addition to being an active fireman, George Doak has been a member of the Suffield Gun Club the past eight years. For the past twenty years, he has also been a member of the Connecticut State Firemen's Irregular Association. The memberships of volunteers and paid firemen from all over the state meet four times a year to discuss legislature that deals with the latest in fire equipment. They also discuss the different views of members, which George calls, "Meeting a lot of interesting people, all with a common purpose." There are over 300 members in the organization, several from the local fire department.

Vacation time for George and Claire has meant trips to the Canadian Rockies, Florida, Aruba, Maine and the southern states. George admits, "I haven't had much time for hobbies, but with my father-in-law, we took the time to remodel a few rooms at my home."

Five years after coming to Connecticut, George joined the fire department. He did

his share around the fire house and was asked if he wanted to be a steward. "Twenty years later, I'm still doing it," he said. And what is a steward? The Chief Steward said that he is "Responsible for the care of all (fire) vehicles assigned to them, being sure that said vehicles are kept clean and neat...equipment is in place and properly secured...vehicles are fueled and ready for response..."

When George was appointed to the role of Safety Officer for the Windsor Locks Fire Department in June, he received an added responsibility. George said, "We are in a transition and learning period, as to the newest and latest standards for safety of our fellow firemen." Explaining further he said (with information provided the writer) "A much-welcomed trend in the fire service has developed, partly as a result of the National Fire Protection Association, in publishing standards in Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program."

George has attended classes at the Hartford Fire School and some of his new duties are: "Developing, implementing, managing and enforcing the department's official safety policy...Managing the data collection and record keeping related to accidents, Job related injuries, illnesses and deaths, and exposure to hazardous materials. Recording any action taken or recommendations submitted concerning safety and health policies of the department, eliminating or correction of unsafe conditions, practices and acts and accident prevention. Periodically, as outlined in the department safety program, inspecting fire department buildings, facilities, apparatus and equipment...assist officers and members to identify and correct health and safety hazards and stay abreast of changes in equipment, apparatus and technology that relate to the department."

The safety officer's primary role is to ensure as safe a possible work environment for the fire fighters, and to have one thought in

mind, "It is my goal to have the same number of firefighters return to the station as responded to the scene."

### EPILOG

For safety's sake. That is the name of the game for George I. Doak. A young man from Maine came to Connecticut and devoted years of dedication to Hamilton-Standard, and to the town of Windsor Locks as a volunteer fireman. George is not a complex man. He has a simple philosophy, "Do the best you can, with what you have." And may I add, have an understanding wife.

# Bob Bergeron: A Self-Made Man at an Early Age

## cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

Before Bob Bergeron opened his own automotive repair business in 1980, he paid his dues in many endeavors requiring hard work and long hours. Bob, a Windsor Locks native, still works hard, but has cut his hours a bit. Now he finds time to be an outdoor person, depending what the season.

The story of Robert Clement Bergeron as a young businessman today, probably began at age eight when he worked on cars with his father. Bob is the son of Clem and Gert Bergeron, now retired. They came from Stafford Springs, and have lived in Windsor Locks for years. Bob has a brother, Mike, and a sister, Paulette.

Before going into the talents of Robert, here is some background on the Bergeron family. His father is a veteran of World War II, with the United States Air Force, having done B-17 service in England. He is also a veteran of local industries, especially with Kaman Aircraft. His mother, Gert, was a nurse in this area. Robert's brother Mike, and his wife Janet, live in West Hartford with their three children, Kim, Robin, and Mike Jr. Mike Sr. has his own video game business. Robert's sister, Paulette Jones, resides in South Windsor with her daughter, Michelle.

