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NEW YEARS 1991

Elsie and Ray Nesta: 'Down to Earth' Local Folks

If Mama says no, ask Grandma...."

Words on Elsie's kitchen wall mat

Elsie Colturi Nesta grew up on Whiton Street in town ("Easy Street" to oldtimers) and her talented husband, Raymond Harold Nesta, was a New Britain native. They met in Elsie's home town, and during the past 38 years were separated by the Korean War as newly-weds, built their own home on Ray's return, raised a son and daughter, and equally proud of their two granddaughters. ("Light of our lives.")

Ray has retired from the telephone company, but keeps busy in the art of carpentry and even some cooking. Elsie still works part-time at the town hall, with over two decades of experience in "every office" in the same building she graduated from when it was the local high school. As an alumna of the Class of 1947, she was proud to say "we have had reunions every five years."

Ray, a New Britain High School grad (Class of 1948), like his wife, came from a popular neighborhood. As a young man he played semi-pro football with former Governor Tom Meskill and the famed John Downey, who was jailed by Communist China for 21 years.

Elsie attended St. Mary's and the local high school, and with the exception of the years when their two children were growing up, she had worked at a hospital, at Bradley Field, for the Visiting Nurse Association and at the town hall. Although, she has had a full career, along with Ray, she wondered what I would have to write about, saying "We're just ordinary people." So Elsie and Ray Nesta, I found you to be very unordinary (Dictionary ... *un* ... indicates not or contrary to).

A short time out of school, Elsie began her working career at the Hartford School of Nursing as a secretary, that lasted a little over a year. She decided to work closer to home, taking a position at Bradley Field (which was quite different in those days, she recalled) for the Flight Enterprise Company. She spent ten years at the field, with some time off, for a trip to Texas, which follows.

Let's pick up Ray Nesta's life ... he was always interested in carpentry, became an apprentice carpenter for a West Hartford firm. In February, 1949, a friend of Ray suggested they take a ride to Windsor Locks,

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where a Valentine Dance was being held at Union School. Elsie was there, and boy meets girl. Elsie and Ray. Two years later (actually June, 1951) the boy from New Britain marries the girl from Windsor Locks. During that period (before the wedding) was dating time and Ray and Elsie made many of the dances at the Polish National Home.

After the wedding, Elsie and Ray lived with her parents (the late Angelo and Louise Colturi) until Ray was drafted into the U.S. Army, in February, 1952. Ray trained in South Carolina and Texas. The young soldier was told he was not on the list for shipment to the Korea front. The anxious GI eager to see Elsie, called and said "Come to Texas." The young bride, just as anxious, found a fellow employee who was driving to Dallas. The two young women took off for Fort Hood, Texas. Soon after Elsie's arrival, the army had changed their mind ... Ray was given a 30-day furlough, and then, overseas. Elsie and Ray returned to Windsor Locks, said their goodbyes and Ray would spend the next year in Korea. Elsie lived with her sister Mary, while Ray was gone.

In Korea, Ray served in the 2nd Infantry Division, seeing action at the front over a six-month period, serving in two major battles: "Pork Chop Hill," (later made into a movie) and "Old Baldy." During the year in Korea, Ray also served as an MP (Military Police). A part of this duty was serving as one of the first MPs in the demilitarized zone.

On Ray's joyful return (Nov. 1953), he found that Elsie had set up an apartment at West and Whiton Streets, and needless to say, he was home and a happy reunion for the young couple.

Some background on their families: Elsie's sister is Mary Colo (C&K, Aug. 89) and a brother, Louis, who resides in Enfield. Ray's parents were the late Anthony and Vita Nesta, who, like Elsie's folks migrated from Italy. Ray has three brothers ... Sal of New-

ington, Adolph of New Britain and Richard in sunny Florida; and two sisters, Mary of Derby and Lillian in New Britain.

Back to Ray and Elsie ... they have a son, Michael and daughter, Patricia. Michael graduated from the high school in 1976, was a Little Leaguer and midget football player. He and his wife, Laura, live in Somers. He is employed by the telephone company and recently started his own construction business in Somers. Michael has studied air-conditioning and heating at the New England Tech School in New Britain. According to Elsie, "Michael is a very ambitious boy."

Patricia is married to Henry J. White III, and they live in town, with their two daughters, Allison 4, and Cristin 2. As a young girl, their mother was active in the Girl Scouts, 4-H and is a grad of the local high school, Class of 1977. Pat took part in the school's annual musical, "Fiddler on the Roof," in the role of Bielke. She has received an associate degree in accounting from Bryant College in Rhode Island.

In the spring of 1955, Ray Nesta began the building of his own home on Grove Street, with the help of Elsie, which they now call home. It was completed in August of 1956. They were given property by Elsie's parents, and with Ray's talents in carpentry, it meant a big plus. Today, his hobby is still carpentry and he has added even a few cooking skills. He admits, "My family and friends keep me busy." Vacation time for the Nestas has always been the beaches of Cape Cod.

When Ray returned from Korea, he went



Ray and Elsie Nesta with their family.

back to his job in West Hartford until July of 1955. He then joined SNET as a linesman, retiring in 1987 as line inspector. Elsie, as mentioned, has had several jobs at the town hall, over the years, and today, is one of the assistant town clerks, and sub-registrar of vital statistics.

Ray's admiration of others, includes the versatile actor and singer, Danny Thomas, for what Ray called, "His dedicated life to the children's hospital, St. Jude's in Memphis, Tennessee. When asked, whom she admired most, Elsie said, "My husband, his talents, with his hands, have helped so many." Ray summed up his and Elsie's personal philosophies, "I don't want to hurt anyone, and I don't anyone to hurt me, no conflicts, I had enough in the army ... smile and the world smiles with you."

What better way to start a new decade, than the unordinary story of Ray and Elsie Nesta, who are down-to-earth, and in their words, "Just people into family and friends and we enjoy our grandchildren."

Paul Seaha: Keeping Up

"He did it all..." Paul, remembering his father, Bernie Seaha.

Like his father before him, Paul Seaha is living life to the fullest. This young Windsor Locks native and busy bachelor is keeping up the Seaha tradition with numerous personal endeavors and rightfully, could be called, a "chip of the old block."

Fond memories of his late father covered many happy and worthwhile circumstances when Paul was growing up with the active family of Bruno and Malvina Seaha.

Paul's father was better known as Bernie, and his mother, known then and now as Mal, with the equally well know name of Quagliaroli, still resides on Grove Street, where their eight children grew up.

There was five sons and three daughters in the Seaha family that filled the house,

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with their parent's love and examples on how to keep busy and live the good life.

It was never my pleasure to know or meet Bernie Seaha. The man's accomplishments in Windsor Locks are legendary, not only as a father, but as a concerned citizen in civic and veteran affairs, that Paul proudly pointed out at our meeting last month.

The meeting gave us the opportunity, not only to relive with words, what Paul's father did, but also to find out what makes Paul Seaha tick. And he's been ticking ever since he left high school, but first ... Paul attended local schools, graduated from high school in 1978. He still looks like he could be the defensive captain on the Raider football team, as he was twelve years ago.

Paul always "wanted to be a welder," he said. He attended Manchester Community College, Central, Asnuntuck, enrolling in single courses in those area schools. Eventually he found his career goal in Meriden by taking classes at the Wilcox Technical school, specializing in aircraft welding. Paul gives credit to his Uncle Sy and cousin Neal Quagliaroli, for their training at Hi-G, when Paul worked there (during high school, after football practice) in the welding process.

At Paul's renovated home (still in stages) on Half Way House Road, he proudly exhibited posters showing aircraft welding he has worked on at his current position at Hamilton Standard over the past eight years. When he talked and explained his part in the USA space shuttle system in the wild blue, he was talking about local input and the role his company plays in the program.

Paul has been involved in welding component parts, not only on the shuttle ("flow sensor, fuel cell heat exchange,") but other forms of welding on aircraft, such as B-52s, 747s and F16s. When I first called Paul for an interview, we had to postpone the time, because he said, "I've been busy on the shuttle," not knowing he meant *the* shuttle, that was in space at the time.

Another job assignment for Paul was welding of a "Coat-Hanger Unit," used for the astronaut's suits during the space ride.

I believe at this junction of Paul's story, his family background and father's accomplishments, are in order ... for the record: Bernie was one of five children, Mal, one of six, so having eight children was not uncommon for the Seaha and Quagliaroli families.

Paul's brothers and wives: John and Mary Ann of Windsor Locks, Mark and Kathy of Rocky Hill, Joseph and Sherry of Windsor

Locks and Jimmy and Lynn of Brisbane, Australia, where Jim is a teacher, his mother was off for a Christmas vacation down under. Paul's sisters: JoAnne and Richard Munson of Windsor Locks, Linda and John Donahue of Windsor Locks (subject of C&K, Aug. 85) and Susanne of Windsor Locks. Paul is called uncle by his brother's six children.

Bernie Seaha was born in Suffield, but all the good deeds and contributions were in his adopted town. He worked many years for Roncari Industries as credit manager. Mrs. Seaha currently works part-time for the Roncari company. Mr. Seaha was a decorated army veteran of World War Two, serving in Europe in the famed Battle of the Bulge, where he received the Purple Heart. He earned a battle-field commission and while in an English Hospital, his nurse was a Windsor Locks woman ... Betty Colli, sister of Jennie Colli.

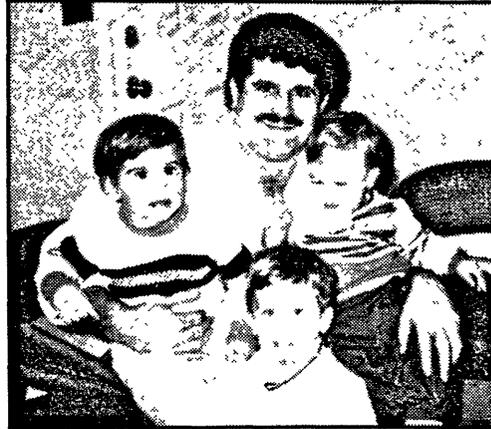
The following were the many hats worn by Mr. Seaha: grand knight of the KofC; commander of the V.F.W.; member of the American Legion; chairman of the Police Commission; president of the Rotary Club; twenty-five years with the Fire Department, served on the Board of Selectmen for two years; finance chairman of the town's Republican Town Committee and the town's Solid Waste Disposal Committee.

Paul tells the story of when he and his family were young, they all participated in the family paper route for the Hartford Courant.

Paul said, "It was a seven-day week job, up at 5 a.m., my father would fold the papers and we would all take turns in delivery, with him at the family car. After we were finished, we would go to the "Donut Kettle," for breakfast and then off to school ... my father had a great system." He went on to say ... "On Sunday mornings, after delivery of the papers, all to home to a bath and into our best clothes and then off to St. Mary's, where my dad was an usher." We were all organized, he said, every one of the kids had chores to do around the house. It was something to grow up in the Seaha home. Paul adding ... "it was not a strict upbringing ... just a loving one."

Among Paul's numerous hobbies are the planting and displaying various types of flowers around his home. He began small, and eventually ordered by catalog, adding, "I have tons of flowers, around the house, everywhere." In addition he has a full garden and, in the fall, built a pyramid of different vegetables, in the front of his house, with a 300-pound pumpkin as the center-piece.

Memberships include: the Horticultural



Paul Seaha with three nephews, Vincent, Paul and Daniel.

Society, American Welding Society, active member of the town's Republican Party, was recently elected constable. He's a part-time real estate agent for Marotta Real Estate.

When time permits, Paul is into scuba diving, photography and in his house are a few of his paintings. Vacation time is usually spent at the Cape. Television is restricted to Sunday football games and a few games watching his favorites, the Yankees and Don Mattingly. Add the game of golf to his list of activities.

When Paul was a young boy, he took part in his father's campaign for office and, in the recent election, helped in the Alice Marconi Clack run for the first selectman. Paul was recently appointed to the Park Commission.

Paul is all Windsor Locks ... example: he drives a truck and is always being kidded by friends, that he doesn't go over the town line, which he always says ... "Windsor Locks is a nice town ... and I'll never leave." Just a matter-of-fact guy.

Paul gives credit to his mother and father, saying, "My mother is great ... my father, he did it all, enjoyed being involved in town matters, a happy man and well liked." Paul, himself, has a simple yet profound philosophy ... "If everyone does something for their town and family, things (life) will go a lot smoother."

EPILOG

Paul Seaha, energetic, no-nonsense guy, proud of family and town is doing it all, at a young age. Has a favorite saying ... "Don't sweat the little things (in life), because it is (just) little stuff." Paul, in thinking about his father, said, "He is probably looking down and saying ... you boys did all right for yourselves, (and with a big smile by Paul) and the girls too."

the Family Tradition

Thompsons Are Involved

It's always a healthy sign when you find a young couple interested in education, their church and with a taste of local politics. This fits the friendly and energetic Chris and Cindy Thompson, parents of two boys.

This was a return visit to a member of the Thompson clan, back in November, 1984, Chris' parents, Newton and Christine Thompson, were subjects of a C & K column.

While his parents were "Travelers and Theater Devotees," Chris has been active in church affairs and other civic activities, with Cindy taking an active role in PTO, as a friendly gadfly of the local Board of Education and entered politics as a nominee for constable in last's year local election.

Christopher David Thompson is a native son, a graduate of the high school, Class of 1975 (also Cindy's class). Cynthia Soovajian, born in Enfield, came to Windsor Locks, at the age of 10. For the story of the young Thompsons, we will refer to Cindy Thompson, "only my mother can get away with calling me Cynthia," she said, with her beautiful smile.

Chris and Cindy both took part, behind the scenes, in their class musical, "Camelot." Chris was a member of the school's ski team, in addition to a year on the soccer and football teams. Cindy was in the National Honor Society and in "the volunteer program assisting other students who may have had some difficult class work."

Chris was not certain as to what he wanted to do (with his life) during high school or college, and admitted, "still do not," even with his steady job at Hamilton-Standard, since 1978. He tried UConn for a year (accounting), left college and worked at Hardee's, as manager for a year, a job he had (part-time) while in high school. He worked at Hartford Hospital for two years, before joining Hamilton. Today, Chris is in the purchasing department for the aircraft company in "Sub-Contract Administration."

Cindy and Chris knew each other in high school, as fellow classmates. They would meet, in a more formal way, at a local dance in November, 1976. Three months later they were engaged. In February, 1978, they were married. They both agreed (with a familiar line of mine) he chased her, until she caught him....

Cindy is the daughter of John and Lucille (Serigny) Soovajian, both Hartford natives.

She has a brother, Bill, and three sisters ... Kathy, Marie and Susan. Chris, on the other side of the family, has three brothers ... Newton III, Jeffrey and Mark.

Back to Cindy, she received an associate degree from the Manchester Community College in "Occupational and Physical Therapy." Cindy's career, in this field, included work at the BayState Memorial Hospital in Springfield and the Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center in Hartford.

The girl with the inquisitive and smiling manner, found "a new interest," working at a local hotel, until the first of their sons were born. Today, Cindy is "just a mother," or as Chris said, "a domestic engineer."

Some statistics on the two Thompson boys ... Ryan Christopher, who will be eight in April, attends North Street School, as a second grader, with "math, all A's" his favorite subject. Ryan, a very outgoing young man, is into soccer and T-ball on the diamond. His favorite shows on television, are the cartoons. Aaron David Thompson, who was four in November, the quiet one in the family, is a nursery school student at the local Congregational Church. He, like a lot of young children, enjoys "Dumbo and Bambi."

The oldest of the Thompson men, on Cornwall, is a member of the Masons,



The Thompson family

Morningstar Lodge 28, in East Windsor. On the local church level, Chris is very active as chairman of the Board of Christian Education at the Congregational Church on Main Street. He has been involved with the Cub Scouts (Troop 261), has coached T-Ball and assisted on the soccer field.

The Thompson family first lived in Enfield, over a period of seven years, before moving to their home on Cornwall, where Chris grew up. In Enfield, Cindy was active in the Junior Women's Club, but looking back at that time, "Enfield was not like Windsor Locks, now my adopted town, this is more like home," she stated.

After the move here, Cindy joined the PTO, at the North Street School, is the vice-president and editor of the organization's newsletter.

Cindy has had a keen interest in education, and as a concerned citizen attends the Board of Education meetings, as much as possible. Her background in the field of therapy, has always been upper in her mind, and someday, she said, she would enjoy getting back "to my old career, especially in the field of special education."

Chris was very supportive of Cindy's entrance into the political arena last fall, in her unsuccessful try for a constable position on

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the GOP ticket. But, she enjoyed the experience, was not discouraged, and will try again.

On a personal note, Chris is an avid reader, plays golf at Copper Hill in East Granby, and "dabbles in wood (working)." Cindy has her crafts. They are not much into television, but do enjoy music with the mellow sounds.

On admiration and how knowledge is gained: Chris gave the classic example, as a young boy growing up, he never took much stock in his father's sage advice. Today, Chris admires his father greatly, now realizes the wisdom that his father was trying to convey to him.

Cindy admired her grandmother... Catherine Soovajian, saying, "A most wonderful woman, so caring, she devoted so much to me, and (taught me) to give to others."

The young couple hadn't thought much, as to a personal philosophy, only to say, (Chris) "I guess the Golden Rule," and (Cindy) "Live day by day." When Cindy was asked to describe her husband, she said, "A very sensitive man."

Epilog

Chris and Cindy Thompson would never be called "Rebels Without a Cause." This young couple have very important causes to be involved with ... the church, the educational system, with a small touch of politics. They are laying the groundwork for Ryan and Aaron, and enjoying their growth at the same time.

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in Education and Church

Ken Karto, Vietnam Vet, Active in V.F.W.

In September of 1989, Kenneth Karto, in the role of senior vice commander, V.F.W., Post 6123, enrolled his father, Andrew Karto, into the local veteran organization. For Ken, he "was pleased to perform the ceremony," for his father, a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

Ken Karto, a veteran of the Vietnam War, is a Fall River, Massachusetts native, however, he said, "I consider Windsor Locks my home," coming here at the age of nine, when his father came to this area looking for employment. Ken's father was originally from West Virginia and his mother, Diamondtina Karto, was born in Fall River.

Now the father of four daughters, Ken joined the U.S. Army in October, 1966, after three years in high school. He later received the equivalent high school diploma, while in the service.

The young soldier received his training in South Carolina, Maryland and Oklahoma. It was in the "Sooner" state, he met and married Deanna Yoakum, who at the time was in the army herself. She was born in Minnesota, but grew up in Kentucky. Their wedding took place in March of 1968. In May of that year, Ken was shipped to Vietnam. Deanna left the service, before their first daughter was born. On Ken's return in May, 1969, after a year in the far east, he came home to his bride and the first of their daughters, also named Deanna.

Ken had served in Nam with an "aviation outfit." Looking back, at that period of his life and his thoughts: "I remember mostly, the rainy season in Nam ... I was not aware (at the time) of all the problems the war was creating at home ... I found (later) it was a highly political war, but I never felt any hard feelings towards me, on my return home."

The summer before Ken entered the service he had worked for the Roger Sherman

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Rigging Company in Bloomfield. On his return, he rejoined the rigging company, until 1975, when it closed. He took a few odd jobs before accepting a position with the Army National Guard at Camp Hartell in October 1977. He has been a member of the Guard since the early '70s. Today, Ken is a warehouse foreman at the local facility.

As mentioned, Ken and Deanna have four daughters, in addition, three grandsons to spoil. Their oldest daughter, Deanna, has a son, followed by Sharon, married to Duane Ellis, they have two sons. Both girls were graduates of the local high school. The two young girls are still in school... Brenda, in the Middle School and Kathy, who attends the South Street School.

Back to their active father... Ken, in addition to the Guard, and the V.F.W., holds memberships in the local American Legion, Post 36, and AmVets, Post 18, in Enfield. Ken's father was a navy veteran of two wars. He is a retired captain of the Bradley Field Fire Department, where he served for many years. Andrew Karto was a three-decade member of the Army National Guard. The Guard and service went from father to son.

Ken, as senior vice commander, is a "life member" of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He said, "I wish more young vets would sign up with the veteran organizations ... we need them." As to his position, Ken said, "I'm the chairman of the Poppy Drive and fill in for the commander, if not available. The post commander is Rick Newell.

On Tuesday, Jan. 30, the V.F.W. will hold their annual Sports Night, A popular winter



Ken Karto in Vietnam

Ken must feel at home, with that giant TV dish (in his backyard) as he views the Browns in Ohio or LA on Sundays, or whatever is on sports at anytime, all over the country.

When asked whom he most admired, it wasn't big Jim Brown of the Browns, but A. J. Foyt, with U.S. Auto Club championships going back to 1960. Ken said, "I always liked his style in racing, and most of all the man's aggressiveness." Ken tries to "live one day at a time... I'm realistic (about life) and do not set any goals."

Epilog

Kenneth Karto went off to Vietnam during a critical time in his country's history. He came back to become active in various veterans organizations. Men like Ken and his father keep alive the spirit of those who served their country in time of war.

When the V.F.W. honors the "Sportsman of the Year," it's their way of showing service, in this case, service to the youth of the community. Men like Ken keep this different concept alive.

fixture in town since 1962. Many of the country's great sports stars have been speakers, and a time for local athletes to be recognized for their contributions. This year the Post will honor Bob Murray, subject of a C&K interview back in December, 1978.

On a personal note ... Ken Karto, for years, was a mechanic for some of the fastest stock cars, with Stafford Springs in Connecticut, and Virginia/Florida as locations for competition. Today, sports is limited to the television, watching the Cleveland Browns in pro football, UConn and the Celtics on the court and the Sox at Fenway.

McMullens: Proud of the 'Hollow'

*"Bred, Bonded, Blessed....in Frog Hollow."
Per Mary McMullen*

John and Mary McMullen were born and raised in Hartford's Frog Hollow. "We knew each other all of our lives," said the friendly and proud mother of six. Adding, "We had the same friends in school and out of school ... went ice-skating, played ball and went swimming," all in Frog Hollow.

Mary explained it this way ... "we were bred, bonded and blessed in the Hollow." Literally translated by Mary ... "born, met there and were married."

However, two people who have never forgotten their roots, the McMullen clan has made Windsor Locks their home the past 36 years. Mary and John raised four sons, two daughters and were blessed further, with five grandchildren, adding to what Mary describes as "happiness and contentment," when the family is together for birthdays, picnics, graduations, weddings and holidays.

Now the story of the two who started it all ... John William McMullen went to Burns School, Mary Donovan McMullen attended Immaculate Conception (Sisters of Mercy) and both were students at Hartford Public High School.

John McMullen had several jobs before going to work for the town of Windsor Locks. He was employed at the Hartford Post Office, worked for a Hartford cementery, a gas station, delivered milk in his home town for two decades, and recently retired, after 22 years, in the family adopted town.

Shortly, after leaving high school and his first job, John was in the uniform of an army soldier. He served from September, 1944 to December, 1946 with overseas duty in the Philippines, for over a year.

John was the son of John McMullen, who was from Ireland. His mother, Jean, came from Scotland. He has a brother Billy, who lives in nearby Manchester and a sister, Jean, who resides in Simsbury.

Mary Donovan was the daughter of Michael Donovan, who was from Lenox, Massachusetts. Her mother, Jennie, was from Ireland. Ironically, Michael Donovan's parents came from County Mayo, the same part of the Emerald Isle, where his wife, Jennie, was born and raised.

Mary's employment began with the telephone company, as a junior in high school.

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After graduation in 1946, she went to work for SNET on a full time basis, over a period of 25 years, interrupted by the birth of their children. Mary has kept up friendships made at the telephone company and attends reunions quite frequently.

A story of John and Mary McMullen, of course, would not be complete without their six children ... the first born were twins, Michael John and William James. Michael, an Enfield police sergeant, lives in Easthampton, Mass. ... with his wife Debi, and their three children: Tracy, Stacey and Mikey. William, a teamster with Finast, lives in Stafford, with his wife Lisa. The twins were followed by John David, a mailman, who resides in Enfield, with his wife Margaret.

David William McMullen was discharged from the U.S. Coast Guard (Search Rescue), was a student (on dean's list) at UConn, and is now transferring to Los Angeles College of Chiropractic. His goal is to become a doctor of chiropractic care, with a minor in physical therapy.

Mary and John have two daughters: Jane Elizabeth VanAllen and Mary Ann Lessard. Jane and Ed VanAllen live in town and have two children: Heather, first grader at South and Joey. Mary and Marcel Lessard reside in Enfield and were married last June. Mary is employed by the Windsor Locks Credit Union. A sport note: Marcel is a champion bowler.

Another local sports note: William and Michael McMullen were in the Little League, John and David played midget football and continued the sport at the high school, where all the McMullen clan were graduates.

Back to their proud parents: Mary and John were married on Sept. 23, 1950, at the Immaculate Conception Church in the capital city. Some comments by Mary ... her John was the disciplinarian in the family. The secret of raising a large family ... Mary said, "Never consider it a large family." Adding, "Marriage is always strengthened by sacrifice and sorrow, and it was a strict home, with respect, closeness and love."

The McMullen newlyweds lived in Hart-

ford for three years, before moving to Windsor Locks on Andover (26 years) and then in 1979, moved to their current home on Miller Terrace. "It's been home, ever since, and we certainly love Windsor Locks."

John is a "Life" member of the local V.F.W. He is known affectionately, as "fix-it Dad," by his children. He had, at one time, a family garden, but figures today, "it's cheaper to buy." Today, in his retirement, John does woodworking. He follows the Red Sox, Mets and the Notre Dame football team.

The McMullens enjoy Irish music, vacationing at the Connecticut shore. John hopes to visit Ireland in the near future. Mary has already seen the beauty of her mother's home on three occasions, with friends and relatives.

When asked, whom they most admired, Mary said, "My parents and the Sisters of Mercy, who taught me values to live by."

John said, "My father, a very knowledgeable man (about everything) ... he was always fixing things, I guess that rubbed off on me." John adding, "I just hope for good health in my retirement years." Mary on the other hand, said, "I try to take each day and enjoy the contact with my children and grandchildren."

Epilog

That's the story of Mary and John McMullen. It's one of family, one of fond memories of their childhood and adolescence in "Frog Hollow" where they were "bred, bonded and blessed."

To Mary, strong values were taught by her mentors, the Sisters of Mercy, which were passed on to their children. They can further say with "pride and dignity", of those years in the hollow, they have found a love for their adopted town.

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and 'Love' Their Adopted Town

Steve Caliendo: from Football Player to Zoning Official

When Stephen Joseph Caliendo was a student at the Windsor High School, he excelled as a running back on the football field. He made the league's "All" team and was chosen by the Hartford Times as a "Player of the Week."

Today, young Steve is a Windsor Locks resident and an active member of the Democratic Town Committee. He was recently elected to the town's Zoning Board of Appeals.

When Steve played on the gridiron, he played the game to the hilt, giving his all, and still feels that strong urge, in the political arena, saying, "I want to play (more of) a part in government." The Windsor native has made his working career a part of government, as a state employee, over the last decade.

Steve, the son of the late Connie Stephenson, has a brother, Bernard, and three sisters: Frances, Rita and Carol. He was born and raised in nearby Windsor, "right next to the high school." The high school, where he co-captained the football and track teams. Steve, a 1973 grad, remembers when Windsor Locks had Windsor on its football schedule (his junior and senior years) and playing against Guy Cyr, now a member of the town's Board of Education.

Steve had two interests, as he entered college (Southern Connecticut), "politics and

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becoming a physical education teacher and coach." He's now in politics, but changed his career path (after a year at the New Haven school), transferring to Central Connecticut State University in New Britain.

At Southern, he attended a few football sessions, but dropped out. At Central, he was nearer home and after being "red-shirted," (sitting out football for a year), decided to "stick to the books." He chose political science/public administrator, graduating in 1978. That July, Steve began his career with the State of Connecticut, as part of the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunity.

Steve's main assignment was the role of investigator, for the state, covering discrimination complaints in housing and employment. He found the work "fascinating."

In October, 1986, he was transferred to the State Personnel Office as an "Affirmative Action" officer, reporting to five state commissioners. February, 1988, found Steve in another important area of state work ... "Consumer Protection." This gave Steve the opportunity to work daily for Mary Heslin, commissioner of the Department of Con-



Tammie and Steven Caliendo

sumer Protection. Steve took over the position of agent in the Affirmative Action Program Management. He had high praise for Mrs. Heslin, saying, "She is a super, super lady to work for..."

Another important lady in Steve's life is Tammie Whiting, who he married on Oct. 13, 1984. Steve and Tammie met during her visit to Connecticut, as part of a social workers organization, from her northern California home and as a student at Chico State. They kept in touch after her return to the West Coast. Tammie came east, they were reunited. She first worked for Finast (in town), and in 1988, joined the state Labor Department. The newlyweds lived in East Windsor for a short time, before moving to their current home in town, July, 1985.

This young couple share two sports, as time permits, golf and bowling. Steve ad-

mits, "I still follow my first love ... football," but has no favorite team. However, when you mention baseball, he's a Red Sox fan, which had its beginning, with his mother, who was "a great fan of Fenway." Steve and Tammie enjoy Cape Cod and alternate their yearly vacations between the Cape and visiting Tammie's relatives in sunny California.

When asked what are your hobbies, Steve said, "Politics, in addition to golf and bowling," and who got him interested? State Rep. Carl Schiessl. Steve joined the town's Democratic Town Committee in January 1988. Among his activities has been serving on the Salary Task Review. He wants to become "more and more" involved in town affairs.

Steve had high praise for his mother, Connie Stephenson, saying, "My mother raised us kids, alone, a single parent ... as I got older and realized what was involved in this mad, mad world, I marveled at what my mother had accomplished, bringing up me, my brother and sisters ... she was a very religious woman ... she kept the family together."

EPILOG

Stephen Joseph Caliendo, as energetic in politics as he was on the football field, was asked for his personal philosophy, he had this to say, "I guess you would say I'm a pragmatic person, and have two (concepts) on life itself ... (try) to live by the Golden Rule and the following ... 'God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.'"

Yellen Updates the 25th Anniversary of Town's World Champs

"I will play fair, strive to win, but win or lose, I will always do my best."

Little League Credo

We wanted to check on how the 25th anniversary of the 1965 Windsor Locks Little League World Champions, with Dave Yellen in charge of publicity and secretary of the committee, was doing and found a most interesting young man with a background of sports and education.

David John Yellen is one of many local citizens, organizing a May 5, 1990 tribute to the boys of that 1965 summer that brought fame to their town and memories, that the boys, parents and fans will not soon forget.

Before we go into the preparation for this special event, some personal background on Dave, a Rockville native, teacher and three-sport athlete, back in the '70s.

Dave does have a local connection; he is married to Sheila Connor Yellen, of the West Street Connors. Sheila shares Dave's secretarial duties on the committee.

He is the son of John Yellen and Jean MacBeth Yellen. Dave was born and raised in Rockville, graduating from the high school in 1974, where he starred in baseball, basketball and soccer. He was "All-Conference," on the diamond.

Dave's father was from Glastonbury and today enjoys retirement, after many years in the teaching profession. Mrs. Yellen was from Wethersfield, and with her husband raised Dave, his sister, Mary, and two other sons, Peter and Christopher.

In high school, Dave was in the National Honor Society, and a "State Scholar." He decided to attend UConn and become a medical technologist, and pursue his baseball career. He played in the freshman year, however, and said, "I changed my major to communications, I found it a lot of work and my studies were more important."

Dave did find the time to be a cheerleader for the Huskies, during his last three years,

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where he also found his "look-a-like," in local TV personality, Gerry Brooks, who, at the time, was doing UConn basketball on the radio.

His first job, after graduation in 1979, was as substitute teacher in Vernon in "all studies," for a year. The next three years, Dave Yellen found his niche in the educational field, as a special education teacher for East-Conn, in Windham. The following year, he taught at the JFK Middle School in Enfield, and for two semesters was at the Longview Catholic School (formerly OLA) teaching social studies, until the school closed.

In the fall of 1988, Dave joined the East Hartford school system, again teaching special education, as part of the Transiently Education Program, known as TEP. Dave said he loves working with these special students and wants to keep doing what he does; he "enjoys going to work every-

ryday."

Dave met his future wife, Sheila Connor, in the summer of 1983, at Cape Cod, introduced by one of Sheila's sisters. They were married in June, 1984, and lived in Somers for four years, before moving to Windsor Locks two years ago. Sheila is the daughter of Bill Connor, a local electrician, native of town and Dorothy Connor, originally from Windsor. Sheila has a brother, Kevin and three sisters: Lisa, Kathleen and Kristy.

Sheila graduated from the local high school in 1974 and then went on to St. Francis Hospital, becoming a licensed practical nurse. Her first position was at Johnson Memorial Hospital, which lasted 13 years. For the past



Dave John and Sheila Yellen

year or so, she has been nurse at the Wintonbury Continuing Care Center in Bloomfield.

Dave has always led an active life, outside the classrooms. He's an active golfer (Sheila wants to take up the game) and plays darts, yes, darts. You know, the game made famous at the English pubs. Once a week, for the past eight years, Dave has joined others in this friendly and highly competitive game, which takes place in Coventry.

When it comes to spectator sports, Dave's a die-hard Red Sox fan. Television is limited to weekend sports, and vacation time for this friendly and outgoing couple is usually the Cape.

When Dave stopped playing baseball, he turned to the role of coach and umpire. At Vernon he coached in the Babe Ruth League, and was assistant coach at the Vernon Middle School.

There are two other endeavors, Dave Yellen is quite proud of... he's a coach in the "Special Olympics" program in Windham. He said, "If you go once, as a coach or spectator, you'll never give it up." The other en-

deavor for this active man... along with Dave Emery, a native son, and special education teacher in Enfield, and neighbor... is their own home improvement business in the summertime.

One of the main reasons for Dave's involvement in the local Little League celebration goes as follows: Dave attended a few games on the Little League level, where AnnMarie Claffey's sons, Brian and Sean (she's Sheila's cousin) were playing at Pesci Park. Dave, the umpire, volunteered, got involved in a few games and called some of the plays in the All-Star Game.

Now, the plans for the 25th anniversary of the 1965 World Camps... Saturday, May 5, 1990, the evening before the annual parade and first games of the Little League season at Pesci Park. The affair will be held at the fancy Chez Josef in Agawam, Mass. The price for this special event is... yes, \$19.65 a person. How's that for class!

Ann Marie Claffey is chairperson for the affair and her hard working committee includes Al Wilcox, as treasurer, Sheila as recording secretary, Dave, the correspondence secretary and in charge of publicity. As mentioned, there are a great many local citizens seeing that the boys from the summer of 1965 are welcomed home (quite a few live out of state) and given the accolades they deserve.

According to Dave, the 1989 World Champs of the Little League from Trumbull, Connecticut will be on hand for the May 6 parade.

Two personal notes on Dave... He admires his "oldest brother, Peter Yellen," saying, "he paved the way for me in school and sports, set a good example." For Dave's personal philosophy, he said, "Stay involved, and try to make a difference..."

Epilog

David John Yellen has definitively stayed involved, especially in the field of special education and the Special Olympics program, two groups of great kids.

Today, he is also working, along with Sheila and a group of local citizens, to honor another bunch of kids, who 25 years ago, won the hearts of Windsor Locks and the World Championship of the Little League.

Tom Benefield: High School's 'Class Representative'

"Be yourself, in a world, which is always trying to change you..."

Tom's philosophy

Tom Benefield would rather talk about others, saying, "I'm not big on telling my life story ..."

First impressions, if you put any stock into this type of analysis, can be very misleading. Yes, Thomas Jay Benefield, comes on strong, is tall, wears his hair long, coat long, and once you gain his confidence, is long on conversations, mostly about others. Tom has a way with truthfulness and a certain amount of shyness comes across.

We met Tom at the high school. Why at the high school? Because Tom is president of the Windsor Locks High School class of 1990. After a few opening remarks, you find Tom wanted to be called the "Class Representative," not the president. He probably felt, he would be putting on airs with this self-satisfying title. He was obviously more comfortable with "class rep."



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As with most young people (and some older ones), this was his first interview, but he became quite frank after settling down to our one-on-one talk about his young years, his love for music, and desire for acceptance.

Tom was born in Hartford and has lived in Windsor Locks all his life. He's the son of the late Raymond L. Benefield. Tom has two brothers: Gary, 1985 WLHS grad, who now lives in Florida and Billy, WLHS, class of 1988, who resides in town.

As a member of this senior class, Tom has had a "year of change." He moved into the home of Betty and Charles Moore (C&K, Jan. 1986), became president of his class, learning to be a part of a musical band, and has "grown with the kids (students), now my family," and most of all, "has been accepted, is friends with everyone." It's been a big year.

Speaking of family — the Moores — we wanted to know more about "Little Douglas," the little boy (born without arms or legs) who

was featured in their article, along with their special family of children. Douglas, now five years old, goes to a special school, progressing rapidly, and, according to Tom, "is very smart and so advanced." The Moore home is filled with children, as Tom said, a "hectic and busy place." Adding, "The Moores have been great to me and have done so much for me."

More on Tom, the "class rep"... when asked, what are the duties of the head of the class? Tom said, "You have to be the class motivator ... organizing class-related events, such as the magazine drive, Senior Ball and Outing and the annual class musical." This year it will be the favorite "Grease," which will be staged in late March. Tom has the following students as class officers: Vice President, Mike Webb; Secretary, Jennifer Chamberlain and Treasurer, Lisa Shonty. In addition, Tom is art editor of the 1990 Year Book.

Tom was this year's recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award for services to the high school as Class President. He will receive the award at a spring banquet.

What are Tom's hobbies? Music, music and more music. Currently, Tom is part of a local band which is just making its start. Tom is singer of the group. So far, Tom has Tony Diana and Yvonne Hebebrand helping to organize the band. Its name is "Fresh Coffee." What kind of music? "Rock Pop." Tom, who, a few years back, was playing the clarinet, does not limit his enjoyment to rock ... he does listen to Sinatra and Streisand. His favorite group ... "Fleetwood Mac."

Tom's future plans are to "pursue a musical career, study art and voice in a New York City school," he said. Most of all, Tom wants to travel more, live in the "Big Apple," and see Europe. He does have one place, not that far, Salem, Massachusetts, which he found to be "interesting, but too commercial," and adding, "I'm a spiritualist."

Who did this young man admire? "My

father," he said, "a man who would do anything for (me), stayed by me, always there, I guess, I take after him."

Tom's opinion of Windsor Locks ... "A safe and cozy town, it's a different kind of life, warm and friendly, a town I want to come back to ..." were Tom's comments.

Epilog

Thomas Jay Benefield calls himself "an artist." He's into painting, music and fashion. He's just being himself, in a "world which is always trying to change" him. He does his own thing, but, you find a friendly and thoughtful person, who has taken on a unfamiliar role, as, he says, "Class Rep."

I first saw Tom's long hair and long coat, found first impressions can be so wrong. Jesus said it best ... "Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?"

Bill Walters: Town's Dog Warden and Veteran Firefighter

First, you find William Robert Walters is the town's dog warden. Then, without difficulty, you find the native son is a veteran of more than three decades as a volunteer fireman.

Just to add another chapter to his personal story, Bill is married to Bernie Ruggiero Walters, also a native and member of the well-known family of Nick, Patsy, Betty and Gary Ruggiero, just to name a few.

Adding a distinct local flavor, when it came to employment, Dexter's has to be the place ... for Bill, Bernie (her brother Patsy), and two of their three sons, who all work at one of the leading industries in town.

The story of Bill Walters, a big man, with a quiet disposition, and an active lifestyle, is all Windsor Locks. He has lived and worked here all his life, and with the exception of two years in the Army, has been involved in town affairs, which also includes following his boys from Little League to today's Men's Softball League, with the added support of his wife, Bernie.

Bill is the son of the late Edwin Walters, who was originally from Holyoke, and Dolores Donahue Walters, who today is an active member of the local Senior Citizens Club. Dolores was from Poquonock. Bill's father had held the post of dog warden for 20 years and was the superintendent of a tobacco farm in Granby for many years. When it comes to nationality, Bill said, "I guess you would say I'm a mixture of Irish and Yankee."

Bill attended local schools. At age 17 he went to work for his father in the tobacco business. After a few years of tobacco, he joined the Windsor Locks Lumber Co. for the next five years, which ended with his entry into the Army. In November 1954, he began his basic training at Fort Dix, N.J. and on to Arkansas before overseas duty. Next stop was Germany, where he spent 18 months, and looking back, he said he loved the country. However, he was glad to be on his way home in October 1956 and wasn't the only one with that good feeling.

Bill Walters and Benedetta Ruggiero knew each other as kids growing up — he on Grove

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Street and she from Oak Street. They had become engaged before Bill went off to the Army, and the postman was kept busy during that two-year period.

Bernie Ruggiero was the daughter of the late Nick Ruggiero, and Rose Luisi Ruggiero, who is also (like Bill's mother) active in the local Senior Citizens Club. The Ruggiero family has been featured in the C&K column over the years — her late brother, Nick (1975), brother, Patsy (1979) and nephew, Gary (1989). One brother, Vito, is also deceased. Her sister, Betty LaPierre, is married to Fire Chief Joseph LaPierre. Patsy is safety director at Dexter.

The future Mrs. Walters was an early '50s grad of the local high school and attended St. Mary's School earlier. For the past 20 years, Bernie has been at Dexter's, currently in the quality assurance lab. She is a charter member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fire Department.

After Bills return from the Army, they were married on Dec. 1, 1956. Bill and Bernie lived on West Street, Halfway House Road, and for the past 24 years on Marshall Road.

As mentioned, they have three sons: William II, Brian and David. The boys all seem to do things together — all live in Windsor Locks, all grads of the high school, played Little League and are active in the Men's Softball League in town.

More on the sons: William II works at Dexter, is married to Buff Herbert Walters, and they have two children, Ryan and Heather. Brian is married to Sharon Asal Walters and they have two children, Melissa and Angela. Brian works across the river at the state Receiving and Study Home and helps out his father in the role of dog warden.

Brian and his brother David played high school football, and David continues playing, but now they call it flag football. The future bride: Holly Twarkins. When it comes to



Bill Walters

Staff Photo by Kelly L. Cavanaugh

Bernie's boys, she said, "They are all good kids ... and now, we spend the summer months watching them play softball."

Bill Walters, you might say, has four vocations. First, he is "family oriented"; has been at Dexter's since July 1957, now in building services; a volunteer fireman, even longer, January 1957, and the town's dog warden since 1983.

The proud grandfather of four considers the Fire Department just "great," and has "helped out in all their affairs," in addition to being a line fireman. Of his interest in dogs, he said, "I've been around dogs all my life, my father had hunting dogs for years, he was the town's warden for 20 years." Bill was taught the trade of warden by his father, and now Bill is passing it on to his son Brian.

Bill was appointed dog warden by then Police Chief Bernard Kulas, and reappointed by Chiefs Carroll and Gifford. The duties of dog warden? "Making sure all dogs in town

are licensed ... keeping dogs (from running wild) on a leash," he said, and "when complaints are called in, I have to respond — it's usually a dog (dead or alive) was hit, or some other problem, the next step is to deliver the dog to a Windsor veterinarian."

Bill considers hunting his main hobby and has always enjoyed trips to the Maine woods. When it comes to vacation time for Bill and Bernie, it's usually New Hampshire or Cape Cod. Spectator sports are limited for Bill, with the Red Sox in baseball and the Giants in the football season. When asked who he most admired, Bill didn't have to think twice, saying, "My father, we went hunting together, and I worked for him when he was the dog warden ... he was a great guy."

EPILOG

Bill Walters is a familiar figure around the firehouse, Dexter's and whenever there is a problem with the canine population in town.

I'm sure, Bill has heard all the familiar dog says ... "Every dog has his day ... the dog days of August ... dog eat dog ... in the dog house," but probably agrees with the popular "A dog (can be) man's best friend..."

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL MARCH 2, 1990

Raymond 'Billy' Marconi:

'Listen to the beat of your own drum...'

Raymond Adam Marconi, known to so many in his home town of Windsor Locks as just Billy, is candid, talkative, especially when it comes to volunteering, milestones in life, daily interest in sports, and memories of Pat, Tootie, Wuzzy and Dr. Carney.

Billy, a fixture himself as a volunteer, has been a member of the Board of Finance since 1967, what he best describes as the board that looks over the "spending plan" of the town.