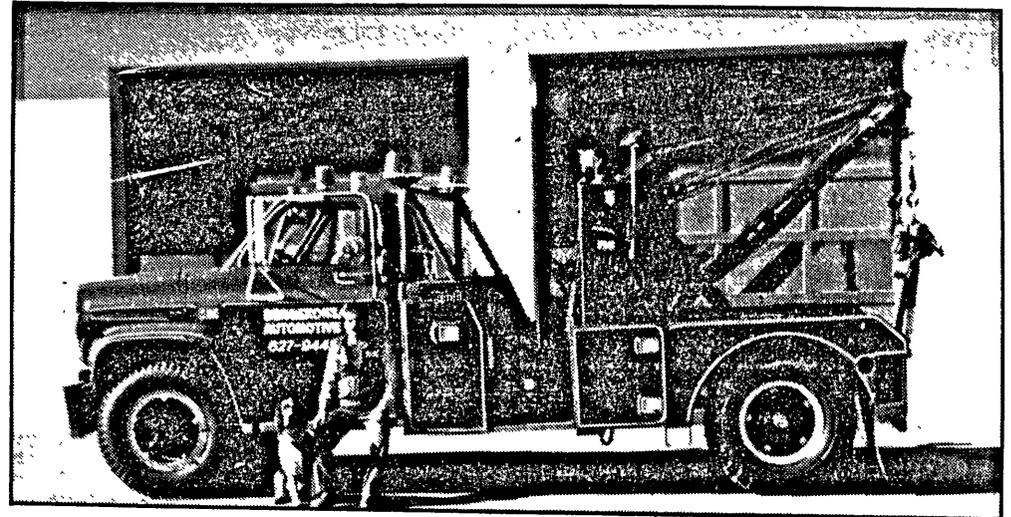
Now back to the entrepreneur. Bob graduated from Windsor Locks High School in 1973, but had little time for sports activities because he worked after school as a janitor for the high school. He then combined advanced schooling with a job. Bob attended Springfield Technical Community College from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., and worked at Balch, across the river, from 4-11 p.m. He received an associate's degree in automotive technol-

ogy. Bob continued employment at Balch, had Datsun training in New Jersey, and earned a certificate on the foreign car design. Before going into his own business, Bob was employed at various places: Town-Line Auto, local gas stations, and during one period, drove a taxi from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. as he worked at Town-Line from 3 p.m. to midnight. He admits, "For a time, I was a working fool."

He entered factory work at Stanadyne as a fuel injection technician, and Hamilton-Standard as a "trouble-shooter for cars." He also spent some time at local dealers until June, 1980, when he went into auto repairs at his present location on King Spring Road in Windsor Locks. Bob said, "I started with four jack-stands, one jack, a tool box, and every dime I had." He purchased his first wrecker the following year, and today has four. He worked from 8 a.m. to midnight, and today has four employees. He now tries to work a normal 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. day. How to get started in business, according to Bob is by "word of mouth and hard work." Neither one was a problem for this energetic young man.

Beside every hard working man is a woman. He met Sharon Slaper, who was born and raised in Windsor Locks on Sunset Street, through a friend. They were married May 23, 1986. Sharon, a 1976 graduate of WLHS, and Bob, now live in Suffield with their two children, Heather age two, and Bob Jr., 10 months. Sharon is the daughter of Shirley Nussbaum Slaper, and the late Robert Slaper, who has lived in town for years. Sharon has two brothers, Mark and Todd. She has also managed to do double duty as a mother, housewife, part-time employee at the Enfield Health and Racquet Club and, after the children are fast asleep, works with Bob on the Bergeron's Automotive books.

Bob is a member of the Glastonbury Fish & Game Club, Suffield Gun Club, the Windsor



Bob Bergeron

Locks Chamber of Commerce, and the Towing Association of Connecticut and the national organization. When it comes to hobbies, it depends on the season. In the winter, he skis and rides snowmobiles. In the summer, he enjoys fishing and boating. In the fall, he hunts and, just to round things off, goes barefoot water skiing in Windsor. He has found time to enjoy life. But, Bob's main hobby is "anything to do with cars." Also into car racing, he "used to own and race my own car at Stafford Springs Raceway." He has been to Daytona to watch the pros. He has also taken trips with Sharon to Mexico, Aruba, Bermuda, and a "great" cruise to the Caribbean, with their Suffield neighbors.

By saying, "I always wanted to go into business for myself," Bob saw how business was run at an early age. While the other kids in town were working tobacco, Bob was pumping gas at a marina in Massachusetts. Along the way, in his various jobs, Bob had

two mentors, Dick Johnson of Hartford, and Charlie Halbwachs, now living in Arizona. He remembers the assistance and guidance of these two individuals along the way. Mr. Johnson, "taught me quite a bit, we worked side by side." Mr. Halbwachs "was my first boss at Balch, he saw my potential (in business) and convinced me to go to college...I still communicate with Charlie by phone."

### Epilog

Bob Bergeron started young by working with his dad on the family car. He still remembers delivering the Windsor Locks Journal around the Bristol and the Halfway House area, where the family lived. For having built his own automotive business from scratch, He is still a young man. Bob is truly a self-made man who "treats people fair," probably because of three men...his father, Dick, and Charlie. When Sharon was asked for one word to describe her husband, she said, "Remarkable."



### Class President

Maria Ann Oliva, daughter of Bob and Alice Oliva, is president of the Windsor Locks High School class of 1989.

# Maria Oliva Keeps Active as Class President

To paraphrase a line from "West Side Story:" "I just (interviewed) met a girl named Maria..." Not the make-believe Maria in the popular Broadway and movie musical, but the active and congenial President of the class of 1989 at Windsor Locks High School, Maria Ann Oliva.

Maria, daughter of Bob and Alice Oliva, is the last of the Oliva children to graduate from the local school, and the second student from this well-known family to be chosen president of their class. One of her brothers, Kevin Oliva, was president of the 1985 class. Maria is the third family member to be interviewed. Her father, Robert Oliva, a teacher and adviser at the school, was interviewed in February 1976.

Before some interesting background on Maria, here is an update on the Oliva family. Bob is a native son, and Alice is from West Hartford. There are four other children besides Maria. Lisa and Robert are twins. Lisa, a 1982 graduate, was a cheerleader. She was also a student at Holy Cross, and is now in the U.S. Air Force stationed in New Hampshire. Robert, a former basketball player at school, is a class of 1983 graduate. He attended Western Connecticut State University, works at Travelers, and recently married a local girl, Laurie Piazza. Kelly was a track member, with the class of 1984, and went on to Our Lady of the Elms in Chicopee. She is now a registered nurse at Hartford Hospital. Kevin, the other former class presi-

## cabbages & kings

JACK REDMOND

dent, played football. He now attends Central Connecticut State University.

Maria, known to her classmates as "Ri," attended St. Gabriel's in Windsor through the eighth grade. In addition to indoor/outdoor track and field events, Maria's major sport at the High School has been field hockey. Maria began her class leadership involvement as a sophomore when she was chosen the treasurer of her class. She was made vice president as a junior, and also the president of the Student Council. This year, in addition to the class presidency, she is the vice president of the Student Council.

Maria's fellow officers have all made their marks, not only in class involvement, but on the sports field. Vice President Mike Collins plays football and basketball. Treasurer Brenda Glamuzina is a diver on the Swim Team, and Secretary Tracy DeMaine is member of the field hockey team.

Maria recently attended a session of the United Nations in New York City with eight other students, accompanied by the Director of the Model United Nations, Frank Borchella. Maria said the trip was both "interesting and great, and the students will represent the country of Ecuador in the annual UN debate."

She is also involved in other class activities. The recent class magazine drive was a "complete success," breaking the record, with more over \$35,000, and she added "it was one of the top ten (drives) in the nation." And, for the followers of local renditions of Broadway plays, Maria said, "The Class of 1989 will stage a play (in the spring) but, at this time, no definite story line has been chosen."

As for her responsibility, as president of her class, she felt that "answering questions of the other students was very important ... the Yearbook, the class play, and just being their student representative." And Maria's future plans are "to attend either UConn or the Catholic University in Washington D.C. and major in law, and a minor in political science."

Politics have always been a part of the Oliva family. Her father was related to the late Governor Ella Grasso. Just being a "Democrat," was "true, all of my life." Adding, "I started early, working in local elections, especially for my neighbor, Marie E. Dengenis, our Town Clerk, in her campaign, and being called the youngest campaign manager."

Was it difficult being the fifth child in an active family? Not for Maria. She said, "I really had an advantage, it was easier for me, I didn't mind being the youngest, except for the time I was in grade school and my brothers and sisters were in high school. Academically, I tried to model myself after Lisa and

Kelly, and for personality, I try to be outgoing and friendly as Kevin."

After classes, sports and homework, Maria can be found listening to music, watching television, or going to the movies. In addition, she enjoys reading autobiographies and biographies of famous people. For music, Maria enjoys rock and roll of the '60s, in television, its "Roseanne" and "Falcon Crest." Her favorite TV star is Michael J. Fox. Current movie hits with Maria were "Cocktail" with Tom Cruise, and "Dirty Dancing" with her favorite movie star, Patrick Swayze.