The St. Mary's and local high school grad (class of 1957) was into sports as a young boy growing up, playing basketball and baseball at the Raider School. Today, tennis is a five-day healthy routine with friend and former coach, Al Shapiro. At the high school, Billy had the lead in the class play but forgot the name, and among his classmates were Bob Oliva and Charlie Simonetta. Billy has also been a familiar figure at the Windsor Locks Savings and Loan over the past quarter of a century.

For Billy Marconi, life has been a series of milestones. In addition to his employment at the Savings and Loan, he talked about sports, his Pat, the family store and Air National Guard. They all had a different and important influence on this serious thinking man. He furthered his education, when told "to get on the ball." He's been on the ball ever since.

But first, some fond memories of those milestones. Billy's father was "Wuzzy" Marconi (C&K, April 79) who owned and operated a popular store on Main and Spring streets, and where Billy received his first taste of dealing with the public, that proved quite beneficial in later years.

"Wuzzy" was from Fonzazo, Italy. He met and married Alice Boldway of Holyoke. They had three children: Billy, Joseph and Alice.

For the record, how did young Raymond receive the name of Billy? As in a lot of cases, his older sister, Alice (Tootie), didn't like the name of Raymond, so called him Billy. It stuck. Today, Alice Marconi Clack is a familiar name and face around town—the former teacher is currently serving on the Board of Selectmen.

Back to the family store, Billy, as a fourth grader, worked around the store after school, cleaning up and other odd jobs. When he reached the seventh grade, he was promoted, got his first chance to work behind the counter

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and initial contact with the general public.

"All through St. Mary's," was Billy's best memories, when he first met Patricia Root, his future bride. Billy grew up on Chestnut and Spring, Pat on Chestnut and Grove, one of five daughters of James and June Root (C*K, May 1981).

Pat was a 1958 WLHS grad, and looking back, Billy said, "We were high school sweethearts, were married Aug. 20, 1960 and had 27 years of a good marriage..." Pat passed away on June 29, 1987.

Pat had her own distinguished career, according to Billy, "She went to work for Gabb's Specialty Products, in town, beginning as their Girl Friday and ending up as sales manager, for over 20 years."

Billy and Pat had one son, Raymond, who is employed at Bradley Airport. Raymond is married to Debbie (Crabb) Marconi, they reside in town with their two children, Raymond Jr. and his sister, Christian.

Back to the start of Billy's employment career. Billy, just out of high school, was of two minds, go into the service, with the idea of becoming a cook, probably in the Navy, then after the service time open a restaurant or go to college. The service meant two years away from his Pat. He decided for school, entering the Morse Business School for general business and accounting.

After two years at Morse, he joined Hamilton-Standard in 1960 for a year in their accounting department. For the next four years, Billy began his (eventual) life's work at the Windsor Locks Savings and Loan. Not sure what to do, in 1965, took a job at Dexter's, lasting a year, and rejoining the Savings and Loan in July 1966. Today, the man

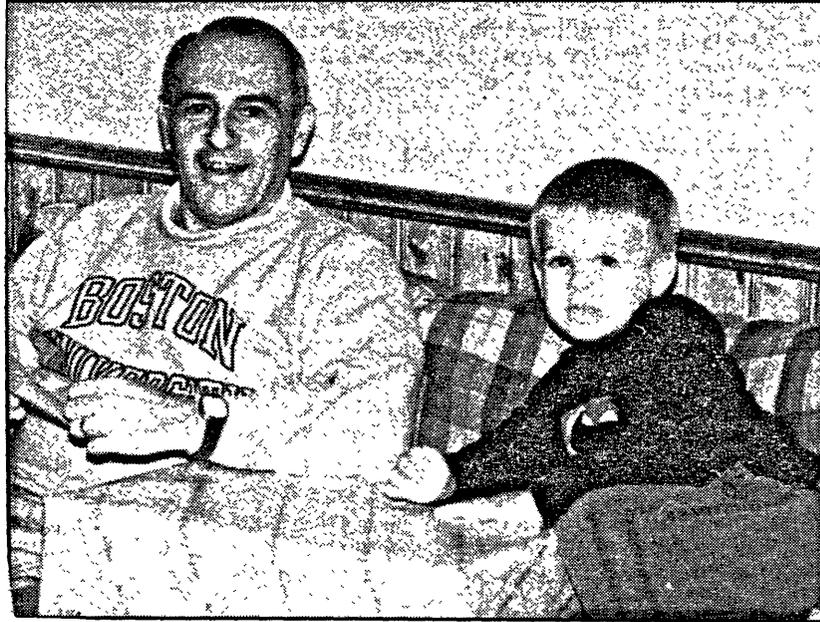
called Billy, is manager and secretary at the Dexter Plaza location. As you can see, Billy's milestones were never far from home.

During those years of job changes, he said, he was greatly influenced by joining the Air National Guard for a six-year call to duty. He said the Guard made him see the light, and as he so ably stated, "I was told to get on the ball." At the time, he was working a full schedule: his regular job during the day, one weekend at the Guard, and the other three weekends of the month at the family store.

He accepted the challenge and completed

he is ready for tennis, before going to work. The past 20 years, he and former coach, Al Shapiro, have tried their best Jimmy Connor shots at the high school in summer, and during the winter months at a health club in Enfield. Another of Billy's tennis buddies was the late Joe Marinone, who played on the court against Billy over a 10-year period.

When Billy and Pat found time for vacations, it meant memorable trips to Europe and South America. They combined business with pleasure, as part of Pat's business connections.



'Billy' Marconi with grandson, Raymond Jr.

another creditable feat, with a seven-year nightly trip to the classrooms of the American International College in Springfield, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting. No one could say, now he wasn't on the ball.

Billy listed milestones (in life) as the years with Pat, sports, the store (where he first met the public, which helped him in later years in the banking business), and the Guard.

When asked for his hobbies, Billy said sports participation, he's not a follower of the Red Sox or Giants. He is into tennis, swimming and biking. Billy's days start early, usually up at 5 a.m. for some jogging (in the good weather) along the canal bank. By seven,

When speaking of business, the business of town government, Billy Marconi has been a faithful volunteer with the Board of Finance for more than 20 years. He looks upon the board as "the watchdog of tax revenues and (overseer) of the spending plan, presented by the different boards and commissions in their annual budget requests." Adding, "I have always been impressed by the volunteering efforts of the Fire, Police and Park commissions and other boards in town."

The Board of Finance has also given Billy the opportunity to work with Sy Preli, the perennial member of the board, saying, "Sy has been a good influence." He had high praise for the former governor, Ella T. Grasso, when he said, "I knew her as a teenager, when she would come into my father's store."

Another name that played an important role in Bill's life, besides his parents, brother and sister, and Pat, was the late hometown doctor, Ellore Carniglia. Billy "greatly admired the man, a family doctor, with a home philosophy."

EPILOG

Billy Marconi is a part of Windsor Locks, as much as Ella Grasso, Dr. Carney and Sy Preli. His personal philosophy has been "you are a victim and architect of your own fortune." Some might say, "he listens to the beat of a different drummer," and Billy would say ... "you should listen to the beat of your own drum..."

A Career of Milestones

Pat Droney

A Native of Ireland

'I'm Irish, and that's no Blarney....'
On Pat's Car marker

Patrick Joseph Droney is from the Emerald Isle. County Clare, Ireland, to be more precise, and would fully agree, Ireland is called 'Emerald', because of its lush green countryside.

Some folks call Mr. Droney, Pat or Joe, he answers to both names. For the sake of continuity, we'll stick with Pat, it has more of an Irish ring, especially, the day before St. Patrick's Day.

Pat grew up on the Droney family farm, where the five sons of James Droney and Mary Ann Kerins Droney lived in the village, overlooking the famed Galway Bay (an inlet of the Atlantic in west-central Ireland.)

Pat said, life on the farm was "hard work" and along with his school hours, meant farm and school took up most of his time as a young lad. In Ireland, Pat said, you start school at the age of three, and continue for the next twelve years. He attended "a tiny school house, with seventy-five students." He remembered "the teachers were strict, and we respected them." Adding, "We didn't have time for sports, however, did manage to play our brand of football," at school.

Before we go into the interesting life of Pat Droney, a few lines concerning his four brothers—Chris, "still on the farm and old homestead in Ireland;" Frank, retired from the Hartford Fire Department after thirty-five years and resides in Ellington; James, forty-three years with Traveler's Insurance, now retired, and living in Newington. John, has thirty years with the Connecticut National Bank, is not retired and makes his home in West Hartford.

Back to Pat, and the years before America—after the schooling years were over, he was expected to work on the farm, which he did for five years. Then he switched his career and life style considerably, by going off to London town.

He said, "I found London, England, strange (compared to his home territory), a big city, but over my six years there, made a lot of good friends." Pat drove a lorry (truck) for his time in the capital city.

In 1957, he decided to join his brothers in the states, because, "I was told it was a good place to come to," and he came in style.—Pat was a passenger on the Queen Elizabeth One.

He would live in Hartford, upon his arrival in his adopted country, and knowing hard work paid off, Pat worked two jobs. He had a part-time job at Canada Dry Soda and full

time at Pratt & Whitney in West Hartford, that lasted four years. His next job and move was to Enfield, where he joined the Troiano Oil Company. After nine years with Troiano, Pat decided to go into business for himself—the oil burner service.

At this junction of his life, the names of Pat and Joe were to play a prominent role. For a few years, it was 'Pat's Service,' however due to a back injury, Pat had to lay low for a while, but not too long. He did manage to drive a taxi at Bradley for some time. Then he returned to the oil business and today, it's 'Joe's Service.' No wonder, he's called Pat and sometimes Joe.

On December 1, 1979, another big change for Pat, he married Joan Maleedy. Joan was from Lancashire county in northwestern England. She was the daughter of John and Lillian Maleedy. John was a coal miner, back in England, came to the states, and known as 'Scotty' in the many years working for Roncari, before his passing.

Joan had come to America in 1960, but by plane, not on the Queen ship, like Pat before her. They had met when he came into a coffee shop in Enfield, where Joan was a waitress. Joan has a brother, Owen Maleedy, who lives in town and a sister, Maureen Shanpagny of Suffield. Pat and Joan have lived in Windsor Locks the past ten years.

How many children, between these this friendly and outgoing couple from Ireland England? Pat, saying, "Eight is enough." And he wasn't fooling....Joan's children, as follows and (where they live): Wayne (Bridgeport); Donna (Windsor Locks); Linda

with Strong Irish Connections



Pat and Joan Droney

(Ellington); and Joanie at home. Pat's four: Linda (Boston); Patrick (Springfield); Maureen (Boston) and Susan (Cape Cod). And six grandchildren for grandparents to spoil.

What about hobbies? Move over Fred and Ginger....for Pat and Joan, its ballroom dancing. Pat began the art of dancing at the age of seven or eight, doing the Irish dance of 'Calie.' For Pat, it meant being brought up in a musical family. A family of music-makers at the old homestead. For a night of music and enjoyment, Pat and his family and neighbors, would push the kitchen table back (the kitchen was large and the family room of its day), set up the music and everyone would dance.

Today, in addition to dancing the light fantastic, they have a flower garden at their home. Many a night is spent at the Irish-American Home Society in Glastonbury, for all the latest modern and Irish steps. They are also members of the Claea Club in Enfield. During the summer months, Pat takes the grandchildren on camping trips in the family motor coach. Vacations are usually an

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annual trip to Ireland.

When Pat and Joan want to listen to their popular Irish music and sounds from his home, all they have to do is insert a cassette...made by his brother 'Chris Dronney on the Concertina,' a member of the 'Four Courts'—Irish Traditional Music.

Holidays for Pat and Joan have been family affairs, topped off by a Christmas get-together and a summer picnic with "all the kids." What about St. Patrick's Day?...Pat said, "We go to the club in Glastonbury." Over the years, they have been on the sidelines watching the big St. Pat parades in Hartford and Holyoke.

Looking back, Pat said, "I have no regrets coming to America, but it's nice to go home, when we can." What does Joan think of her Irish husband? She said, "A super guy, to me, the children and grandchildren, he finds time for all of us."

When it came to admiration for others, Pat said, "My parents, they worked darn hard on the farm, and gave us the good life...." Pat's personal philosophy—"To treat people like I like to be treated, when you work for others, as you would work for yourself."

Epilog

Patrick Joseph Dronney—be it Pat or Joe, on the eve of this St. Patrick's Day, I found a man with natural Irish wit, plenty of good conversation and you know, a genuine love of family. He came to America and settled here, and is still proud to say—"I'm Irish and that's not Blarney."

Happy St. Patrick's Day!!!

Baseball Lockout ... Only a Minor Inconvenience

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Spring Training

Being an ardent baseball fan, I had read about the baseball lockout, before flying down south to Florida, but with perennial high hopes, I figured by the time we hit the Gulf Coast of my daughter's new home in Palm Harbor, the boys of summer and the owners with their millions would think first of the fans and restore the 'American Pastime' to its rightful place in the so-called normal way of life, for us kids who never grew up and loved the game.

Here in sunny Florida, on the first days of March, we had to forget the American Pastime and stick to the game of golf (playing and viewing), watching the local papers for results of UCONN basketball, and the old-timers' game, where fellows like Bob Feller, Brooks Robinson, Mark Fidrych, Al Kaline, Harmon Killibrew, George Foster, Boog Powell and other retired players, who gave the fans a taste of baseball, in the Legends Baseball Game. A substitute for the fan that the current crop of players were not about to achieve even with their fat contracts.

Palm Harbor is situated just right—north of Dunedin, home of the Toronto Blue Jays, Clearwater where the Phillies train and old St. Petersburg where you will find the St. Louis Cardinals.

In other words, Palm Harbor was the place to be in early March, and we were there, ready to swim, play golf and watch baseball. But the heck with the boys of summer—it was only a minor convenience.

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And speaking of conveniences:

- Swim at my daughter's home (nowadays the homes come equipped with a swimming pool as part of the house).

- Play golf at the nearby country club (my son-in-law is a member and JPR was his guest on two occasions).

- Watch the daily papers for the UConn games (when we were there, the Huskies were beat by Georgetown—it figures) and then quite handily beat my granddaughters college, BC.

- Soak in the sun rays—probably the principal reason the snowbirds go south, to get away from the winters of Connecticut and points north. (Note: Palm Harbor is west of Tampa and the sun's rays are its main attraction—I sound like the Chamber of Commerce).

Back to baseball, a few years back I had the pleasure of credentials from the Boston Red Sox to be a part of the journalistic crew at Winter Haven.

Just to reminisce, a fan once said, "There's supposed to be a game today. It's the American tradition. That's what it's all about, for the crowds, for the kids."

It's true, spring training is a special time (I'm missing this, as I write, and there are

other faithfuls from Windsor Locks who also yearly join the crowds, case in point: Jim Rumbold). The players are usually relaxed, the crowds are small (by major league standards), and the ballparks are cozy, little places where you can touch the players. The year I was in Winter Haven, I managed to get a free autograph from Ted Williams; it made me feel a part of the constant activity. Another treat was sitting in the press box with Arnold Dean (from you know where), watching the action for a week.

I'll bet Mr. Dean is here, just waiting for that important break so everyone can get back to work (not that you can call being a 'snowbird' work).

During our time in Florida, we not only enjoyed the sand and sun, but kept an eye on the sport pages for the latest on the baseball situation. The following headlines and comments on the lockout, was observed with much concern, by some players, managers, writers and the Commissioner himself. Here are a few:

- "Opening-day prospects look bleak."
- "Right now (March 9), we still have enough time..."
- "They are rich and comfortable (players and owners). Life has been good to them. And yet, they squabble."
- (Arbitration) "But this, shall a man be rich after two years, or must he wait for three? That's hard for some fans to swallow..."

•"I think of baseball as a quasi-public institution. I very much feel a responsibility to take care of major league baseball, to hold it in my hand and cradle it as if it is to be cherished..." by Fay Vincent, Baseball Commissioner

Back home—Call it concern of a different nature, call it just being nosy, but some of us, when away from home, daily check the local papers for the latest weather at home. Thirty degrees was the norm for you folks, but 50 degrees higher on the west coast of the sunny state. As we returned, spring came early with the temperature in the 70s.

As noted above, we also kept an eagle eye on UCONN and the Whalers, where they both received good coverage in the paper (St. Petersburg Times). We forgot the swimming and sun rays, and watched the great UCONN team win the Big East. Sorry to hear, the boys of Dan Sullivan lost their only game in the S Tourney.

EPILOG

No baseball, as we type our happy thoughts on a two-week vacation away from home. Let's hope, by the time of this column (March 23), the news will be better (for the fans).

Editor's Note:

The story has changed since Mr. Redmond returned from his Florida vacation. a settlement was achieved and spring training for the players began this week. Opening day for the season is scheduled for April 9.

Roger Nelson - Loyal Member of Lions Club

"He's OK in my book," said his wife, Connie. That endorsement might well be the same reaction for Roger Nelson, from the Lions Club, his fellow workers at the telephone company and their five children and three grandchildren.

Roger Enoch Nelson has been a loyal member of the Lions and Ambulance Corps for over a quarter of a century, veteran employee with SNET since 1954, and married to a local girl, Connie Drumm, way back in August of 1955.

She had been a nurse in the hospital, and like the story goes, it turned out to be, man meets nurse, and as soon as he is well, ups and marries the girl and they live happily ever after.

That's all true, and the story of Roger and Connie is filled with love and pride for the family, he is "so proud of the Lions," and both with steady careers, he with SNET and Connie, still in the world of nursing.

First, the story on Roger, born in Hartford, raised in West Hartford, was a grad of Hall High School, class of 1954. He said, "I was just an (average) student, did play some varsity soccer, but did have jobs after school...gas station, First National and A&P," he started early at a working career.

Roger is the son of the late Enoch Gabriel Nelson, who passed away many years ago. His mother, Signe Larson Morris, now resides at the Southwest Terrace Apartments, with her husband, John Morris.

In the winter of 1954, on the advice of a relative, Roger filled out an application with the Southern New England Telephone Company, because, as he recalled, "I wasn't sure what to do, as to work." As you can see, what follows, he made a wise choice.

Roger has gone "through the ranks," he said. He was too young (18) to be a linesman, so started at the bottom, so to speak, in the mail room, at the main Hartford office. His

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first move upward, was the cable department, then as an installer of phones, mostly in the Enfield area, followed by the work of PBX installer, and his main job at Bradley Field with its first FAA (Federal Aviation Adm.) installation. Like the ad says.... "we go (as Roger does) beyond the call."

Today, Roger holds the title of Supervisor of Special Services in charge of the Dispatch Center in Hartford.

In 1953, Roger had joined the Air National Guard at Bradley, serving until 1962, as a "weekend warrior and yearly two-week duty."

As mentioned, Roger met Connie Drumm in the hospital. She grew up on Webb and Whiton Streets, went to St. Mary's and is a grad, in the early 50s, at the high school. Saying, "I was a good student, and wanted to be a nurse." She graduated from the Hartford Hospital School of Nursing and today, Connie Nelson is Director of Nursing at the Kimberly Hall South.

Connie was the daughter of the late Earl Drumm. Her mother, Elizabeth Gubala Alari still resides in town. Connie has a sister, Sally, who lives in East Hartford.

Roger and Connie are parents of five active children...Donna, Susan, Judy, Vicky and Mike, who had the pleasure of growing up with four sisters.

A little background on the Nelson clan and what they are up to...Donna, a UConn grad, like her mother, is a nurse, now working at Hartford Hospital. Donna is married to Stephen Woshinski, who is a librarian in New Britain, where they live.

Susan and her husband, Stephen Rossetti, live in town, with their son, Mike. Susan attended UConn, is a Supervisor at SNET,

while Stephen is employed by UPS. Judy and her husband, Tim Hickey, are local residents. They have two children...Sean and Caitlin. Judy went to Central State, works at Aetna, while Tim, keeping up with her family tradition, is a SNET employee.

Vicky lives at home, is a grad of Oklahoma State University, with a Masters in Animal Sciences. Her goal is to be a veterinarian. Mike, also at home, a grad of Central last December, and according to his proud folks, "wants to be a state trooper."

Roger and Connie have lived in Hartford (two years after the wedding), coming to Windsor Locks in 1958, residing at Walnut Circle, Ash Drive, until they moved into their current home on Cooper Drive.

More on Roger...he said, when asked about hobbies, "I'm too busy (with the Lions and Ambulance Corps) to have a hobby." However, Connie, said, "He's Mr. Fix-it-up around the house." Roger did add "When I can, usually go fishing with grandson, Sean." Vacations for the Nelson family mean "up to Massachusetts and a yearly trip to sunny Florida."

When you mention the Lions Club, Roger's face lights up...he's been a member since 1964, the past president of "We Serve" club in '68 and '69. Roger was instrumental in organizing the first yearly pancake breakfast which has proved so successful over the years. He said, "We began the breakfast to set up a nursing scholarship fund."

Roger has not neglected his adopted town, with civic involvement, has served five years on the town's Planning and Zoning Commission, saying, "I enjoyed serving the town and was on the North Central Emergency Medical Council."

He has been connected to the Lions Ambulance Corps since 1963, serving as Chairman in '83 to '85. Today, he is still active, as custodian of the ambulance maintenance program, which he describes as "keeping the

ambulances operational," and was involved the recent purchase of a new ambulance. His opinion of the corps... "A very dedicated group of people who are totally committed to the welfare of the town."

When we discussed admiration for others, Roger said, he has admired a lot of people with talent, and especially, "My mother, who raised me (Roger was an only child) at sixteen, after my father passed away."

Roger's personal philosophy was as follows... "It doesn't matter how many mistakes you may make in life, keep hanging in there."

Epilog

Roger Enoch Nelson summed up his life, not looking for anything special, "I am so proud of my family, they are our pride and joy."

He is an active man in town, in many worthwhile endeavors, which probably proves the following... "We know what a person thinks not when he tells us what he thinks but by his actions."

Ed Belisle — World War II Vet and Peacetime Volunteer

Edmond Gilbert Belisle has served his country in the Navy, during time of war, and equally served his adopted home town of Windsor Locks for many years with the Lions Ambulance Corps and as a Civil Defense policeman.

Better known as just Ed, the New Bedford, Mass. native has lived in town for a half a century. Come this November, he and his wife, Dot, will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary.

Ed was the son of Wilfred and Ella Belisle, who were from Rhode Island. His dad was in the construction business in New Bedford, came to Hartford in 1925 to seek more work. Ed was only seven when the family moved to the capital city.

Ed has a brother, Arthur, who resides in Old Orchard Beach, Maine, and two sisters, Edna Williams of Bloomfield and Eve Des-Rocher of Newington.

Schooling for Ed was at the Lawrence Street School in Hartford. Not sure of his future or job opportunity (it was the Depres-

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sion years), young Ed returned to New Bedford to work with his uncle. The next four years he divided his time in New Bedford and Hartford before joining Pratt & Whitney in 1939. He worked on defense contracts until called into the Navy in March of 1944.

He received his training at Sampson, New York, Pennsylvania, California, before being assigned a ship in Seattle, for the long overseas trip to the island of Guam. He arrived on Guam (the largest of the Mariana Islands) in early 1945. He served for a year at the Naval Air Station, which played such an important role in the war as a base for the B-29s and the eventual bombing of Japan's main island of Honshu. (Ironically, Ed and I left Seattle about the same time and we both were on Guam for the year of 1945 ... a small world,

he in the Navy and I in the Army.)

In January 1946, Ed was a civilian again and would settle down in Windsor Locks on State Street. In Ed's story, we'll have to back up a few years (before the war)... On Nov. 28, 1940, he and Dot were married. Dorothy was from Springfield. They had met at Lake Congamond in Southwick, Mass.

After the war, Ed took a few odd jobs around the area, until he joined the Arrow-Hart & Hegeman Co., that certainly proved more permanent. Ed retired on Labor Day, 1982 with 32 and a half years in the heating element company.

Ed and Dot have two sons, Bob and Neil. Bob, self-employed, was a C&K interviewee back in January, 1979. He resides in town with his wife, Donna. Neil, also self-employed, lives in nearby Vernon with his wife, Ceil. Ed and Dot have five grandchildren to spoil.

When Ed's son, Bob, was Grand Knight of the local Knights of Columbus, he joined the organization. Many years before, Ed was a charter member of the Smalley Brothers Post No. 6123, Veterans of Foreign Wars. What he calls a "very good veterans group," Ed has served at one time as Chaplain.

As mentioned, Ed was an active member of the Lions Ambulance Corps over a 10-year period, and a 28-year veteran of the Civil Defense as policeman. Among his other volunteer duties in town, Ed drove the bus for the St. Mary's Drum Corps, when his two sons were part of the corps. In addition, he took part in the program, with his son, Bob, in the annual outing for handicapped children, staged by the KofC.

When you mention hobbies to Ed, it covers a wide range, playing cards, was an avid duckpin bowler at the local Villa Rose lanes, enjoying country/western music and the big band sounds. Television is limited to '60 Minutes', 'Cosby', and the nature programs on public tv. Vacation time has been to New York State (Adirondacks) for Ed and Dot.

EPILOG

Edmond Gilbert Belisle, a matter-of-fact



Edmond Belisle and his son Bob

individual, said, "I try to live day-by-day, and enjoy myself," which he does, playing cards and following the trials and tribulations of his football Giants.

To put his life in the proper analysis, Ed served his country and has been one of the many behind-the-scenes volunteers in his adopted town.

Joe Bonito, Local Musician, Enjoys Opera to Jazz

"I love music, get real enjoyment (playing) for people who enjoy dancing..."

Joe Bonito's philosophy

Joseph Daniel Bonito, a local musician, has led two lives, one on the bandstands of Connecticut, and the other a diversified career, from accounting to personnel relations and even a short time learning the techniques of a nuclear health physicist, and as a reporter.

After an hour with this friendly guy, a native of Hartford, you may find he's more interested in the techniques of music, as a professional, with many years playing the clarinet and saxophone, for his own pleasure and others who enjoy music and dancing.

Joe's favorite orchestra leader? ... "Benny Goodman, who else?" he said. This is a man who started playing the clarinet at the age 7, taught by his late father, Anthony Bonito, a well-known musician in his own right in the Hartford area.

Joe attended the Hartford schools, graduating from Hartford Public High School, Class of 1950, where he excelled in baseball and basketball and was a member of the school band. In the winter, following his graduation, Joe entered the U.S. Air Force, serving three years, with duty in Texas, Michigan and Tennessee. Because the service has a strange method of assigning soldiers with different skills, Joe ended up in personnel, after trying to be a member of the camp band.

However, things did work out for Joe, in some higher education, while in Michigan, attending night school, which helped him, in later years, in securing a degree.

After his discharge, Joe went right to work for the state Labor Department, for the next two years. At this junction, Joe's career took several turns ... he worked for the IRS a short time. He combined (while at the Labor Department) working for the Hartford Courant at night. Looking back at that experience, he said, "I tried to get into sports reporting, but there were no openings, and I

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did obituaries and who attended what teas in Hartford."

He did manage to receive that higher education degree by going nights to Hillyer College (now University of Hartford) in 1959, with a bachelor of science in Personnel and Industrial Relations.

A few years, before Hillyer, Joe had taken a job at Windsor's Combustion Engineering Inc., starting in the accounting department and soon found himself being trained as a nuclear health physicist.

He left C-E (where he met his future bride, Ruth McDonald) for a six-year stay at Kaman. From 1967 to 1970, Joe had two jobs, both in personnel work in Berlin and Manchester. He then joined the Windsor Board of Education and today he's very settled in, as supervisor of business offices and computer operations manager.

Before going into detail regarding his many years in the musical field, we must list an important part of his life, the family of Joe and Ruth Bonito. Ruth was from Holyoke, a grad of Holy Name High School in Chicopee, Class of 1954. They were married in June, 1960. They have three children ... Joseph A., Mary and Ann.

Speaking of families, Joe himself was the son of the late Anthony and Mary Bonito. He has two brothers, Anthony and Vito, two sisters, Grace and Rose, all living in Connecticut. It was their father, who passed his talents in the music field to two of his sons, Joe and Vito. Joe, in turn, has his own son, Joseph A., to carry on the family tradition.

Now for some facts on Joe and Ruth's children ... Joseph A. Bonito, WLHS 1979, went on to Central Connecticut for a musical degree, and is currently at New York State University studying for his masters, and combines that with the position of teacher



Joe Bonito

assistant. Joe plays the bass, and at one time considered a professional career in music. He found the competition rough on a beginner, and now has settled on playing in his father's band.

Mary, WLHS 1980, is working on two careers, hairdressing and is attending Asnuntuck Community College pursuing the career of an accountant. Ann, WLHS 1984, is married to Bill Hamilton, a member of the U.S. Air Force, stationed in Florida. Ann and

Mary make their home in St. Petersburg.

Back to Joe and his musical life ... when his father passed away in 1943, a young Joe, only 13, was passed the baton and he turned professional, taking over his dad's band. Reminiscing, Joe recalled, "When I first started, it meant practice on the clarinet, I didn't have any choice, never liked the practice, but grew to accept it." Five years later, Joe added another instrument, the saxophone. The band was called "Tony Bonito's," named after Mr. Bonito who worked many years at Royal in Hartford.

Over the years, Joe has played the nightclub circuit, weddings in the area, even played with street bands on holy days in Hartford. Today, his band is known as Anthony's Quartet, named after his father. They play, according to Joe, music of the '40s to the '80s. His favorite type of music... "No real favorite," he said, adding, "Of course, the music of the '40s and '50s were great." Did I remember Glenn Miller (I go way back)? He also had favorite singers (of yesterday and even today), "Perry Como and Frank and Bing." What did he think about today's music? "Some of it is great, but some might be called garbage." Pinned down, Joe goes from opera to jazz, and a lot in between.

Anthony's Quartet's next gig will be the 100th Anniversary Ball of the Windsor Locks Fire Department on Saturday, April 28 at the Skyline Restaurant on Ella Grasso Turnpike. The quartet is made up of Joe, as its leader, accompanied by his son, Joseph, his brother, Vito, and the fourth member, Dean Jevons.

Some personal notes... Joe, Ruth and their family have lived in Windsor Locks 30 years, come this June. Ruth said, recalling their long tenure, "As the kids grew, the town grew, with so many changes." The Bonito family has vacationed at the Cape and in the State of Maine. Joe plays golf occasionally, with his son, who is an avid golfer. The family also follows the Red Sox, Celtics, Giants and UConn.

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Owen Maleedy and

His wife calls him, "My Little Pilgrim." Anyone in town, who is associated with Owen Maleedy, the big guy from England, he's known better as just "Big O."

Owen, Big O or Pilgrim, whatever he is called, I found a man who is an interesting conversationist, very friendly, says what he believes, is proud of his family, and a man with a simple philosophy... "If you are able, you can make it."

Owen Maleedy, born in Lancashire County in northwestern England, twelve miles from Liverpool, home of the Beatles, and just like those singing lads, of the 60s, has made a mark in his adopted country. He had climbed the ladder of success, was on the top of that ladder, did not like the view, went to work for himself and today is a very satisfied individual.

The students at St. Theresa's High School in St. Helens (the town where Owen and his two sisters grew up) must have known there was something special and big things were in store for their fellow student, Owen Maleedy. They elected him Captain of the school. (In the states, he would be the President of the Class.) An important duty of the captain was being watchdog of other students, and where strict discipline was a way of school life.

After high school, Owen attended St. Helens Technical College, where he would learn the finer points of coal mining (the effects of gases in the mine, location of coal and other aspects of mining). With nine months of intensive training, Owen was ready to go "on the line."

With a half of year experience, in the mine, mostly being responsible for the shipment of coal to the surface, Owen came home one evening and was asked (by his mother) "Would you like to go to America?"

With one sister (Maureen) already in the states (Living in East Windsor), Owen didn't linger in this important decision, for a boy, barely over sixteen, and anxious to find what was on the other side of the ocean. He soon found out. He left by boat for New York City in March of 1959. His first impression of the "Big Apple," was "Stock," he said, adding "A fast pace, compared to what I was used to England."

The following biographical sketch of

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Owen's diversified working (traveling back & forth, plus the Army) career, might have discouraged some, but not this man, who at times, had a hard time finding his niche, but once in control, settled down, only to a point.

Cases in point—after his arrival in the states and a short briefing period—Owen, living East Windsor, with his sister, went to work for a roofing and siding company. With nine months under his belt, he did not find his new role very satisfying, saying, "Too much hot dogs, pizza and hamburgers." So he returned to England (his parents were delighted). His working career continued in a shoe factory.

It did not work out. Owen returned to the states, with this explanation—"I found no future in the work and the wages were awful." Still a young man (18), Owen was back in Windsor Locks, to work and live on Webb Street. His work, a paper mill in town. He then went from paper to the world of oil. By this time, his parents had arrived in the states, with his other sister, Joan. The oil company in Hartford, did not have his services too long. In March, 1962, "Uncle Sam came knocking on my door," Owen said, as he entered the U.S. Army.

The next three years he was a soldier. After basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, Owen was off to Germany, for a tour of duty, lasting thirty-one months. He admitted, "I wasn't thrilled with the duty, with too much time in the field, but I enjoyed the night life, when on leave." He did manage a few side trips to his native England.

Once back in civilian clothes, Owen returned to the oil business. The next seventeen years, found him working steadily for the Laurel Oil Company, later merged, to become part of TLC. Owen went through the ranks of operation, sales and services, during those years, and in addition, attended several schools (Va and NY) learning the various procedures of the oil business. It was, after all those years, he decided to go into business for himself. For five years, he was involved in the heating and air-conditioning in the area. He decided another change was due...went to work for the Lego Systems, Inc. in Enfield, in the supervisory end of the business for another five years.

Owen had tried the private sector, made a contribution, but was not satisfied, again switched back to his own heating and air-conditioning for the second time around, up to the present day. One big advantage, he works with Charlene, as his Girl Friday.

Some notes on Owen's family—he was the son of the late John and Lillian Maleedy. He

His 'Coming To America' Story

has two sisters, Joan Dronney of town and Maureen Chanpagny of Suffield. Where did Owen meet Charlene? Not far from their present home—at a dance at the Polish Home in 1966. On November 18, 1967, they were married.

Charlene Zimowski, a local girl, was the daughter of the late Charles and Antennette Zimowski. Charlene, as outgoing as her husband, graduated from WLHS in 1963. She worked at Connecticut General, until

the first of their two daughters were born.

Her father was known around town as "Big Charley," who was a native of town, and worked many years for CL&P. Her mother's maiden name, Niemitz, and she was from Massachusetts. Charley was involved with the Lions Ambulance Corps for many years.

Owen and Charlene have two daughters, Denise and Michele. Denise, a 1986 WLHS grad, received a degree from BayPath and

today, is a Paralegal with the local firm of Bromson & Reiner. She began her working career as a high school student and during her college years, with five years seniority with the legal office in town.

Michele, WLHS, Class of 1989, is now attending BayPath, taking Interior Design. At the Raider school, Michele was on the track team and four years on the Field Hockey squad, as co-captain her senior year. She received several honors as an outstanding athlete, from the Lions and American Legion in town.

Back to their active father—Owen played soccer as a young boy in England, but has turned his skills to the game of golf, on many

of the local courses. He and his wife enjoy traveling, with many trips back to his home country, with vacations to Hawaii, Florida and the islands in the Atlantic. Owen has been the keeper of the family garden at their Third Street home. He admits to being a follower of the Yankees and Giants and when it comes to television, he goes for the nature programs.

Owen's life has also been filled with memberships, National Association of Oil & Heating Services Managers, Inc.; Sales Management Executives and locally: The Jaycees, American Legion for eighteen years, serving as Vice-Commander and Chaplain and Past President of the Kof C Building

Association and Third Degree for the past fourteen years.

Owen found a situation quite ironic, in that he has the nickname of "Big O," and to marry the girl, whose dad was known so well as "Big Charley." Owen, in looking back, said he greatly admired Mr. Zimowski, who he found to be a "down-to-earth person."

Epilog

Charlene calls her husband... "terrific," when asked for a one word description. Because the Pilgrims came from England, she felt she had her own "Little Pilgrim," in the big guy, who figured, "If you are able, you can make it (in life)."

I hope, after talking to these two congenial folks... Owen can say... "You got that right."



Owen and Charlene Maleedy

Ken McCauley Enjoys Being Active in Local Politics

"It's not over, until it's over..." Ken & Yogi's favorite saying.

Ken and Cathy McCauley came from Staten Island, N.Y. They have, over the years, easily adapted themselves to the "small, friendly and get-to-know a lot of people" town of Windsor Locks.

They have lived here since 1972, raising two active daughters, Denise and Cheryl, and a father who is now involved in politics and the local sports scene, due to his daughter's participation.

For those who only know Manhattan in New York City, Staten Island is a part of the "Big Apple," in New York Bay, coextensive with the County and New York City Borough of Richmond.

Kenneth A. McCauley Jr. knows Manhattan very well. After graduation from high school, Ken took the famed Staten Island Ferry daily to Manhattan, the subway to 96th Street where Manhattan Vocational Technical School was located. The trip took two hours, but was worth the time, young Ken, who decided "not to go to college (at that time)," was taught the fundamentals of a machinist. He had graduated from Port Richmond High School in 1965, where he played the drums in the school band. In 1979, Ken found the time and inclination to graduate from Asnuntuck, where he received an associate degree in Liberal Arts.

In the middle '60s, The Vietnam war was well under way. Ken figured he would use his new found knowledge and before being drafted, joined the U.S. Air Force in August of 1966. After basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, Ken was off to Sacramento, Calif. and Mather Air Force Base, where he was stationed until his discharge in July 1970. He considered himself lucky,

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not going to Vietnam. He instructed future pilots and navigators in training devices, that he had a part in designing and assembly.

After Staff Sgt. Ken McCauley was back in civilian clothes, he made up his mind, "I didn't want to go back to the big city." He took some advice from service buddies to live and work in Connecticut. He joined the machinist apprentice program at Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford.

Before detailing Ken's working career, let's go back to the Christmas season of 1968. Ken was on furlough and attended a discotheque, where he met Cathy Antoncic, also a native of Staten Island. Ken said he felt out of place, it was the late '60s and he wore his hair short, but not in uniform at that time. The post office was kept busy for the young couple, after his return to California. They were engaged in July of 1969 and a few months after Ken was home (Oct. 1970) they were married. They lived in Glastonbury the first two years, before moving to Windsor Locks.

For the record ... Cathy is the daughter of Joseph (retired Marine engineer) and Helen Antoncic. They live in Toms River, N.J. Cathy has two sisters, (her twin) Josephine and Margaret. They also reside in New Jersey. Ken's family ... he is the son of Ken Sr. and Helen McCauley of Staten Island. Ken has a brother, Steve (N.J.), and two sisters, Karen (SI) and Donna (N.J.).

More on Ken's working career ... after four years in East Hartford as a tool and die man, he was transferred to the Pratt & Whitney

Middletown plant as training instructor, followed by another job at the Southington location, where he was a shop foreman and in personnel administration. In 1981 he made the big move to Hamilton-Standard and today Ken is a supervisor at the company's new East Windsor facility, in capital equipment.

The daughters of Ken and Cathy ... Denise, a senior at the high school, the actress in the family, as noted in the "Who's Who in the Cast" of another successful class musical, "Grease," performed by the senior class last month, with Denise as "Frenchy," "...has been captain of the Raider swimming team and made all-conference in two events this past season. Numerous school activities have included Student Council, yearbook, track and softball. A charter member of the high school's chapter of Students Against Driving Drunk, Denise represented Windsor Locks last year as a delegate to Girls State. Denise is a veteran performer with concert choir and Vocal Motion, works as a lifeguard for the town, and plans to pursue her education by majoring in an allied health field."

Her sister, Cheryl, 13, is an eighth grader in the Middle School, and is following her sister's busy schedule ... plays soccer, softball (member of last year's All-Stars, as a catcher), a swimmer, cheerleader, Student Council president, plays the clarinet in the band and last summer worked at Pesci Park with the young children in the "Kiddy Korner."

Their father has always been close at hand, when it came to his daughter's hectic activities. Ken has been a Little League Girls Softball manager, this year will be involved in the Girls Senior League Softball and over the years has been a swimming official and

vice president of the Windsor Locks Water Jets.

On a more personal note, Ken is called "Mr. Fix-It" around the house and admits "being with the kids is (really) the most important." The family has traveled to California, to see where dad was stationed, Florida and Canada. Ken hasn't lost his New York connection ... still roots for the New York Mets. Enjoys sports on the tube, especially boxing.

Ken has a political side, has been a member of the town's Democratic Town Committee since 1988 and is currently the vice chairman, working under the new chairman, George Quagliaroli, who replaced George Hall. He has worked in several campaigns of Sen. Con O'Leary, First Selectman Ed Ferrari and Selectman Jeff Ives. Any political ambitions in the future? Ken said, "I'm just interested in local politics, being involved in my daughter's sports is still No. 1."

When asked who he most admired? Ken said, "My father, Ken Sr. who helped raise four children at a tough time." Ken Jr. firmly believes in the "Golden Rule," with Cathy adding, "He's a friendly guy, who is always ready to help friend and neighbor."

EPILOG

Ken and Cathy McCauley have "no regrets" coming to Connecticut, when they left the big city. Cathy admits she misses family and friends, but "glad we came here for the sake of the children."

Ken knew what he wanted when he left the service. He and his wife have easily adapted to the small town living, and have added, with their daughters, a big contribution to the school sports scene and a new man on the political scene.

Cabbages and Kings Celebrates 15 Years

To the Editor:

On May 1, 1975, the Windsor Locks Journal printed the first "Cabbages & Kings" column. It contained the story of the late and well-respected Fire Chief, Bill Rielly.

Since that first column, I have had the pleasure of meeting and writing about the people in my adopted town, over the past 15 years.

It has been an experience that any writer, worth his or her salt, could only receive in this town of nice folks. I have received probably much more from the columns than the people I have interviewed, over the years. I have found the people in town, to be independent, conservative, student and children oriented, be it the Lions, Rotary, Little League, the school system or the people on both sides of the political spectrum.

There is one thing you learn fast—it's a town of volunteers. The different boards, commissions, firemen,

ambulance drivers, who give of their valuable time and energy to their individual tasks, be it for meetings, or making up a budget, all with one goal—what's good for Windsor Locks.

You can only receive that special feeling meeting different people, that add up to diverse backgrounds. The coaches, politicians, mothers, fathers and students, born here, born in other states or towns, and a lot overseas.

I have always felt... everyone has a story to tell. I want to thank all those people who have contributed to the columns and to the publishers of the Windsor Locks Journal and Imprint in helping me pursue this hobby of mine, something I really enjoy doing.

Another plus in writing, we (must include my wife, Rita, who is proof reader and critic over the years) were able to write about our trips to Europe, Australia and other vacation stops, and in addition, reporting from

Fenway Park and Winter Haven, the press box at the Civic Center and all those years at the GHO, mixing with the greats of golf.

In 1988, I wrote an April 1st column, that proved to be one of the most popular columns, because I fooled a lot of readers. It felt good to be missed. This is no April 1st letter, I hope to be writing a few more years.

Thanks again, people of Windsor Locks, without you, "Cabbages and Kings" would not be possible. I found out—there are more Kings and Queens in town, than cabbages.

*Jack Redmond
Pershing Road*

Postscript...

I would also publicly thank the members of the Lions Club, for the honor recently bestowed on me in their selection as recipient of the Community Service Award.

The Williams — Newcomers,

In September 1985, Kenneth Eugene Williams met Susan Joan Pallotta. He was a product of the Old South, be it Florida, Georgia or Alabama. She was from Springfield, Mass. Truly, it was the north meeting the south, but better yet (as they say in Connecticut), it was boy meets girl, and married two years later. They now live in Windsor Locks.

The story does not end there ... they are both busy executives, in related fields, with Ken taking on an additional responsibility as president of the Oak Ridge Homeowners Association and is currently involved with other condo representatives "interested in a common goal."

There is a lot to tell when it comes to this young couple. their higher education, important roles in the business world, and his travels around the world and now, settling down in a condo, conveniently situated, for a daily trip to Agawam for Ken and Susan's drive to Simsbury.

First, Ken, the southern boy, who has seen the world as an international auditor. He was born in Columbus, Ga. (Maybe that connection gave Ken the wander lust.) Because his father was an Assembly of God minister, and several church assignments in different states, young Ken was educated in Florida, Alabama and Georgia. His father, Eugene Williams, was from Alabama; his mother, Ruth, a southern Georgia lady. They now reside in Jacksonville, Fla. where the Reverend Williams expects to retire this summer, as an educator in the Jacksonville school system.