Maria has spent vacation time in Florida and recently, trip to Wildwood, New Jersey with friends and their parents. Maria is a Yankee fan during the baseball season, and in the winter, follows the Dallas Cowboy games. She even has a jacket to prove it. Or is it Dad's?

Maria said the disciplinarian in the family is her mother, and she went on to say, "My mother is the most generous person I have ever known. She has taught me to accept the good and the bad in (situations) and people, and this advice I have tried to follow, accepted the good with the bad, in life."

We walked to the girl named Maria, in the best of surroundings. The Oliva family had a roaring fire in the fireplace and to one side, a beautifully trimmed and lighted Christmas tree, and it wasn't even Thanksgiving. But if you know Alice Oliva, mother of this clan, you know Christmas comes early to their house.

Joseph Donald Ouellette is a man of many talents, with activities and responsibilities covering a diversified lifestyle.

The Maine native is a two-sport coach in town, veteran of two decades working with a well-known airline, member of the local Lions, father of three active children and he served with the U. S. Air Force in Vietnam. His wife, Sue, calls him "a caring, loving and sensitive man."

The son of a Maine lumberjack, Joe came to Bristol at the age of six. The family of Raoul (now deceased) and Berna (still a resident of Bristol) Ouellette came to Connecticut from the town of Fort Kent, "the most eastern point in Maine you can go," according to Joe.

His father moved to Bristol, due to the "boom in industry," during the early 50s. The family settled in Bristol, and in addition to his mother, Joe's brother, Ray, and sisters, Lee and Linda, still live there.

Joe, too small to play football as a youth, had made up for that, with eight years coaching, both in the Midget Football League and Little League baseball, since his two boys, Craig and Paul, were able to hold a bat or kick a football. The Ouellettes also have a daughter, Stacy, who has been a cheerleader in football, and began her softball career this past summer.

But first things first...Joe did "try out for every sport," but his size, at the time, was against this type of activity, except for running the 50-yard dash, at the Bristol Eastern High School, class of 1964. During those high school years Joe worked part time at Bradlee's, and some time after graduation. He then took a job at Pratt & Whitney in Southington for a three-month period.

#### Serving his Country

Joe's next move was to join the U.S. Air Force (Feb. 1965) saying, "This may sound a little corny, but I felt it was my duty." He went on to say, "I wanted some organization to my life and the service was the answer."

The new airman had basic training in San Diego, then went on to school in Denver. Joe returned East to the Rome Air Force Base in upper New York. Joe's service career lasted until October 1968, with one year in Vietnam, mostly as a weapons mechanic and in addition, teaching South Vietnam airman to load munitions. After his overseas assignment, Joe returned to Rome and eventual was discharged from the service.

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## cabbages and kings

BY JACK REDMOND

Looking back to his year in the war zone, Joe said, "It was (to me) a rewarding time to be a U.S. airman...it was a political war and many did not get the recognition they deserved."

Joe was in need of a lasting career...and found one suited to his liking and talents 20 years ago, when he entered the customer service of the then Northeastern Airline, now Delta Airlines. Today, Joe is the Delta customer services supervisor at Bradley International Airport.

Joe's relationship with and his wife, Sue, began at Bradley. However, their paths did not cross, when she was living in upstate New York in Oneida, near the Rome Air Force Base. Rather, they crossed at Bradley while he was working the Delta counter and Suzanne Navin was issuing tickets for Mohawk, now US Air.

Suzanne was born in South Dakota, but as an infant, she and her large family moved to Oneida. Actually the family moved around the country, as her late father, Francis Navin was an airline pilot. Her mother, Marguarite also deceased, was the mother of eight children: three girls and five boys.

Sue graduated from Oneida High School in 1966, attending college in the Buffalo area for one year, before entering the Mohawk Career School as a customer service agent. Today, Sue is still associated with US Air, in their Hartford ticket office.

Joe and Sue, taking advantage of their airline connections, honeymooned all over Europe, seeing the countrysides of France, Italy, Spain and Portugal. Returning to the states, they set up housekeeping in Stafford Springs for two years, moving to Windsor Locks in November of 1972, the day their first child, Craig, was born.

#### A Sporting Family

Craig, now 16, is a junior at the high school. He played Little League baseball, when he was 8 until he turned 15. Craig has played Midget Football the past eight years.

In his freshman year at the Raider School, he played on the junior varsity baseball team.