Ken has a brother, Steven, who lives in Lakeland, Fla. with his wife, Lisa, and their boys, William and Christopher. He has a sister, Faye, married to Joseph Lenna, a minister. They live in Greensboro, N.C., also with two boys, Nicholas and Nathan.

By the time Ken was ready for high school, the Williams family had finally settled down in Lakeland, where he graduated from the local high school in 1969. Ken's sports activity was as a Little Leaguer, when it was time

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JACK REDMOND

for high school Ken became involved mostly in academic pursuits.

Ken had no designs on following his father into the role of minister, as a young boy growing up. However, he admitted, "I wanted to be a FBI agent," but that was soon nixed by his father. Ken's destiny, after all, was to travel.

He didn't have to wait long ... his first trip overseas was to far-off Zaire in west central Africa, a former Belgian colony. Ken recalled... "We watched the first lunar landing on the moon (July 20, 1969) at home and when in Zaire, met astronaut Neil Armstrong (on a world tour), the first man to set foot on the moon." Ken stayed a year (his parents were on a missionary project), returning to Florida and college at the University of South Florida in Tampa. In 1974, Ken graduated with a bachelor of arts in Economics. His summers were spent working to earn necessary finances for his tuition.

More travels—after his Florida education years, Ken went to the University of South Carolina, which included a nine-month training period (for Goodyear Tire) in Columbia, South America. His opinion of that (now troubled) country, "I loved it." In 1976, Ken received his master's in International Business Studies from the South Carolina institution.

He was now ready for a job (and more travel), taking a position with Goodyear Tire & Rubber for the next four years as international auditor. Ken not only worked on the books, but saw a great part of the world—the sights of London, Rome, Singapore, New Zealand, Melbourne, Australia, Bangkok, Malaysia, and a plantation in Sumater, Indonesia.

From some of the world's great countries and cities, Ken returned to the states and the

with North and South Connections



Susan and Ken Williams

“Big Apple,” better known as New York City. He went to work with Celanese, living in nearby Greenwich. He said, “My travels were again heavy, especially to South America, and I didn’t like New York City. I stayed only a year with the fiber company.”

He continued to live in Connecticut and found work in two accounting positions, even “tried something different, working as a stock broker in East Hartford for a year, found it interesting,” but admitted, “it was not his way of making a living.”

In November 1987, Ken finally found a job with “no travel” except to nearby Agawam, with the Alco Equipment Co., when he was hired as controller, and today holds that title and also vice president.

It’s about time, in Ken’s story, to mention some interesting facts on his better half—

Susan Joan Pallotta, a Springfield native. Susan is the daughter of Edward and Joan Pallotta, both from Springfield, now living in East Longmeadow. She has a brother, Jim, who resides in Washington D.C. and is a bond trader.

Susan graduated from East Longmeadow High School in 1979, participating in “all the school plays as a member of the Glee Club.” She has held her own in the higher education field—attended Bay Path, and is a grad of Western New England College with a B.S./B.A. in the field of Accounting. Currently, working on her master’s in Management at night school at the Hartford Graduate Center. Her first job was with the firm of Peat, Marwick, Main & Co., for a two-year stay. The past four years, Susan has been at the Hartford Insurance Group in Simsbury as a financial analyst.

How did this young couple meet? In a parking lot of an apartment complex that they both were living in at the time. In August of 1987, the boy from the South married the girl from New England. After their honeymoon in Rome, they lived in Windsor for two years before moving to Oak Ridge in February, 1988.

More personal notes—when asked, “What are your hobbies?”, Ken said, “I consider the involvement in the (local) condo situation a hobby— it’s fun.” Ken does follow the Red Sox, and said he and Susan did become UConn fans this past season (as we all did) and added, “It’s hard (at first) to deal with too much loyalty when you have moved around as much as I have over the years.” But he is learning fast, I must say.

Susan is a member of the choir at their church, The First Church of Christ Congregational in Springfield. Ken does his share for the church, on the Board of Trustees.

Back to a discussion on condos... Ken said there were about 25 members of the Condominium Owners Association of Windsor Locks.

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He said, “The owners (of condos) are interested in a common goal and find a way to facilitate an involvement in the political process (of the town) and bring to the forefront the interests of the condo owners.”

Ken said he admired his father—“A man who came from modest means, a veteran of World War II who saw action in France as a teenager, went to college, earned a master’s degree and (laid) a strong foundation for his son.”

EPILOG

East is East and West is West ... etc. But in Ken and Susan Williams’ case, it was south meets north. You couldn’t get a better mix than this young couple.

Susan, when asked to describe her husband, said, “Ken is ambitious and energetic, yes, these two words best describe him.”

Two newcomers in town and already involved in a situation that best represents the ’90s, what with so many condos being built, now a definite part of the nation’s young and indeed a great many of the retired folks.

Locally, they have a man very involved in their situation, that the town of Windsor Locks is being faced with at a critical time.

Peter Juszczyński

Year's Basketball Big Guy Earns 'Coaches Award'

"When Coach (Sullivan) yells at me ... makes me mad and I play better..."

The newspaper basketball headline and a lead paragraph, this past season, told the story ... "Juszczyński Loss Hurts" ... "Peter's absence from the Windsor Locks basketball team's lineup was evident in its North Central Connecticut Conference quarterfinal playoff loss to Stafford..."

"We wanted to find out what was behind the newspaper reports and we found a quiet big young man off the court, who finally came into his own and showed some aggressiveness under the boards this season for Coach Dan Sullivan. The Raiders had a good season, with a record of 16-5. However, a knee injury to Peter, suffered in Locks' regular-season finale against Granby, left the Raider team with no one to rebound and the team lost to Stafford.

Son of Immigrants

Peter Juszczyński is the son of Frank and Jainia Dorciak Juszczyński, both natives of Poland. Their son was born and raised in town, and they have an older daughter, Alicia, who was born in Poland, came here at an early age and is a grad of the high school, Class of 1981.

Alicia graduated from the Greater Hartford Community College with a degree in Business Administration and is now employed by the Greater American Insurance Co. in Windsor.

cabbages and kings

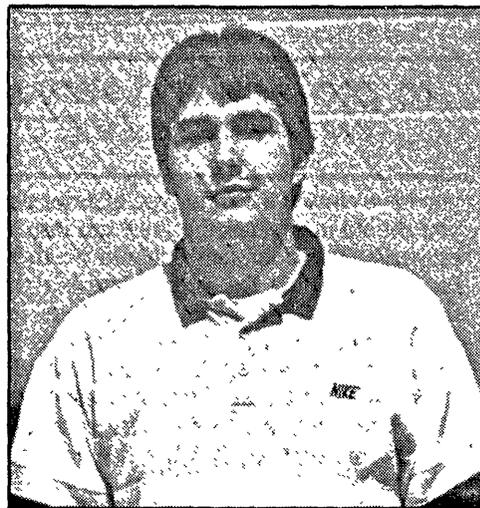
JACK REDMOND

Peter's father has worked at Dexter's over the past two decades and his mother is an employee of HiG in South Windsor.

His parents were married in their native Poland in a small town near Warsaw. Mr. Juszczyński came to the states in April 1963 for what Peter said was "a better living." He lived with his late brother, Stanley, (in Windsor Locks) until his wife and young daughter joined him in their adopted country.

More on big Peter—he attended South and North Street schools and is now a junior at the high school. He received his first taste of basketball at the Middle school, where he also played some soccer and baseball. He was a Little Leaguer at the age of eight. Played until he was a freshman in high school. Was a member of the KofC (majors) and Carillo's (seniors) under coaches, Krupa, Salvatore and Edes. Peter tried soccer and baseball in his freshman year, but decided basketball was his sport.

On a personal note, he enjoys watching all sports, follows the Red Sox and Wade Boggs, and has been to Fenway and Yankee Stadium for games between the rivals. When it comes to music, Peter listens to Rock & Roll (Peter doesn't look like the R&R type). Television favorites include "Cheers," and movies like



Peter Juszczyński

Staff Photo by Kelly L. Cavanaugh

"Christmas Vacation" with Chevy Chase.

Peter traveled to Poland at the age of four (said he does remember the trip) with his mother, where she has a flock of uncles, aunts and cousins.

Peter's folks attend the home games and after the games, Peter said, "they offer free advice" as to his playing. His future plans do include college, in hopes of a scholarship and probably play Division-Two basketball. A few years back, Peter delivered daily newspapers and the past nine months has worked at McCrory Stores on Main Street.

Three Years of Basketball

Looking back at three years of basketball under Coach Dan Sullivan — His freshman year, played Junior Varsity ball, as sophomore alternated between the JV and varsity. This past season, was a full-time varsity player. His comments on the team's past three years: the

years of Mike Mascaró, Mike Collins, John Russillo and John Trainer, "Upper classmen, I knew they were better than I was — this past season my teammates were equal."

Who's coming back in the fall — Mark Simonetta and Mike Cosker will graduate, returning veterans are Chris Forbes, Dennis Bassett, Dan Farr, Jason Hamley, Eric Tharalkson, John Majewski and, of course, Peter.

On Coach Sullivan — "A real good coach ... yells at me (Peter said this with a smile on his face, but knows the coach is right) and it makes me mad at myself, he yells more, and I do play better."

On his injury—due to the knee injury, Peter played only two minutes of the game against Putnam, his season was over, also for the Raiders. Last month, Peter was to undergo "arthroscopic surgery" on his knee, and if the doctor feels it's all right, said Peter, he expects to play a little ball by the end of the summer.

Added plus this season for Peter, was being the recipient of the basketball "Coaches Award" for most improved and (player) that plays hard, from Coach Sullivan.

Admiration for others, fall into two categories for Peter... "My parents, who came over to a new country at a young age (were successful) by working hard." On the sports scene, Peter admires "Larry Bird, of the Boston Celtics," another hard worker, "for his determination, and I try to emulate him on the court."

EPILOG

Peter Francis Juszczyński, the big man (6-5, 240 lbs.) on the local court, with yet another year of basketball, definitively his sport.

I'm sure the Raider faithful fans are looking forward to next season with Chris, Dan, Dennis, Jason, Eric, John and big Peter taking on all comers in true Windsor Locks tradition.

Lions Honor Locals for Community Service

On Thursday, April 19, the Windsor Locks Lions Club held their first Community Service Night in lieu of its Annual Roast.

The guest of honor and recipient of this award was Jack Redmond, author of *Cabbages and Kings*, a weekly column printed in the Windsor Locks Journal.

Lion's President Norman Messier presented Mr. Redmond with the Lions Community Service Award, in recognition of his fifteen years of weekly personality profiles on the residents of Windsor Locks. He stated that Jack's articles give fellow residents a humorous, warm, positive and insightful glimpse into the lives of their neighbors thereby drawing them close together.

He said, Mr. Redmond performs a service to Windsor Locks each week by building community spirit in a way that is rare in most towns.



Jack Redmond, author of the Journal's "Cabbages and Kings", received the Lions Community Service Award, presented by Lions President Norman Messier.

Photo Courtesy of Norman Messier

Bob Fahey—Active in Golf, Bowling and Family

"Like to meet people—you learn a lot by meeting and talking..."

One of Bob's many pastimes

I met Bob Fahey, for the first time, on the golf course. I'll have to agree, he does "like to meet and talk to people," and he's a pretty fair golfer too.

However, there's a lot more to the Manchester, N.H., native, who moved to the Hartford area as a baby with his folks and is now probably a truer citizen of Connecticut.

Bob is into golf, bowling, bingo at the K of C, father of two, grandfather of two, and a retired electrician. Bob, you find out very early in the interview, feels worry is a waste of time, especially after two heart attacks and a by-pass operation. The attacks and operation did not curtail his busy schedule. He is a man who really enjoys life.

When it came time to interview Bob, it was hard to pin him down as to a time, with such a hectic agenda, but caught him one morning last month just before a round of golf with his brother, James.

Speaking of family—Robert James Fahey is the son of the late Thomas and Marion Fahey, both of whom were born and raised in Manchester. They left New Hampshire when Mr. Fahey took a job in the big city of Hartford.

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

For the record, Bob's grandfather came from County Cork in the old country.

Today, Bob's brothers and sisters live in Connecticut and the sunny state of Florida. James lives in East Hartford, Thomas (former Bradley Bowl fixture) now lives in Deltona, Fla. Bob's sister Catherine resides in Fort Myers, Fla., and two other sisters live in Connecticut: Patricia in Glastonbury and Mary in East Windsor. Added family note—back in August, 1981, we featured another Fahey in C & K... Tom Fahey, well-known local lawyer, son of Bob's brother, Thomas.

Bob attended the Barnes School in Hartford but at the age of 7 the family moved to East Hartford. Bob went as far as his senior year at the East Hartford High School. He did not graduate, as he entered the U.S. Army. At the high school, Bob left his mark playing football for two seasons, saying, "I was a 148 pound left tackle, No. 32, and in those years you played both defense and offense."

Served Overseas

In the summer of 1944 Bob was in the army,



Bob Fahey

serving in Georgia, Maryland and New Jersey, before being shipped overseas with an ordnance outfit. He landed in Le Havre, in northern France, and eventually served in Germany. He was discharged in July, 1946.

In April, 1948, Bob married Minnie Caruso, who was from the north end of Hartford. They lived in Hartford and Windsor before moving to Windsor Locks in September, 1955.

Bob and Minnie have a son, Bob Jr., who resides in Feeding Hills, Mass., with his wife, Judy. He's a WLHS grad (Class of 1967). Today, he has followed in his dad's trade, as an electrician. His sister, Marion, a WLHS grad (Class of 1973), lives in town with her husband Claude Desrosiers, and their two children, Kimberly, who attends the Congregational Church Nursery School and Jennifer, a student at the North Street School.

Now for Bob's working career... soon after being back in civilian clothes, Bob decided to attend an apprentice program in Hartford to become an electrician. He was a member of Local 35, and proud to say—"I was a journeyman electrician for 35 years," working on projects all over the Hartford area. In addition, Bob's assignments were in Maine, Pennsylvania and New York City. After his heart attacks, Bob retired in April, 1987.

Likes Golf and Bowling

Bob's hobbies include golf, bowling and when asked for how long he said, "All my life." ...golf, bowling and working at the K of C on Monday evenings bingo games. (He's been involved with the bingo games the past quarter of a century). He joined the Knights about 1950, and now is finally getting around "going through the chairs."

Bob bowls at Bradley and can be found at area golf courses, especially the K of C League Wednesday mornings at AirWays. All this activity makes for a busy schedule. Among his golf partners are his son, Bob Jr. and brother, James.

Does he follow the Yankees or Red Sox? Not Bob Fahey, for this easterner... it's the Cleveland Indians, ever since the days of Bob Feller and Lou Broudeau (both Hall of Famers). Not one to watch too much television, they dropped his favorite... "Cagney & Lacey," but probably watches the reruns on cable.

EPILOG

Robert James Fahey has overcome medical setbacks, and today enjoys what he says is "three wonderful years of retirement." His personal philosophy (these past three years) has been—"Don't worry, I found out the hard way, (worry) it doesn't do much good."

When asked who he most admired—this man of many sports talents, simply said, "I think about, give it a lot of thought—Jesus Christ on the cross."

And that's what makes Bob Fahey tick...

Susan Strong

Meet One of the Newest Lions

"Building memories, to leave for our kids...."
Susan's philosophy

Susan Davis Strong wanted to be a part of, was always supportive of, and now is a part and active supporter of the Windsor Locks Lions Club.

Susan is one of the four women recently chosen as members of the once male-dominated international organization.

The other local ladies are Patricia Marinone, Carolyn Messier and Deborah Marchand Copes, who now can be called Lions.

I'm sure all four women will have memories, of their own, as to individual reactions in becoming Lions. Pat is well-known in business and politics, Carolyn and her husband, Norm Messier, President of the Lions, were subjects of C & K in 1988 and Deborah was off on her honeymoon.

We decided to interview Susan, the lady with a friendly smile and now a genuinely sincere resident (except for two weeks, she was born in New Hampshire) all her life. She is currently secretary to William C. Leary, Judge of Probate.

Susan's mother, the late Margaret Davis, was from New Hampshire, and wanted her child to be born in her home state. So little Susan was born in Pittsfield, N.H. (just north of Concord) and arrived in Manchester, Conn., at the age of two weeks. Her father, Henry Davis, was originally from Malden, Mass., and now lives in town.

Mr. Davis was a veteran of four decades at Hamilton-Standard, an avid golfer and fisherman, and according to his proud daughter, was in addition, Past Master of the Masonic Lodge in East Windsor. Susan has a brother, Bob, who resides in Portsmouth, NH and a sister, Linda, of Chichester, NH. The Davis family moved from Manchester to Windsor Locks in 1956.

Susan is a grad of the WLHS, Class of 1967, admits she wasn't too active (was in Junior Achievement), but is "making up for it now." Her employment careers covers a wide range—Combustion Engineering, Inc. in Windsor, Hartford National Bank, real estate work, a secretary at the Windsor Locks Town Hall to First Selectman Cliff Randall, and in September, 1987, became secretary to Judge Leary. For the record, did curtail her working career for about eight years, with the birth of her first son. (after the Hartford National Bank position).

cabbages & kngs

JACK REDMOND

Enter—Joseph John Strong, Jr. in September, 1969. Joe and Susan met through mutual friends, and according to Joe, "It was love at first sight and she's been my right arm ever since."

Joe was born in Hartford, raised in East Hartford and Windsor, graduating from Windsor High School in 1965. He was the son of the late Joseph Strong, Sr. and Sophia Strong. Joe has a sister, Irene, who lives way down south in Kenesaw, Georgia.

After high school, Joe worked at Pratt & Whitney for a few months, before enlisting in the U.S. Navy (Feb., 1966), seeing service at Great Lakes, Florida and California. The golden state would be Joe's home base. He served on the USS New Jersey, shelling the shore, but never set foot on Viet Nam territory. He was discharged in September, 1969.

Joe returned to Pratt & Whitney and twenty-five years later, is "still there, as Assistant Operator, in the Willgoos Lab."

Joe and Susan were married in May, 1970. They lived in Windsor for three years, moving to Windsor Locks in 1973. They have two sons, Deane, 19, and Tim, 16. Deane graduated last June from the high school, where he was a member of the track team. He is currently the Front Desk Supervisor at the Marriott Court Yard in Windsor. Deane is planning to attend Manchester Community College next month. Tim is in his sophomore year at the Raider School, into bowling and works part time at Bradley Bowl.

And how do their parents spend available spare time? Joe and Susan are into collecting antiques and do attend the shows, whenever possible. They both bowl the big pins in the winter months, but the summer might find them enjoying the Rhode Island shore. Locally, Joe is a member of the Windsor Locks Gun Club. He also enjoys car racing on the tube, while Susan's favorite is something from her age group, "thirty something." She hasn't neglected her civil responsibility—serving as secretary and member of the Municipal Resource Recovery Authority.

Susan is now one of the latest to join the Windsor Locks Lions Club and said, "I'm already involved," assisting in the recent Lions



Susan Strong

Staff Photo by Kelly L. Cavanaugh

Ambulance Appreciation Night and Walk-a-thon. As mentioned, Susan has "always supported the Lions and wanted to be a part." She said Joe was "very supportive" in her new endeavor.

This congenial couple were asked, who they most admired? Joe said, over the years he has admired many people.—"my parents and the men I have worked with at Pratt." Susan had worked with Mr. Randall, during a period of his role as First Selectman, and she said, "I admired Cliff—he was very involved in town affairs and the Lions, working long hours and doing a lot of extra things for the local citizens."

Epilog

Susan and Joe Strong feel Windsor Locks is "a nice quiet small town with a good educational system," and a good town to "build memories to leave to (their) kids."

That's the story of one of the newest Lions in town, and her husband, Joe, and the lady with a friendly smile.

Hugh J. Starr—Bagpipes, Bikes, Big Trips and A Bigger Life Style

'You can always help someone else and it doesn't hurt you...'

Mr. Starr's personal philosophy

It was difficult to pin down the story of Irish-born, well-traveled and highly educated, Hugh Joseph Starr.

The situation arose, only because he has had such a diverse life, playing the bagpipes, since he was 12, riding a bike in competitive races, it seemed all over the world, father of six, grandfather of eight, a history buff, and yes, a steady worker for three decades at the Nuclear Power Training School in Windsor.

Just to round off a full life style, Hugh and his wife, Isabelle, have seen the beauty of Europe, The Holy Land and the Taj Mahal in India.

He is known to many as just "Scottie," while Isabelle, is called affectionately, "Bell Starr."

We'll stick to the name of Hugh, the man born in Ireland, however, spent many years in Scotland and served in the British Navy, before coming to America.

Hugh has not lost that distinguishable accent, even after 42 years in his adopted country. He was born in the county of Limerick, in the Republic of Ireland, in an area called "Gary Owen."

He was the son of the late Hugh Starr and Norah Ryan Starr. His father was born in Scotland, and mother in Ireland. He served in the British Army in World War One and Two. The father of seven learned to play the bagpipes as a young boy and passed it along to his son, Hugh.

Today, Hugh's brothers and sisters are located as follows: Patrick in Maine, Edward in Ireland, John in Scotland, Margaret, Mary and Norah all reside in the "Garden State," of New Jersey.

Let's go back a way—when Hugh was eight, his family moved from Ireland to Scotland. He attended school in Glasgow (Scotland's largest city), located in the southwest on the Clyde.

cabbages & kings

JACK REDMOND

Higher education, which will play a part in his later years, began with night school, studying marine engineering, combined with an apprentice program.

He recalled World War Two and the bombings. After the war, he served two years (46-48) in the British Navy in submarine duty. Would you believe, Hugh said he took along his bike in the sub, it was a part of him, sub or not. He took part in many bike races, and at the age of 17, came in fifth in a 100-mile "All-Irish Race." Future bike races would be an important part of his life.

In September, 1948, Hugh came to America. Yes, took two bikes on the plane, as part of his luggage. Why did he come to the States? He said, "I wanted to get away from religious prejudices." After his arrival in America, Hugh lived in with his uncle, Jim Ryan, in the Newark, New Jersey area. His mother had passed away and he said, the rest of the family, including his father, came to New Jersey.

In 1955, Hugh moved to Southington. Two years before, he had met Isabelle Jankowski, by way of introduction by his sister, Margaret, a friend of Isabelle. They were married in November, 1953 and set up house in Southington, moving to Windsor Locks in the late 50s, when he took a job with Combustion Engineering Inc. He retired in 1988, after 30 years with the nuclear power facilities.

Now the family of Hugh and Isabelle: six children and eight grandchildren—Michael, at home, has five sisters, beginning with Maureen, married to Fred Marinone. They live in town, with their three daughters. Donna and Gary Dennis also reside in Windsor Locks with their three boys and one daughter.

Deirdre lives at home and is employed at Bradley with TWA. Denise is married to Brian

O'Kane. They and their son live in town. Brenda and her husband, Mark Thibodeau, broke the chain, they live in nearby Ellington. All the Starr offspring graduated from the high school.

The interesting, different, and what novels are made of, the story of Hugh J. Starr. He is a man of many hobbies and you may say, searches. He reads a great deal of history. It could be the history of old Windsor Locks, or the genealogy of the Starr family. Let's just mention some of Hugh's educational pursuits—attended UConn for advanced family research for genealogy, has taken courses in real estate and insurance. Attended Springfield State Technical College studying electronics. He has a drafting certificate from the University of Hartford. Want more? Over a 10-year period, Hugh took a correspondence course from the LaSalle University in Chicago for a law degree.

Over the years, as mentioned, Hugh was competitive in bike racing. He still rides his bike for exercise, from his home in the north end of town to the area of Bradley Field. When it came to competition, Hugh raced all over Connecticut, Canada, New Jersey, and even in the sun of old Mexico. He has several scrapbooks filled with stories of his triumphs and numerous trophies. Hugh said, for one race he won a car.

The bagpipes—or as they say, in the song—"The pipes, the pipes..." Hugh has been playing the pipes since he was 12. Looked up the word in the dictionary—"bagpipe: A musical instrument having a flexible bag inflated either by a tube with valves or by bellows, a double-reed melody pipe, and from one to four drone pipes."

As a bagpiper, Hugh is a former member of the St. Patrick's Pipe Band of Manchester. Currently, he's an active member of the Springfield Kiltie Band, playing traditional music (Irish/Scottish) at all the "parades in Worcester, Hartford, Holyoke and Newport, Rhode



Hugh J. Starr is seen here, participating in a St. Patrick's Day parade in Worcester, Ma.

Island."

When Hugh and Isabelle went on many of their vacations, the pipes were always a part of the luggage. Just to name a few of their stops: back home (for Hugh) to Ireland, Scotland, Turkey, Greece, Egypt, Israel (Holy Land), India ("rode an elephant and visited the fabulous Taj Mahal") Italy ("saw the Pope"), Yugoslavia and visited "all the shines (Fatima/Lourdes)." An added note, Hugh said, "I played the pipes at the shrines and even inside the famed Rock of Gibraltar."

Epilog

Yes, the life and travels of Hugh Joseph Starr have been both interesting and different. Hugh said he admired his father, who was "upright, a military man and well disciplined." Hugh has been all that.

Hugh's personal philosophy has been "You can always help someone else, and it doesn't hurt you." Hugh has provided help and entertainment for so many, in his adopted country and in many ports of call. However, Hugh did mention on their trip to India, the enormous suffering of the people, and, in that case, couldn't help, realizing, "There, but for the grace of God, go I."

I Remember Sammy, Too

JACK REDMOND

Features Correspondent

As with many members of the media, the Greater Hartford Open Golf Tournament has been filled with special memories, especially when it comes to the late and great Sammy Davis, Jr.

After writing my personal observations of the GHO, over the past decade, I too, have a special memory of the famed "Candy Man."

Small, that it may be, but for a few shining moments, I had the pleasure of getting Sammy's ear and talking with him, one on one.

This happened back in June, 1984. The Hartford Jaycees were to have a press conference and it was billed as ... "Sammy Davis, Jr. to visit Hartford and Meet With Press."

An hour or so, before the media appeared at Cromwell, I just happened to be there early. (I'm usually early for everything). Sammy came in and walked casually over to the porch and sat down. The few people around, Jaycee officials, waiters, etc., just felt he wanted to be

my himself. He probably did.

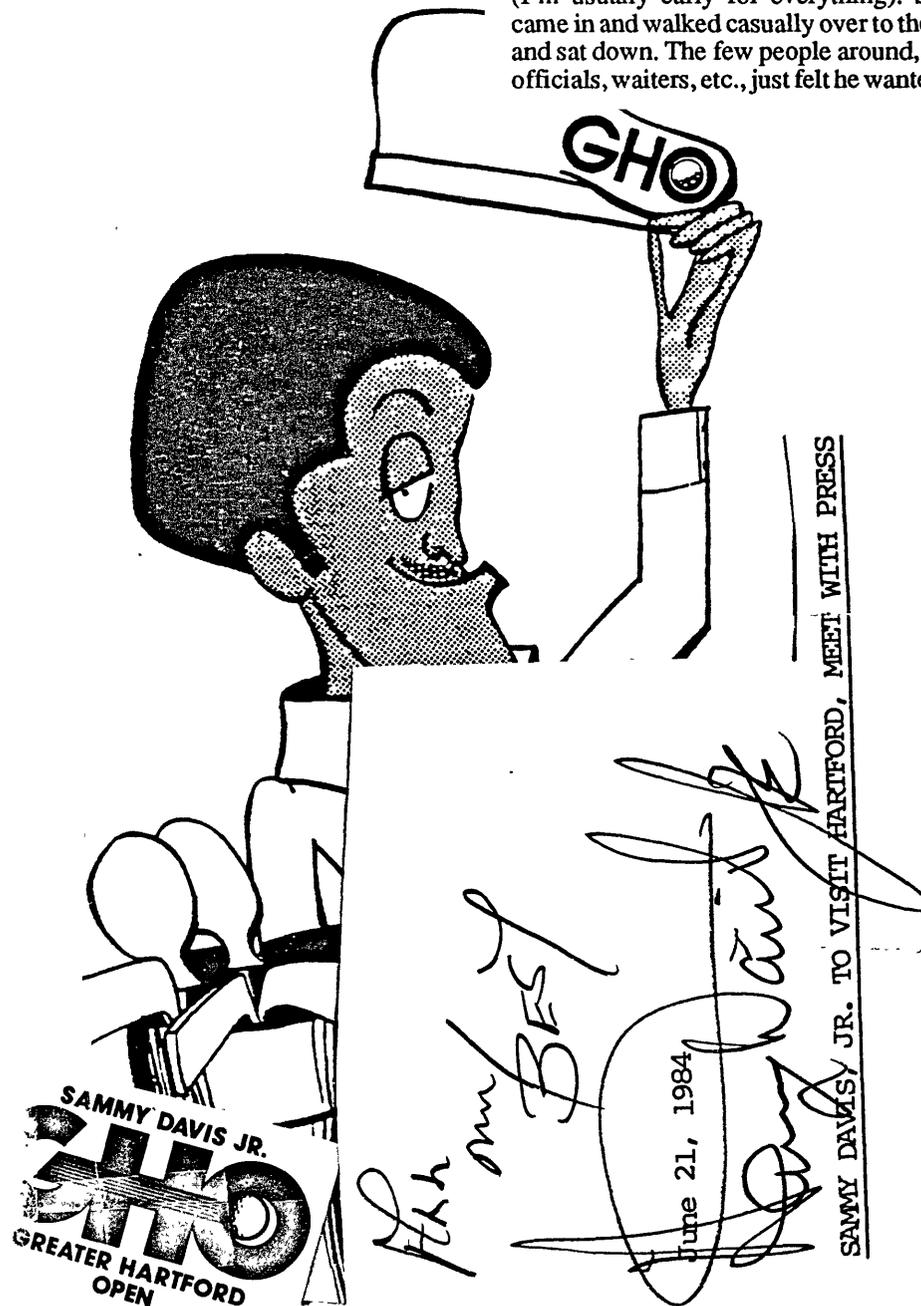
But I felt, when am I ever going to get another chance to meet and talk to Sammy Davis Jr., all by myself?

I went over, sat down, and we had a small, cordial, friendly chat. Me, from Windsor Locks, and Sammy Davis, Jr. from the world of show business. We had mutual friends in a New Haven Italian restaurant.

I knew my time was up and asked him for an autograph. I took the news release and he signed it... All My Best Sammy Davis, Jr. I thanked him. He left. Went outside—got into a golf cart and drove out to the course.

I went out and watched him drive off. A big man was there, also watching. I asked him—where do you think he is going? The man said, "He just wants to be alone." (The man identified himself as Sammy's bodyguard.)

Yes, I remember Sammy Davis, Jr. I had a few fine moments with a great talent and a nice guy to me. Thanks Sammy, for the memories and all those great years at the GHO.



EDIA GUIDE

Al Wilcox: Big Man on Little League/Youth Soccer Scene

"Every day isn't a home run day ..." — Al Wilcox

Big Al Wilcox is a familiar figure around the sports fields of Windsor Locks. Be it soccer, softball or baseball, he's involved.

Why does he do it? "Because of the kids, it's very self-satisfying (as administrator/coach) to watch everything come together." Of course, having two active children of his own (Laurie and Allan) helps a lot.

Al has been a resident of town the past 15 years. Today, he is semi-retired from a long working career and is always ready to serve the kids and the town, as a member of the Lions Club and the Little League organization. Recent events proved this to be true.

Some background on the big man with that easy manner: Allan P. Wilcox grew up in Wethersfield, graduating from the high school in 1952. He played some soccer and basketball in the school's intramural program, but not at the varsity level.

He was the son of the late Phillip Wilcox and Mabel Parkes Wilcox, who both were from Hartford. Al has a brother, Roy, who lives up in New Hampshire.

After high school, Al had a few odd jobs, before joining the Burroughs Company. In March 1957, Uncle Sam had other plans for young Al. For the next two years, Al was in the U.S. Army. He served in Georgia, New Jersey and Louisiana.

Upon his discharge and back in a civilian status, Al returned to Burroughs. Counting his service time, Al worked for Burroughs for more than 30 years, until his semi-retired life in October 1989. During those years Al operated in several departments of the once-only adding machine company, but when computers came into use, Al was right there to be part of the new world of computers. He saw the transition of Burroughs merging with Sperry and now known as UNISYS.

Al was involved in what he called "environmental marketing," which included computer

cabbages and kings

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room requirements, as to temperature, etc. In October 1987, Al suffered a heart attack. This kept him on the shelf until April 1988. In September of that year, Al worked locally on computer equipment at the Federal Reserve Bank.

As mentioned, Al has two children. Laurie, 14, an eighth-grader at the Middle School, is into school soccer, softball (seventh grade) and Little League baseball. This year, Laurie is playing in the town's LL Girls Softball Senior League for the THEREVAN team. A few years back, she became interested in archery, but it was her brother, Allan, 13, a seventh-grader at the Middle School, who at 10 was in competitive archery, taking part in a New Jersey tournament.

Allan plays baseball, soccer and basketball at his school, and as a sixth-grader, took part in the annual Maryland Basketball exchange program. He has played Little League (for the Lions) since he was nine years old.

When Al Wilcox is not following the action on the diamond, court or soccer field (he's also a fan of the Raiders basketball team), he enjoys woodworking, tinkering with anything mechanical or electrical, and, staying with the latest, has his own computer. Outdoor sports, at one time, included golf and softball, but gave those up for salt-water fishing, boating, enjoys being around the water, and vacations at the Cape. He did manage a trip to the coast of Virginia with his children, where they went camping and fishing at the shore.

Television viewing is limited for Al, to sports, especially if the Red Sox are on the tube. His rooting for the Sox goes way back to the era of Ted Williams.

On the local scene, Al has been a member of



Al Wilcox

what can I say, everything came together, we had the support of so many, the parents and the town." Al was the treasurer of the "celebration committee."

Al was also asked for his personal philosophy; "I guess, you'd say, be realistic (in life), roll with the punches." Who does Al most admire? He went back a few years to an old boss at Burroughs. "He has since passed away, but I remember well, he was a man who had the ability to make people feel at ease, he would get the most out of people who worked for him."

EPILOG

Al Wilcox, the big guy around town, wherever kids are playing their favorite sport, told us, "Every day isn't a home run day." He was just being realistic. But I'll bet, he may say the following ... "Don't bunt, aim out of the ball park."

the Lions Club for six years. He has served on several committees, which included the annual Pancake Breakfast, which he chaired a few years back, and the chairman of the recent Youth Day program, which included a fishing derby.

Since 1985, the Little League program has played an important part in the life of Al Wilcox. He has served in different capacities, calling himself "the administrative type." Currently, Al is the softball player rep. He has been involved for the past four years as a coach in the youth soccer program.

When asked for his reaction on the recent 25th Little League reunion of the 1965 World Champs, he said, "The festivities were great,

Stephanie Agli:

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL JUNE 22, 1990

"Work hard ... you can achieve what you want..."

Steph Agli

This is the story of one of our town's recent high school grads. The student with the highest scholastic standing: Stephanie Marie Agli.

Stephanie was only eight years old when I first met the Agli family. I had interviewed her active father, Charles George Agli Jr., in November 1980, along with her mother, Barbara Potter Agli, and two sisters, Christin and Elizabeth.

For the past 10 years, Stephanie, known better through her high school years as just Steph, has always taken an active part in her school's activities.

Last week, she graduated as valedictorian, Class of 1990, Windsor Locks High School. Michelle Torromeo was chosen salutatorian of the class.

Steph's list of credentials include: Student Council, three years; Yearbook Committee; member of the Youth Commission; was treasurer of her sophomore and junior classes; and member of the "Rock 'n' Rollers" in the senior musical, "Grease."

This fall will find Steph at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. where she

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

will major in government. She'll be near Capitol Hill and find out how the government works firsthand.

Some personal notes on her family and her start: she was born in Rockville but, at the age of six months, the family moved to Windsor Locks (1973). Her dad, a Meriden native, is currently the city assessor for the City of New Britain. He's been in the assessor's office for the past 13 years. Barbara Agli was originally from Suffield.

There are two other pretty daughters of Charles and Barbara: Christin, who will be a junior this fall at the high school. She was the president of the sophomore class and is into tennis. Elizabeth will enter the freshman class at the high school in September. She was a member of the chorus at the Middle School.

Steph is also very much into tennis, as a four-year player for the Raiders. She was co-captain this past season, under coach Andre LaBrosse. When asked about her coach, she said, "Playing under Coach LaBrosse was a lot



Stephanie Agli

of fun ... there was never any pressure." Does she have any favorite on the pro tennis circuit? "Yes," she said, "Bories Becker ... I'll watch as much tennis as there is on television."

Her scholastic and athletic ability was recently recognized when she was awarded the "1990 Scholar/Athlete Award" given by the Connecticut Association of Secondary Schools and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference.

This young student/athlete was asked for a few of her favorite things ... "playing tennis, shopping and talking on the phone" (a typical teenager, away from the books). One of her favorites on TV, "Cheers," and at the movies, "Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventures." When it came to favorite singing groups ... "Journey" (soft rock). Oh yes, she has a favorite food ... no, not pizza or hamburger ... Fettucine Alfredo!

And speaking of more favorites, subjects at school: history and social studies. She had two favorite teachers, that Steph mentioned, when it came to English ... teachers Sherman and Robinson.

When this young lady was not at school or playing tennis the past year, part time, she worked at the Enfield Federal and Savings Bank as a teller.

Her parents, quite naturally, were "very proud," they said, when they heard of their

daughter's selection as valedictorian of her class. Her dad adding, "This (honor) was an accumulation of her whole (schooling) career." When asked for one word to describe their talented daughter, they agreed, "independent."

The interview was near the end when Steph was asked who she most admired. She said, "My grandfather, John Potter (of Suffield), who always takes time for people ... and (always) is ready to help people."

The young college-to-be-student said her personal philosophy is "to work hard and (feel) you can achieve what you want (in life)."

EPILOG

A few years have passed for the Agli daughters, for them, the books of Windsor Locks, for dad, the assessor's books of New Britain, since our last meeting. Stephanie is the first Agli daughter to graduate from high school and certainly showing the way for her sisters.

It was quite interesting that Stephanie mentioned her grandfather when it came to admiration, because, I just came across the following: "Nobody can do for children what grandparents do. Grandparents sort of sprinkle stardust over the lives of children."

Good luck to the Class of 1990.

Valedictorian, Class of 1990

Steve and Sharon Johnson:

"Baseball is a big part of our lives..."

— The Johnson Family

This is the story of a young couple, Steve and Sharon Johnson, with familiar family names. They are both active as their parents and grandparents were before them. When you mention names like Bidwell, Mooney, Swindell, Johnson and Teed, you are talking about legacies to be proud of.

Stephen Hugh Johnson is the son of the late Phil Johnson and Doris Bidwell Johnson, who now makes her home in Somers.

Sharon Teed Johnson is the daughter of Dick and Virginia LaBounty Teed, he of the baseball Dodgers and Phillies.

The names of Steve's grandparents were, according to Steve, "old Windsor Locks' folks." Natives will probably best remember the names in the business life of this town.

With the "Teed" connection, it's no wonder the Johnson boys take after their grandfather on the diamond, who in the '50s was a player in the Dodger system and now scouts for the Los Angeles team.

I wanted to write a story for the Friday before Father's Day, picked Steve, and came up with two family trees that proved very interesting.

It was probably my good Irish luck to meet Steve and Sharon at the 25th Anniversary of the Little League 1965 World Champs. When it comes to baseball, Steve said, "Baseball is a big part of our lives."

However, you soon find, there's a lot more to tell of this friendly and congenial couple who have lived in Windsor, Enfield and in Windsor Locks since 1986. Their home, with their two active Little League sons, Todd and Scott, and daughter Stephanie, is on Church Street, the home of his late grandmother, Susan Bidwell.

Speaking of relatives, Steve has five brothers and a sister, while Sharon has three sisters, which makes for big family get-togethers.

Steve's father, who passed away in 1969, worked for Travelers, was a grad of Notre

cabbages and kings

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Dame University and a veteran of World War II.

Steve was raised in nearby Windsor, graduating from the high school, Class of 1971. In his freshman and sophomore years, he was on the track team. For his full four years, he saw action on the football field, as fullback on offense and halfback on defense.

Sharon and Steve had met in high school, and she graduated the same year. Yes, she was captain of the cheerleaders, when Steve was performing on the gridiron.

She was born in Mobile, Ala. when her father was playing in the deep South, on one of his many baseball stops. The family lived a short time in Rochester, N.Y. before moving to Windsor, when Sharon was five years old.

Sharon has three sisters: Shelley of Cheshire, Susan, who lives in Windsor and is married to Steve's brother, David, and Sandy, who makes her home in Southwick.

We had the pleasure of meeting and interviewing their father, Dick Teed, back in March of 1981. Mr. Teed had had an outstanding career in baseball as player, coach, manager and scout in the Phillies organization and currently with the Dodgers, as a scout. In 1953, Dick was with the Brooklyn Dodgers for a three-week stay. It was tough breaking into any lineup with Roy Campanella as No. 1 catcher, the position Dick played. He is in his 43rd year in the world of baseball, and it has certainly rubbed off on his daughter and grandsons.

But back to Steve ... after high school, Steve said, looking back, "I wanted to be in business." He began his college career at UConn but a year later, September 1972, was one of the last draftees into the U.S. Army. He served in New Jersey and South Carolina before being shipped over to Germany for an 18-

Active Parents with Family Legacies



The Johnson Family

month stay. He "loved the duty and saw most of Europe," he recalled. Waiting for him back home was Sharon, and the mail would be their only contact.

Steve was discharged in September 1974. The "high school sweethearts" were soon married and set up house in Windsor. Steve went back to college and completed his degree work in 1977, with a sheepskin in Business Finance.

For the record, and as mentioned, Steve has five brothers: Philip lives in New York State, David and Roger in Windsor, Ken in Colchester and Tim in sunny Arizona.

Steve did not start off in the so-called "business world" of three-piece suits. He had worked as a carpenter before college, and decided to work at his older trade and try business later. After four years, he gave up the tools for that suit and today is all business.

Steve has been in property management in Springfield, manager of condos around the Hartford area, and currently works for a Houston, Texas developer — Hines Interest Limited Partnership — which he said was one of the largest developers of office complexes. Steve holds the title of property manager.

In education, he has furthered his education attending night school in "Building Owners Management and Real Estate."

Back to the family of Steve and Sharon ... the children, Todd, 9, attends North Street School, plays soccer, basketball and the minors in the Little League program. Sharon, his mom, is always on the side lines, as fan, but more important, is the coach of the "Subway" team the past two years. Don't forget, her name was Teed. One of Todd's baseball highlights was spending time at the Cape with his grandfather who at the time was scouting the Cape Cod league. Oh yes, it's true, like a lot of little boys, after baseball, Todd has to practice at the piano.

Scott, 7, also attends North, is into "T" ball, and like his brother is a three-sport man. Both boys are Cub Scouts, Troop 261. Their sister, 4-year-old Stephanie, goes to the games with Dad, and attends the Windsor Locks Congregational Church (of which they are members) Nursery School. It wasn't said, but I'll bet Stephanie ends up playing softball, when her time comes around.

On the civic side of Steve's life is the Lions, as a member the past three years. He's been involved with the annual Pancake Breakfast and the recent Youth Day. He considers the Lions "a good club, well organized and a club with devoted individuals."

When Steve is not at a game, or work, or the Lions, he will probably be at the carpentry bench, and proudly stated he "did over the house, top to bottom." Adding, "I'm a businessman by day, a carpenter on the weekend." Steve admits, "Sharon knows more about the game of baseball and he's the chief chauffeur."

The family has enjoyed Florida and the beach during the summer months. They all root for the Dodgers, naturally, and are interested in all sports ... the Giants, UConn and Celtics.

EPILOG

That's the story of Steve and Sharon Johnson and their children. The father of the clan admires hard work, dedicated individuals, admits he does work hard, but no "workaholic." He has a family that works hard as ball players, a coach and two faithful fans.

This Sunday is Father's Day ... we honor our fathers, and I'm sure at the Johnson home, this weekend, dad will be king.

Came across the following ... seems to fit this time and space ... "A father is neither an anchor to hold us back, nor a sail to take us there, but always a guiding light whose love shows us the way."

Not All the Best Golfers Are at the GHO

"Anyone who enjoys golf, is a friend of Duke ..."

That's part of Duke Marotta's philosophy.

While the pro golfers are competing at the TPC of Connecticut in nearby Cromwell in the annual Greater Hartford Open, one of our resident golfers, Duke Marotta, of the Windsor Locks Marottas, will be, as usual, burning up the Airways Golf Course in Suffield.