Paul, 14, is a freshman, and like his brother before him, played Little League in the first "T" ball program. He was a member of the annual Sixth Grade Basketball Tourney and has played Midget Football.

Both Craig and Paul have earned football laurels...Craig, the 1985 Ray Beaulieu Memorial Award and Paul, the David Gaither Memorial Award for "outstanding linesman."

Stacy, 10, is in the fifth grade at the North Street School. When her two brothers were playing football, she was first the mascot and then cheerleader, since the age of four. Stacy

now plays girl's softball, a new part of the town's Little League program.

The Ouellette family have been travelers and campers...to Virginia Beach, and have visited Denver, Maine, Florida, Hawaii and Arizona as well as England, Ireland and Holland.

When Joe is not coaching at his two favorite sports, he's a handyman around the house, and "works on his 64 Corvette." He roots for the Red Sox in baseball (the boys are Yankee fans) and the Giants in the football season. Joe has also been an active member, depending on his schedule, of the local Lions Club

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Ouellette family.

## Joe Ouellette-Manages to Coach

## Two Sports and be an Involved Father

## The Cyr Family Comes Home to Windsor Locks After Years in the Air

'Twas the night before Christmas Eve, and we found out what Kimberly and Robynn Cyr wanted from Santa Claus.

The two pretty girls, daughters of Guy and Suzanne Cyr, were not at all reluctant to discuss what they hope for under the tree, come Christmas morning. A desk for Kimberly and "Barbie stuff," for the younger Robynn.

The Cyr family is celebrating their second Christmas in Sue's hometown, and her husband's home, since he was twelve, after spending eight years in the air, so to speak, with Guy, a member of the U. S. Air Force, as a second lieutenant.

The young couple have lived in sunny California, colder North Dakota, equally as cold, New Hampshire and finally back to the four seasons, in Windsor Locks.

But first, some family history on these two friendly folks, who met in the place with the two arches, and their two daughters.

Guy Eugene Cyr was born in Edmundston, New Brunswick, Canada. He is the son of Roger and Fern Cyr, originally from Canada, who have lived in Windsor Locks for two decades, and now are retired and living in their native country. They came to the states when Guy was 12; with Mr. Cyr, a printer by trade, working for Connecticut Printers in Bloomfield.

Young Guy entered Southwest School, with French as the family language. According to Sue, "As with her husband, kids find a way, and was in a language/reading class, from the beginning." Guy has a brother, Pierre, and sister, Elaine, both residents in town.

As time would tell, Guy Cyr made out just fine, graduating from the local high school in 1973, where he was captain of the football

### cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

team and was on the track squad. He entered UConn, on a Air Force ROTC Scholarship. Upon graduation in 1977, he went into the air force. During Guy's second year at UConn, and home for the summer, he met Suzanne Coyle, over a Big Mac.

A few facts on one of three girls in his life...Sue is the daughter of the late Alfred Coyle, a cabbages and kings interviewee (July 77) and for many years, a member of the Fire Commission. Sue's mother, Millie Coyle Crosby, is a former employee of the Windsor Locks Journal, during the days of Mrs. Lee and Dotty Gill. Today, Millie and her husband, Jack Crosby, spend the winters in Florida and the summer months in New Hampshire.

Sue, a 1976 graduate of the Raider School, lived in the Denslow Street area, and has a sister, Leslie, who lives in New Hampshire and a brother, Kevin, who resides in West Haven. Sue said, "I was a member of the year book staff and had a lot of fun and really enjoyed the years in high school." She attended Southern Connecticut for a year, worked as a nurse's aide (during high school) and was married to Guy on Sept. 17, 1977. Then it was off to the wild blue yonder and sunny California.

Guy spent eight years in the U.S. Air Force, with his initial navigation training in California, accompanied by his new bride, sharing the sights (for a year) of the golden state. Sue remembers..."We loved San Francisco, the weather was perfect." They then left for a three-year stay in North Dakota,



Kimberly (left) and Robynn Cyr stand with Mickey Mouse.

which turned out to be "our favorite place, we made a lot of friends and still correspond with some of them." Their first daughter, Kimberly was born there.

After North Dakota, it was back east to a New Hampshire base. In 1985, Guy was discharged from the service. During his career, he made trips to the Far East (Guam, Korea, Japan) and, during duty in New Hampshire, managed to take a few flights to Europe. Sue said, with a smile, "No, I couldn't go...I just got post cards."