His wife, Nancy, said, if circumstances had been different, Duke could have been a professional golfer. She said he was "very competitive in sports and as a salesman."

However, Carmelo Joseph Marotta grew up on the east side of Hartford, served in the U.S. Navy near the end of World War II, came home and married Nancy Morelli, also of Hartford, where they raised three children. He earned a living in merchandising and sales in the wine and liquor business. Nancy had a hand in business as the organizer of the Marotta Real Estate in town, now operated by their two sons.

Today, Carmelo, better known as "Duke" to his many friends, a tag he has had since he was 14, can now be found on the golf course. Since his retirement last year, he plays "three or four times a week, depending on the weather," he said. Duke plays to a two handicap, and it may not put him in the same league as Trevino or Palmer, but darn close.

Some background on this friendly guy, with that good-natured smile ... Duke was the son of the late Frank and Josephine Marotta, who were

cabbages & kings

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married in their native Sicily and had two children there: Frank, who now lives in West Hartford, and Mary, who resides in Southington.

When they all came to America, the third child was born—Carmelo. Duke recalled his early youth. "My parents only spoke Italian; I learned English in school ... helped my father (with push-cart), sold newspapers and shined shoes."

After Duke's third year of high school (Hartford High), he joined the Navy, receiving his diploma later as a member of the class of 1946. He served from June 1945 to July 1946 in Sampson, N.Y., across country to San Francisco, and out to Manila, in the Philippines, on the USS *Albatross*.

With his discharge from the Navy, Duke went to work for United Aircraft for about a year. In 1948, he decided on a career, which began as displayman, setting up ads in windows and showcases, which he learned under the GI Bill. This type of work (wine and liquor ads) took him all over the state until 1965.

Until his retirement in 1989, Duke was employed as a salesman for four of the leading distributors in the state: Rosow, Lewis, Crown and Barton. He served more than 40 years and was considered one of the top salesmen in the industry, winning several trips and other awards given by the distributors.

Let's go back a few years, before the war ... place: the Henry Barnard School in Hartford, ninth grade. Duke meets Nancy Morelli. The grammar school sweethearts had to wait a few years, but were married on April 30, 1949. They lived in Hartford a few years before moving to Windsor Locks in 1953.

Nancy Morelli, a 1946 Weaver High School grad, was the daughter of the late Luigi and Mary (Petrone)

Morelli. Mr. Morelli was born near the city of Rome. Nancy's mother was a native of Hartford. She has three brothers: Frank (Rockville, Ill.), Jim (Farmington) and Joe (Hartford). Her sister, Eleanor Fahey, resides in Florida.

Duke and Nancy have two sons, Frank and Tom. Their daughter, Carol, was a graduate of Holy Cross in Worcester with high honors,

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Duke Marotta with Margaux Hemingway, actress and granddaughter of writer Ernest Hemingway.

Golfers

Continued From Page 14

summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. All three Marotta children graduated from the local high school.

Frank and his wife Debbie (Perleoni) reside in town, with their three children, Francis, Felicia and Anthony. He and his brother, Tom, operate Marotta Real Estate on Old Country Road. Tom is also a town resident. Carol and her husband, Robert Kane, call home Norwell, Mass., with their two children, Caroline and Kristin.

Some more facts on this proud grandpa ... Duke is a member of the Sons of Italy, Ella Grasso Lodge in Hartford, and locally, a member (since 1960) of the Knights of Columbus, is going "thru the chairs," like his golf buddy, Bob Fahey.

Duke is also quite proud of his woodworking projects around the home. As for other activities, when he is not playing golf or bowling the big pins (average 181-185), you may find Duke working around the yard, or at night, reading something about history. He's been a Red Sox rooster since the days of Ted Williams, but admits he always admired the great Yankee, Joe DiMaggio. He follows golf, football and basketball on television, and his favorite news program is "60 Minutes."

We must include the gourmet cook in the family, Nancy. Over the years, she has taken courses in Chinese, Greek and Italian delicacies.

Vacations have covered a wide range of sunny spots around the globe: Puerto Rico, Bahamas, Majorca (island off Spain), Italy, Sicily (to visit his parent's home), Germany, where they were in the audience for the famed "Passion" play and enjoyed Oktoberfest. Just to keep it local, they also like the Cape.

When it comes to admiration, away from the world of golf, Duke said he admired Pope John Paul, saying, "I watch and listen to the Pope, and what he is doing (in his world travels.)" As for a personal philosophy, he said, "Enjoy life to the fullest. I'm always at ease with my friends, and anyone who enjoys golf is a friend of Duke." He does have a favorite saying (used maybe when he three-putts) — "It's hard to believe."

That's the story of one of our resident golfers. But knowing Duke Marotta, he'll probably be at Airways, while those other golfers are at Cromwell, and I hope they are having as much fun at the game as the Duke is.

Came across the following, and its what golf is all about ... "Fortunately, golfers are an egocentric breed and when they are on the course a three-foot putt looms as the most important event not just in their lives, but in the entire history of the universe. That is what makes golf the finest pastime devised by man, its capacity to absorb its adherents so intensely that for the time being it is all of life."

Some Fun Before and After the GHO

Before we dig into our week at the famed GHO at Cromwell, let us just say some days and weeks are better than others. The past several days have been fun and games for this writer, before traveling south, down Route 91, and viewing the action at the tournament.

Saturday, June 23, a family wedding, with the reception at the Westbrook Elks Club. In addition to a great view of the Connecticut Sound, you find, close by, the home of Art Carney, best known for his role on the TV show, "Honeymooners."

Sunday found us at Fenway Park and a victory for the Red Sox, in the good company of Bob Creech, Kevin Creech and his friend, Kyle Brennan, all of East Granby.

Monday, Rita and I were off to the Pioneer Valley, plus a tour of the city of Springfield. All this was courtesy of RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Program) at Bradley Airport. We viewed the beauty of "Historic Deerfield" and toured the Yankee Candle Company. After a lunch at the Springfield Sheraton, the seniors took in the city's famed museums, and before leaving the city, a quick visit to the Basketball Hall of Fame. Among the locals who attended the day's outing (all volunteers at Bradley) were Francis Sullivan, Jean Uzanus, Mary Parmlee, Mary and Don Giddings, and Paul and Peg Mona.

A few observations at Cromwell ... Why spend six days at a golf tournament? I'm not sure I can give a good reason for spending that amount of time, but I do enjoy it. It helps being retired, and consider myself very fortunate to be part of the media.

Among the Windsor Locks folks we came across during the week:

- Bill Elrick, local teacher, basketball announcer, friend of pro golfer Bill Buttner and college buddy of NBC's Bryant Gumbel. Unfortunately, both Buttner and Gumbel couldn't make this year's GHO.

- Bob O'Connor and daughter, Chris O'Connor, both active in the Little League locally, especially in the recent 25th anniversary of the Windsor Locks Little League 1965 World Championship. Bob was the manager that memorable year and he and his daughter are looking forward to the planned August trip to Canada, to relive the 1965 game with their Canadian opponent.

- Mark Hancock, local Little Leaguer enthusiast, Olympic Games his forte, was at the press tent for a local radio station. Mark gets around.

Now for the days at the GHO:

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

Tuesday, June 26, second day of GHO activities (Monday was the opening ceremonies, the last one for Governor O'Neil) which featured a junior golf clinic, hosted by Chip Beck and local favorite Paul Azinger. Then a long-distance competition, won by hockey's Dean Evason of the Hartford Whalers. The last event of the day was the annual Canon-Jaycee Shoot-Out, won by Mr. Beck.

Wednesday, Celebrity Pro-Am. The stars come out early on this day. Would you believe Red Sox pitcher Roger Clemens was on the 10th tee for his 7:18 a.m. first shot. I know, because I was there waiting for him with a few other Sox rooters. He hits a solid ball and played with pro Billy Andrade. The team of Andrade and Clemens, plus three other players, shot a 50 for a team score. Imagine ... 50. Another team also had a team score of 50 for a tie.

Rushed over to the first tee to see former Red Sox player Jim Rice. He's another one to hit the long ball. Incidentally, Mr. Rice now sports a beard, seeing that he's retired from baseball. Among the hard-working Jaycee crew was good friend John P. Giovannucci, this year's grounds chairman and son-in-law of our town residents, Marsh and Joan Brown.

The scene at Cromwell that day was filled with other celebrities: as mentioned, hockey's Dean Evason, along with Mr. Hockey, Gordie Howe, and Kevin Dineen. Football was represented by Lawrence Taylor, Joe Theismann and Steve Grogan. Basketball by UConn's coach, Jim Calhoun, and Celtics' Bob Cousery. We had a few stars of television ... Efram Zimbalist Jr. and Maury Povich.

Had the pleasure of meeting pro golfer John Huston in the players' room. Young John, who won the Honda Classic this year, is a neighbor of our daughter, Nancy Deshaies, in Palm Harbor, Fla. Followed Mr. Huston each day (usually on the fourth) and he shot 70-66-70-66 to earn fifth place tie and \$16,625—not bad for a week's work.

Thursday ... the real golf begins. At the end of a very hot day, young Chris Perry, son of Jim and nephew of Gaylord Perry, former major league all-star pitchers, led a record assault on par with a bogey-free, 7-under par 63, that tied the first-round tournament record and is a GHO-TPC record. Perry was followed

by Steve Jones, who shot a 64.

Friday and Saturday ... On Friday, Perry fell back one stroke to a combined 132, to be one behind Bob Eastwood who had 67-64 to take the lead into Saturday. On Saturday, a windy, sunny day and no rain, as predicted. When the day was over for golf, and scores counted, Fabel and Henke were on top with a combined score of 199. Nolan Henke and Brad Fabel, non-winners on the tour. It sounded like the Frick & Flack team, but these young turks knew how to play golf. If either is the winner, it will be another first winner on the tour, which is common the past few years.

Sunday ... Perry, Eastwood, and our boys, Fabel and Henke ... not familiar to you? They were the leaders after three days of the Canon Greater Hartford Open, as we went to Cromwell, under sunny sky, with no rain. Oh yes, Azinger, Calcavecchia and Levi were among the leaders, but this new group on the block were getting the headlines.

When it was all over Sunday evening, with a large crowd on hand, estimated to be 70,000, Wayne Levi had won the first place prize of \$180,000, his third victory in three weeks.

Another note to remember ... On Monday, July 2, construction for a new course layout and many resident homes will begin. The course is scheduled to reopen in mid-June 1991. It will be then called the TPC River Highlands course.

Next on our agenda is the Windsor Locks Fire Department's annual carnival, which began on July 4, running to tomorrow, to the grand finale, the firefighter's own parade. I found a parallel between a portion of the Jaycee Creed (that fine organization that operates the GHO) and our own Fire Department ... Jaycee Creed ... "That earth's great treasure lies in human personality; and that service to humanity is the best work of life ..."

Another GHO, another big crowd at Cromwell, another big charity contribution to the local community by the Hartford Jaycees. Next year will be different, you can be sure of that, a new course, but the GHO is still the best game around, and a great place to spend six days.

Rev. Hartford C. Inlow, Jr.

Meet the Congregational Church's New Pastor

The Reverend Hartford Cheney Inlow, Jr., the new editor pastor of the Windsor Locks Congregational Church, grew up in the mid-west, attended college in the south, had previously served as minister in Connecticut and Illinois and now has returned to Connecticut (in April) for a new role, and admits, "Its great to be back in Connecticut."

In addition, he and his wife, Lynn, had lived in New Haven, while he was attending Yale Divinity School. Just for the record, his first name, Hartford, and middle name, Cheney, are family names.

Rev. Inlow was greatly influenced by his father, the Rev. Hartford C. Inlow, Sr., now retired, who served as minister in several communities in the middle of America. It gave young Hartford, growing up in a religious atmosphere, a closer look at the life of being a minister. He also managed to attend schools in Indiana and Missouri.

Actually, he was born in, what he called "Indian Country," a small town, in the eastern part of Oklahoma, called Tahlequah. Because of his father's ministry, the family moved around, to Detroit, South Bend, Indiana and Jefferson City, Missouri. Hartford began school in South Bend, the city made famous by football at Notre Dame University.

However, it was in the "Show Me State," of Missouri, that the future minister graduated from high school in 1966.

Both of his parents were from Oklahoma, his father and late mother (who passed away in 1986), Esther Harp Inlow. He has two brothers, Roy (South Holland, Ill) a teacher, and William (Rocky Mount, Mo.), who is in the sporting goods business.

Hartford, known also as just "Hart," went to Bethany College, in Bethany, West Virginia, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1970. It was at Bethany he met his "college sweet-

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heart," Lynn Menzel, when they were both in their first year at Bethany. Lynn was from Chester, New Jersey.

Her parents, Richard and Marguerite Menzel still reside in New Jersey. Lynn has a brother, Richard and a sister Lee Ann. She is a grad (1970) with a degree in education. Hartford and Lynn were married in January, 1970 while still students.

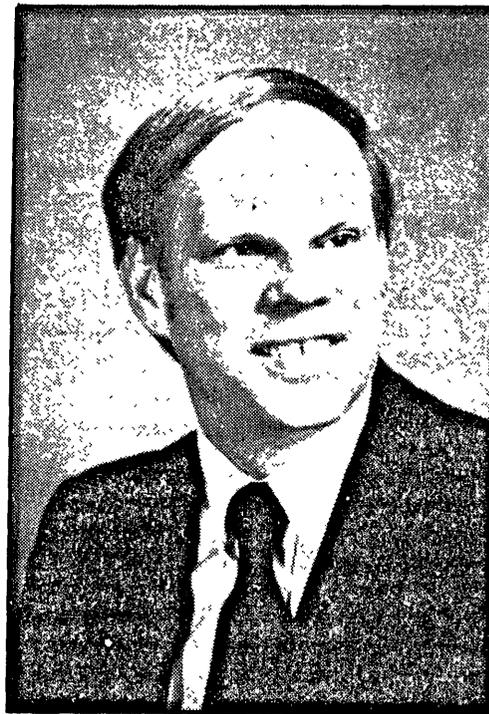
With their degrees and high hopes, the young couple came to New Haven, in order for Hartford to attend the Yale Divinity School. In 1974, now the Rev. Inlow, took on his first role as minister, at the Wildermere Beach Congregational Church in nearby Milford. Lynn kept busy in her new role as teacher, and worked in New Haven and North Haven schools.

After eleven years in Milford, the Inlows decided to take on a new pastorate, in Payson, Illinois (which lasted five years) at the Payson Bluff Hall Parish.

On April 1, Rev. Hartford and Lynn Inlow and their two sons, Jerrad and Brett, came to Windsor Locks to assume a new role at the Windsor Locks Congregational Church on Main Street. The Inlow family reside in town.

The boys....Jerrad, 14, will be a ninth-grader this fall, is very involved in baseball (Senior LL and Middle School) and basketball. According to their proud dad, both boys enjoy all sports. Brett, 12, a sixth-grader this September, is the musician in the family, playing the drums at the South School. The boys, grew up in the mid-west and follow the scores on the baseball diamond of the Cards and Cubs.

Their father, not one for a whole group of



Rev. Hartford C. Inlow, Jr.

hobbies, does find the time for reading ("all kinds"), but to tell the truth, he admitted, "Spending time with his family," is most important to Rev. Inlow.

The family enjoys water sports, are looking forward to finding out what the Connecticut shores are all about and that includes the famed Connecticut River. In previous years, the Inlows had a cottage (on a lake) in Missouri, and now that time is limited.

The Rev. Inlow belongs to the following organizations, The American Family Association and Community of Jesus.

As a high school student, Rev. Inlow re-

"Trust in the Lord....with all your heart...."

Portion of Rev. Inlow's favorite Bible verse

called the following: "I figured I was going to be a minister," was greatly influenced by his father, but had "no specific calling." As for his own personal future plans, he said, "My future belongs to God," adding, (We) like it here, and where we want to be for a while." He feels the folks in town are "just great and (WL) is a real nice community."

When asked, who he most admired and a personal philosophy Rev. Inlow said, "That would be my grandmother, the late Mabel Ray, a loving and caring woman, who was strong in her faith, raised five children, as a single mother, when it wasn't heard of..had a love of God." His personal philosophy...."Jesus Christ is the center of all things....(We) are put here for one reason to serve and love God and live the life that God would want us to...." His favorite Bible verse...."Trust in the Lord, with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding."

EPILOG

Welcome to Windsor Locks...Rev. Hartford Cheney Inlow and family. He and Lynn were given a taste of Connecticut in New Haven and Milford...and now are an important part of the Christian community, here in Windsor Locks.

In his church office, where we met one rainy Monday morning, the religious sayings around his desk sort of made the rain go away..one caught my eye and I jotted it down...."What we are is God's gift to us...What we become is our gift to God."

Dan and Margaret Flynn

Local Couple Has Grove Street Connections

Dan Flynn was born in Manhattan, raised in Hartford. Margaret Ternavasio was a Windsor Locks native. In the late '30s they met at "Sound View" in Old Lyme, where local folks gathered for a week's vacation.

Old-timers will remember "Sound View," according to Dan and Margaret, and they recall being married two years later (June, 1939), after that initial meeting at the shore. They recently celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary.

Dan and Margaret are now living on Pershing Road, but their early days of marriage and raising two daughters, were spent on Grove Street, where Margaret's father, the late John Ternavasio was well known, and lived to be 90.

But first, let's go over some background on this quiet, friendly Irish gentleman, Daniel James Flynn. He indeed, was born in New York City, moving to Hartford when he was 4. He was the son of the late Patrick and Margaret Flynn, who were from County Longford, Ireland. They were married in New York City and raised four sons and a daughter, Anna. Dan's brothers, Francis and George, and sister have passed away. His brother, Christopher, lives in town and is a familiar figure at Center and Elm streets, as a crossing guard for the students at the Middle School.

Dan's first schooling years were spent at St. Patrick's School in Hartford. The Flynn family moved to East Hartford and returned to the capital city, just as Dan was entering the job market at the age of 16.

His first position was at Underwood Typewriters as an errand boy. Then the Depression years hit the country, and Dan lost his first job. He went to a few odd jobs around Hartford, which included the role of caddy at the Hartford Golf Course.

In 1932, Dan returned to Underwood, until the outbreak of World War II, when he went

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into defense work at Colt's. He was at the gun factory during the war, and in 1945 went to work at Royal, but after a "big lay-off" came closer to home, joining Hamilton-Standard, where he stayed for 20 years until his retirement in 1975.

From the Irishman to the Italian lady—Margaret Ternavasio Flynn was born on Suffolk Street, the daughter of John and Catherine (Pertussi), who were from their native Italy, and like the Flynns, came to America for their wedding. Mr. Ternavasio, by trade, a brick-layer, worked many years at the old Windsor Mill as a millwright. Margaret has a sister, Jennie, who lives in Virginia, and a brother, John, closer to her home in New London.

The way Margaret tells the story... "the people who worked in the mill, all were given a week's vacation when the canal was being drained, and went to "Sound View." It was there she met her future husband, looking to rent a cottage. Not sure she found the cottage, but she found her man, and they were wed two years later on June 24, 1939.

Margaret, as a girl growing up in town and student at St. Mary's School, remembers well the old days in town... "Sy Preli and I played together as kids ... Dan and I recall the days when Bradley Field was just woods, and Dan went hunting ... when my father built the house on Olive Street, where Ella Grasso was born and the home of her parents, Jim and Nellie Tambussi."

Dan and Margaret lived on Grove Street from 1939 to 1964, where their two daughters, Diane and Gerry were raised. Diana, now a secretary at Travelers, has a son, Steven, who



Dan Flynn and collie 'Girlee.'

will be a senior at the high school this fall. Young Steven, according to Dan, is very "interested in the field of electronics."

Gerry is a nurse at Hartford Hospital and has served in her profession in Boston and at the

famed Walter Reed Hospital in Washington D.C. She was an Army nurse during the Vietnam war and served overseas for 14 months.

Over the years, the girls' father has had his own flower and vegetable garden on Pershing Road, in addition to raising several dogs. Dan is an old Red Sox rooster and has attended games at Fenway. In the winter, you may find him cheering for the local Whalers in Hartford. As for television, Dan watches "mostly sports," but for Margaret she's into the soaps, and her favorite is "The Young and the Restless."

Dan is a life member of the Knights of Columbus, joining in 1945, and was involved in the bingo games a few years back.

There is one thing you find out soon about the Flynns — they take great pride in their neighbor, when they lived on Grove and now the residents of Pershing Road. Dan puts it this way, "We have good neighbors on both sides and even our back yards."

When Dan was asked, who he most admired? At first thought, he again mentioned his neighbors, and thinking more, said, "My mother, she had a hard life, coming to a new country," and he felt all those people who came over deserve credit.

As for questions ... we asked Margaret for one word to describe Dan. She said, "I'd have to say reliable." Dan became an octogenarian this month. Happy Birthday!

EPILOG

Daniel James Flynn, the "reliable man," has a simple philosophy ... "Live and Let Live." He and Margaret Ternavasio Flynn are probably called good neighbors by the Grants, Johnsons, Cyrs and the Dennis family when they talk over the backyard fence.

I Came across the following and it seems to fit the Flynns and their way of life... "We make our friends; we make our enemies; but God makes our next-door neighbor."

COMMENTARY

Thoughts for a Summer Column...

By Jack Redmond

I was just thinking...not that it really matters, but:

If Windsor Locks had a movie house.

What makes our Little League teams so good.

Has Ed Ferrari got used to his role as First Selectman.

Why should we feel sorry for the Yankee fans.

What makes Oreo cookies (double-stuffed) so good.

Why don't they make more "G" rated movies.

Why shouldn't Sy Preli write a book on politics and how to keep taxes down.

Four people I'd like to have dinner with: John Rowland, John Downey, George Bush and Ron Francis.

Why is golf 50 percent fun and 50 percent putting.

Why do so many citizens of Windsor Locks live in Florida, come the bad weather.

How come local Democrats wear a Mickey Mouse watch.

Watching the 1965 LL World

Champs get together for a dinner, and now a game in Canada, of all places.

What keeps the town's volunteer fire department one of the best...probably because of old faithfuls like: Ellsworth Case, Dick Whitaker, Ray Ouellette and Jack Colli.

Why do they have to close our Center Street entrance to Route 91.

Is it so bad, that local veterans want to be buried in their town, they served and their country.