Guy took a job in Boston for a year, with he and the family living in southern New Hampshire. In November, 1986, Guy joined Hamilton Standard and today is an auditor

in the aircraft's purchasing department. His family moved to Windsor Locks in March of 1987.

Now some information on the two little girls waiting for Santa to come on the 25th. Kimberly, 9, is a student at South Street School, in the fourth grade. She enjoys softball and soccer, and is involved in the TAG program, which means Talented & Gifted. She plays the flute and sings in the St. John's Episcopal Church Choir in Warehouse Point, where her parents are quite active, as Sunday School teachers. Robynn, six, is also at South, as a first grader, and like her sister, sings in the church choir. Robynn is involved in gymnastic lessons and collects statues of horses.

The Cyr family also has two other members...Rusty, a dog, and a cat called Holly, who loves to catch squirrels.

Their dad, a "handyman around the house," is active on the racquet court and in the past year joined the local Lions Club. When it comes to spectator sports, Guy has not forgotten his roots...still cheers for the Montreal Canadiens in hockey, and in football, the Minnesota Vikings. Travel for the family has been north and south...Florida in the south and visiting grandparents in Canada.

### Epilogue

Guy was born in Canada; Sue in Windsor Locks; Kimberly in North Dakota and Robynn in New Hampshire. Now, the Cyr family is home for Christmas in Mom's hometown. During our talk, Kimberly and Robynn and I agree, there is a Santa Claus. A desk ("to do my homework in my room") for Kimberly and "Barbie stuff" for Robynn.

Yes, 'Twas the night before Christmas Eve, and like the Cyr girls, I can't wait. Merry Christmas to all, and a good night.

# 1989 Is Just Around the Corner

Janu-weary...Short-lived the season to be jolly  
Midst the mistletoe and holly  
Soon come January chills  
From the siege of Christmas bills... Merry Browne

A few thoughts on what the good citizens of Windsor Locks may hope for in the new year, just around the corner:

Peter Enkler — As much success in the hardware business, as when an international chef.

Mike Mascaro — Good grades in college, as with your athletic ability.

Jim Muska — Good teams to talk about as WLHS Athletic Director.

Lisa Bellissimo — To continue as Teacher of any year.

Jim O'Brien — To continue as a most-happy coach.

John Flanders — Chairman, MRRRA — Selling more newspapers, cans and glass, even in your sleep.

Chuck Bonadies — Correct solution to the classroom situation in town.

Norm Messier — To continue the Lions motto . . . "We Serve" and we know you will.

Joe Netolicky — Bigger fish for everyone to fry.

Mark Hancock — To get ready for the 1992 Olympics

Lauretta Rooney — Remembering the old days . . . even in the new year.

Ed Brazalovich — As a Yankee fan..you got to wait till next year.

Red Sox Fans — To stay ahead of the Yankees in the American league East.

Yankee Fans — Return to the glory days of yesteryear.

Police Chief Harry Carroll — Better try those get-a-way weekends instead.

Jim Bates — The year to write the great American novel.

Kenny Jeffrey — Fire Prevention is . . . every week of the year . . . keep up the good news.

## cabbages and kings

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Andrew Davies Family — a return trip to England for all the Davies.

Shirley Horan — 1989 will be a better place, because of people like Shirley.

Jim Rumbold — Many years of golf in retirement.

Mike Jordan — He still gets a kick out of serving the town, saying, "When it isn't fun . . . get out."

Aldo Sicbaldi and Louie Nai — St. Louis Cardinal fans — maybe the team should move baseball to Phoenix?

Raider Basketball Team — Another title game in New Britain, and beat Avon.

Ed Sabotka — Another year and another year not to forget the veterans.

Ralph McComb — Speaking of veterans...don't ever change, the man with many hats.

Dave Farr — Speaking of Yankee fans, he had high hopes, will settle for a good JV basketball team.

Cliff Randall — Here we go again, to run or not run?

Con O'Leary — Any trips to the islands planned for the new year?

Carl Schiessl III — No worries until 1990, just to do a good job.

John Dowd — Move over Cliff, here I come again.

George Hall — Another local election . . . so soon?

Ed Ferrari — Our energetic double-duty citizen about town. (In any year)

Alice Marconi Clack — Who to run with Cliff?

More good news . . . on a bus: "Smile. You're one day closer to spring..."

. And Happy New Year to All.