Why do I keep interviewing local people...because I found it to be the best story in town.

When will the Teletrack open.

What makes John Lee so popular.

Will Bradley Airport ever be international.

How many hotels can Route 75 take.

Will the Red Sox ever win a World Series.

When are they going to make a movie on the life of Ella Grasso.

How many hats will it take Alice Clack to be in the same league as Carrie Saxon Perry.

Best Joke of the Season..."Conversation of two diligent Irish ladies, who finally get to heaven..."Isn't it grand, Bridget. Every evening we go to the pubs, there's bingo and singing and dancing." "Ah, yes, indeed, Gertrude, and you know, if it weren't for that silly oat bran, we'd have been here 10 years earlier..."

Don't you agree, Memorial Hall on Elm and Main, is a fine looking building.

Will one of Ray Roncari's horses ever win the Kentucky Derby.

With Leo Bravakis, they threw away the mold.

Arnold Dean is as good as they get. (Windsor Locks VFW favorite MC)

And Tom McCathy is easy on the ears too.

What makes Ralph McComb one of the nicest characters around.

And that goes for Shirley Horan too.

The gang at the Donut Kettle will miss Dot and George Woolweaver.

And speaking of the popular eatery, see you at breakfast time.

John S. Gionfriddo

Director of 'Vocal Motion'

Loves Teaching

John Salvatore Gionfriddo is a big man in the musical world of Windsor Locks. He was also a big man on the campus, way back when, when he played football for the East Hartford High School.

Today, as director of vocal music and assistant band director at the Windsor Locks High School, the man who started the popular singing group, "Vocal Motion," is known affectionately by the students as "Mr. G."

In his high school days, he was good enough to play in the 1967 football East-West All-Star Game, known as the "Nutmeg Bowl."

John (we'll stick to his given name) was also active musically at his high school, performing as a singer and actor in musicals and theatrical productions.

Some background on this friendly, outgoing and concerned teacher, who admits he "loves teaching." He was born in Hartford. At the age of 6, the family moved to Windsor for a year, but he said "I grew up in East Hartford." He is the son of Salvatore and Mary (Malona) Gionfriddo, who were Hartford natives. They now reside in East Hartford. Mr. Gionfriddo is a retired truck driver. John has a sister, Theresa, who also lives east of the river.

Although John's life is now family and music, he did reminisce about his sporting activities in high school, due to my urging. In addition to football, he played baseball and was on the track team. Among his football teammates were state Sen. John Larson and Atty. Kevin Brown, chairman of the East Hartford Democratic Committee. Kevin went on to Columbia University and starred on the gridiron. As for college, John entered Central Connecticut State College, but due to an injury was unable to play college ball. In 1972, he received a bachelor of science in Business Administration.

When did John decide to make music and teaching his career? Not in high school or college, saying, "Actually, no, I didn't have

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any idea (about music and teaching)." Adding, "I was the first one in my family to graduate from college ... I earned money during high school in summer construction jobs and at college worked in grocery stores and when I graduated, felt (business) was the best area to pursue."

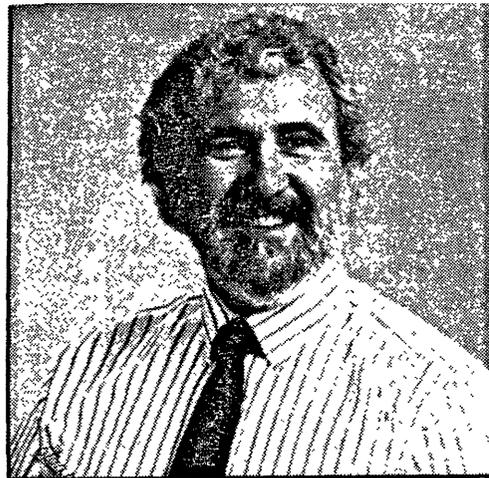
However, before business and music ... came love for John. He had met Carolyn Anderson on a blind date (while she was at UConn and he at Central) by way of introduction of an ex-girlfriend, no less.

Two years later (June 1973) they were married and first lived in South Windsor, then East Hartford and in 1979 moved to their present home in Enfield.

Back to John's career in music and business. For three year, he tried the life of a retail food salesman. He decided it wasn't for him. Was unemployed for a year ... and then a complete change, he began substituting in the East Hartford school system. Finally, became "a regular sub" at the high school and, yes, in the music department. Looking back, he said, "I loved every minute," and decided, "that's what I want to do the rest of my life."

John needed assistance ... and received, over a three-year period, the support of Carolyn, who he called his "patron." She worked, while he was "back to school" studying full time and receiving a "K-12 Music Certification" at Central, graduating in the spring of 1979.

How about Carolyn, his wife, who he says "keeps me going." She is the daughter of Charles and Virginia Anderson, who reside in Braintree, Mass. Carolyn has three brothers, Peter, Richard and Gary. She is a grad of UConn (1972) with a bachelor of science in Physical Therapy and is currently a registered



John S. Gionfriddo

physical therapist at the Parkway Pavilion Health Care Center in Enfield.

John and Carolyn have two children, Michael John and Erica Lynn. Michael is going into the fourth grade this fall, is a boy in "constant motion," according to his dad. (I guess motion runs in the family.) Michael is 9, going on 10, does have an interest in music, loves to sing and soccer is his sport. His sister, Erica, who turned 6 on July 2, is going into the first grade. She takes dance lessons, has a big doll collection, and enjoys telling doll stories, with her dolls as the main characters.

More on their dad's career. He made it back to his own high school in the fall of 1979, as director of instrumental music, for a four-year period. When a position opened at the Windsor Locks High School in the fall of 1983, John came to our town as chorale director. Today, he is called the director of vocal music and the assistant band director to Neil Rinaldi, who was featured in a C&K column in June of 1982.

The following organizations have John's name on its roll, Music Educators National Congress, American Chorale Directors Association, Connecticut Music Educators Association, and the Windsor Locks Teachers Association.

John describes the singing and dance group of "Vocal Motion," with more than 20 voices as "a close-knit family." The group, in its fourth year, was started by John, and he emphasized, "I couldn't do it alone, a lot of credit goes to Kathy Munson, the choreographer." John said more than 60 students auditioned (this past year) and we ended up with 24 to 30 voices."

When you talk to John about Windsor Locks and the students, he has high praise, saying, "It's a community where support is excellent, especially in the music program—the students are hard-working, dedicated in what they are doing—the kids is what it's all about."

Anything worth doing takes hard work...!

Mr. G's favorite saying

What hobbies for this busy guy? You say music, that's right. He had this to say, "golf is my number one hobby, but music is never more than five minutes away," adding, "time is a precious commodity."

What type of music does he enjoy? He said, "If it catches my ear—I guess, from rock to classics, I really enjoy all music, if it has a value, if it moves you, it's good music."

The family of John and Carolyn enjoy Cape Cod. John said he was a sport fan, with reservations, "when it comes time for the playoffs in most sports, than I watch and listen."

"Richard Sterner of Windsor Locks, of the East Hartford High School music department ... who probably had the most influence on me when it came to music, and also in (life's) values." Then John added, "My wife and family's loyalty has been fantastic, it keeps me going."

Speaking of Mr. Sterner, he has been director of the local high school's annual musicals ... "Carnival" and "Grease," which John has been the vocal music director. John has been involved in the school's Broadway hits since 1984 ... from "Anything Goes" to "Grease," in charge of vocal coaching and now vocal music director.

EPILOG

That's the (musical) life of John S. Gionfriddo. I found a few famous lines on music ... "Music makes the world go round ... music has charms to sooth the savage breast..." but this musical man of Windsor Locks said it all (when asked for his philosophy), "In order to do a good job at something, you have to care." John cares about music and the students, and teaching a subject that he said "people appreciate ... and support."

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Young Businessman

Bill and Lynn Marinone were "college sweethearts," at Keene State College in Keene, New Hampshire. They met at their Christmas party in 1976, and were married in June of 1979.

William Joseph Marinone, a Windsor Locks native, is the son of Patricia White Marinone and the late Joseph William Marinone, is carrying on the family home improvement business (now known as) "Joe-Pat & Son, Inc.," since his father passed away in 1987.

Lynn Reed Marinone, a girl from Chichester, New Hampshire, is Bill's "Girl-Friday," handling the secretarial and bookkeeping duties of the family business, and mother of their two children, Kate and Ryan.

Bill grew up in town, attended local schools and is a grad of Windsor Locks High School, class of 1975. He had all good intentions of becoming a teacher, he said, however, after receiving his bachelor of science degree from Keene, in education (1979) he decided to enter his father's business, when teaching positions, in the area, were scarce. At the time, he was holding down two jobs (with his father) and also working for a local moulding company, Girardin, Inc. In 1979, Bill went full time with "Joe-Pat Metal Products," as it was known at that time.

Bill's father began the business back in 1952. Mr. Marinone, in addition to his business, was a well-known Republican in town and state circles. He served seven years on the Board of Selectmen and represented the town as State Representative in the 70s. He also served on several committees and commissions in town, and local volunteer fireman for many years. We had the pleasure of interviewing him in August of 1976.

Bill's mother, Patricia, was originally from Enfield and today, is chairperson of the town Republican Party. Her son said he has no political ambitions, for himself, but serves on the GOP committee. He looks upon his mother's role as "something that is good for her," Pat has served as the Town Treasurer.

Back to Bill and Lynn... a most happy couple, who have lived on School Street, since their

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wedding day in 1979. In addition, to his commitment to the business, he is on the board of directors of the Windsor Locks Chamber of Commerce, and holds the title of second vice president.

Bill grew up playing Little League, when his father was a coach, and also remembers the days growing up with four sisters. But he said, "it wasn't as if I was spoiled, having four sisters, we all had our special chores—we went together as a family, and I must add, my sister, Karen, played football and baseball with me, and was like a brother to me."

And the sisters, Karen lives in Windsor Locks and is a grad of St. Anselm College. All the girls graduated from college—Susan from Springfield College, and now resides in Southington, with her husband, Michael Salzillo, and their four children. Deborah went to Assumption College, and lives in town, with her husband, Jim Seymour. The youngest in the family, is Laurie, who chose Boston to live and work, after her graduation from Smith College.

Lynn Reed Marinone was born in Chichester, N.H., which is located east of Concord, is the daughter of Edgar and Gwendolyn Reed, who still lives in "that tiny little town" of Chichester. Lynn has a brother, Clark, who resides in Concord. Her sister, Susan, is married to Brian Hood and they live in Merrimack, N.H. with their two children.

Lynn graduated from the local high school (Chichester) in 1975, and entered Keene State College. The way Lynn summed it all up—"We met at college, I completed two years, fell in love, received my associate degree, left college to work, in order to marry Bill." In June, 1979 they married and set up house on School Street.

They have two children, Kate, 9, enters the 4th grade at the South Street School. She is all

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Continues Legacy of 'Joe-Pat'



Lynn, Kate, Ryan, Bill Marinone

“swim, and more swim,” according to her mother. Kate is also a girl scout. Her younger brother, Ryan, is 6, and will be in the first grade at the North Street School. “He’s very athletic...plays soccer, T-ball and took a course in gymnastics,” so said his proud father.

And their father is never far from business, but does manage to play some golf and an early riser in the morning to play racquet ball in Enfield. The winter months have found Bill and Lynn on trips to the Caribbean or snow skiing. Summers, mean a trip to the Connecticut shore and visiting her relatives up north.

The family admits to be real Boston Red Sox fans, with mom and dad, watching the late shows on television. Lynn, who leaves the sports to Bill, is called the “domestic engineer” in the family and one of the many Girl Scout leaders in town. As mentioned, Lynn is close to Bill, as secretary and bookkeeper for “Joe-Pat.”

What are Bill Marinone’s memories of his

father? He said, “I didn’t realize, until he passed away—how much he was respected and liked by the people in town, we worked together, he taught me the ropes, of the business and how to handle people, my father was constantly working, be it business or pleasure at the beach.”

Lynn was asked to describe Bill, and she said, “He’s a wonderful guy...loves his family, very sensitive and might be called a workaholic.”

Bill’s personal philosophy... “you get out of life, what you put into it and in my case, I have a very understanding wife and family.”

Epilog

That’s the story of Bill, Lynn, Kate and Ryan Marinone. We found a young businessman, taught the ropes by his father and now continuing the legacy of “Joe-Pat.” A very family-oriented man, with Lynn by his side. But when you meet the Marinone family, you get the feeling they all stop and smell the roses.

Mary Fagan Spencer

Art Teacher at Middle School

Mary Fagan Spencer is the Art Teacher at the Middle School. Her interests in the world of teaching art were probably further enhanced by a love of horses, kids, and at times, the frustrating game of golf. All having their own form of art, the art of taking care of a horse, students, and learning the fundamentals of the game of golf.

This versatile native of Rome, New York, had traveled up to the age of fourteen (with her parents) from New Jersey to Pennsylvania, to New York and back to the "Keystone State," and the town of Latrobe.

Her father was employed by an oil company, and this necessitated different job locations and resident moves.

Mary graduated from St. Xavier High School in Latrobe, in 1963. The town of Latrobe, was made famous as the hometown of golfing great, Arnold Palmer. Ironically, Mary has developed a fondness for the game, attends tournaments, and admits playing "very, very badly." Her brother, Sandy Spencer, has caddied for Pro Golfer, Gary Hellberg (as recently as the Anheuser-Busch Tournament in Williamsburg, Va.).

When this well-known golfer comes to town, to play in the annual Greater Hartford Open, he contacts Mary and they get together. For the sports fan of the GHO... in 1984, Gary was a third-grade tie, the first year the tournament was held in Cromwell, when Peter Jacobsen won at the TPC.

During her high school years, Mary had no idea to pursue a career in teaching, saying, "I was interested in English and Art, but (teaching) was the last thing in the world I thought I wanted to do..."

However, she did have college on her immediate agenda, and enrolled at the Mt. St. Joseph College in Cincinnati, Ohio. Part of her school curriculum included "practice teaching." "I liked it," she said.

In 1967, Mary received a Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts, with a Teaching Certificate). After graduation, she went to Clifton Park, N.Y., her father's last move.

Before some facts on Mary's career....she is the daughter of William Fagan and the late Eileen Fagan. Mr. Fagan was from Plainfield,

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New York, and now resides in Clifton Park. Mary, as mentioned, has a brother, Sandy, who is employed in Social Services in Williamsburg, Va. He has a daughter, Madison, and a son, Will.

Mary did decide to take her first teaching job in Amsterdam, New York, and it was quite a learning experience. She would be an Art Teacher (k-6th grade), where she found the following..." a tough situation ...seeing a thousand students a week, going to different schools, lugging along all her art supplies, and having twelve classes a day," she recalled.

Her itinerary did not discourage Mary. This Herculean task lasted two years, followed by another two years at South Glen Falls, New York, near Saratoga, again teaching art, k-6th grade. Obviously, not the same as Amsterdam.

In 1971, "circumstances brought me to Windsor Locks," she said. Mary became a substitute teacher for the first five years in town, at the high school, middle school and elementary levels, in all subjects. But, 1976 was a good year for Mary. There was an opening at the Middle School for an Art Teacher. Mary accepted, and has been there ever since, and quite content in what she does with the kids, in art classes, at the Middle School.

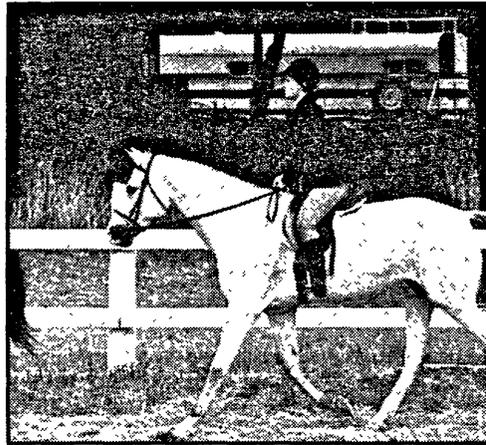
And before detailing Mary's career in town, let's list her main hobbies..."Riding my horse Shilo, snow skiing, traveling and golf," she said, mostly in that order.

For the past nineteen years, Mary has raised and trained her horse, Shilo, in Suffield, saying, "I watched the birth of Shilo, he's very special to me and I have shown him in many area shows."

When asked about her summer months, away from school, Mary said, "I teach horseback riding, do some riding myself, probably three or four times a week and there's always a show around."

Traveling has meant trips to Ireland, Mexico, Bermuda and a great deal of the states, for

Shares Herself with Others



Mary Spencer on her horse Shilo.

Mary. She has not lost her Pennsylvania connections by still rooting for the Pittsburgh Pirates. She enjoys all kinds of music, and admits to keeping up with the current type of music, "so I converse with my students." She likes adventure movies, and especially the ones that have a fantasy theme.

At the Middle School....in addition to art, Mary has co-produced musical productions with Cindy Latournes, the past four years. Mary has also been involved in Student Council activities.

She was asked about the students of today and yesterday...."When you talk of the students of yesterday, they were more willing to stick with a problem.....as for today's students, they want faster solutions, they have (indeed) a positive side, are socially aware and more caring," she said.

Are artists (or interests in art) made or born? Saying, "Probably, both....art is a universal language.....children express themselves, first by the spoken word, and then writing, and art can be the replacement." Did Mary have an opinion of the latest fad (if you will) of the large dollars paid for art treasures. She said, "It reflects the wildly speculative nature of the economy."

Can anyone be taught to draw? "Yes," she said, "if you can write, you can learn to draw, must have the will to do it....(it does) take time." As for art.....Mary appreciates art,

"Two things I like best....kids and horses...."

Mary Fagan Spencer

saying, "Its a wide range of human effort, and I also appreciate what the artist is trying to accomplish."

How does a student approach the study of art and maybe, how one project can develop (by her methods)....example: "The student is assigned an art project....there are decisions to be made (by the student) colors to be used, size, etc., there are not always right answers, this must come from the student."

As for teaching art, Mary Spencer had this to say...."I'm a very lucky person at the Middle School, I have a responsibility to the students and subjects I'm teaching, which is my primary job."

She was asked who she most admired, and came up with two names, "My father, the most honorable man I have ever met and my Aunt Dr. Adria Galbraith of Clifton Park, for her pioneer spirit and dynamo (personality)." Mary's personal philosophy..."I wish the world would be a better place....(maybe) I can made a positive difference (whoever) I touch." Does Mary have a favorite saying, yes, "Every form of refuge has its price."

EPILOG

Mary Fagan Spencer, our resident Art Teacher at the Middle School. She has many hobbies and a career to keep her busy....her horse, the winter sports (helped organize a Ski Club at the school) and fascination for golf. But mostly its the kids, the students and citizens of tomorrow.

Just had to write something appropriate for an art teacher (and had to watch my grammar, she was an English teacher)....so here goes...."Art for art's sake....a slogan meaning that the beauty of the Fine Arts is reason enough for carrying them on, that art does not have to serve purposes taken from politics, religion, economics, and so on." Many distinguished persons argued strongly for the doctrine of art for art's sake. I'm sure Mary Fagan Spencer would agree.

Larry Demato

Veteran of World War II

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL AUGUST 17, 1990

The story of Larry Demato has to be told. And I had the pleasure of reliving the many experiences of this friendly Hartford native, during World War II, when Larry took part in the African, Sicilian, Italian and French campaigns and invasions, while a member of the Air Force's 79th Fighter Group.

Larry's trip to the war zones, with thousands of GIs, aboard a famed English ship is a story in itself, and before those facts unfold, his first months in the army and where he was stationed was quite unexpected.

But before Larry's war-time experience, we must cover his growing up in Hartford's north end, high school, the depression years, and his first job. These facts preceded his time in the service, along with the post-years of marriage, Larry's two daughters and involvement in the Knights of Columbus.

Lawrence John Demato was born in Hartford, over seventy years ago, the son of the late Anthony and Jennie Demato. Larry has a brother, Harry, who resides in Hartford, and three sisters, Christine, Mary and Ann, all living in Wethersfield.

He attended the North East Grammar School, and is a grad of Hartford High School, class of 1933. In those days, Larry was an eager 135-pound football player. He went out for Coach Johnny Newell's football team, but recalled, "There were a lot of bigger guys," and a little too much for Larry. He did manage to play a lot of "sandlot ball." However, Larry's claim to fame, in his high school years, was as member of the "Acappella Choir," made up of students from his high school, Weaver and Buckley High. The talented group performed in concerts, in New York and as far south as Maryland. Larry said he was always interested in music, and sang solo as a kid.

The early 30s were a tough time, it was the depression years. "It was hard to find a job," Larry remembers. But, something or someone was on Larry's side. He found a job at the Sage-Allen Store. This happy experience lasted

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

ten years. "It was the finest place I ever worked," Larry said. He had become fast friends with one of the owners, Ned Allen, who for a time, was the state's Lt. Governor. At lunch time, Larry and Mr. Allen played checkers and Larry organized one of the first checker leagues in Hartford.

Admitting, the pay was low, and the other side of the street looked brighter, Larry left the store for the factory at Fuller-Brush. He was never happy.

In June 1941, his life changed, Larry was drafted into the army. After a three-month stay at Fort Devens, Mass., he was now a member of the Army Air Corps., assigned to Windsor Locks Air Base, "I would never forget that first day—the day Lt. Eugene M. Bradley was killed." The rest is history, the naming of our local airport after this young pilot, who gave his life while training.

Larry was part of the 57th Pursuit Group. The day after Pearl Harbor, Larry left for the East Boston Airport (now Logan), and stayed at Revere Beach for the next eight months. Next move to New Bedford and then on to East Hartford, where he joined the 79th Fighter Group. It was about time for Larry to leave his native New England for overseas.

Indian Town Gap staging area, and Newport News, Va., and as one of 7,000 GIs on the liner "Mauretania," on its maiden troop voyage, Larry said, "We were not sure where we were going."

Their first stop. . . beautiful Rio de Janeiro, seaport in Brazil. In a few days, off again and this time the rumors were saying "We figure we are going to Africa." And they were right. . . Durban, South Africa. A short leave found Larry and a few buddies rushing for the nearest

Tells His Story



Larry Demato in the 1940s.

hotel and eating, he said, two steak dinners.

No steaks for a while. . .next stop, up the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. . . Larry was in parts of the world he never heard of or probably couldn't pronounce.

The 79th group, along with Larry's old outfit, the 57th were part of the British Eight Army under General Montgomery. Larry was a part of the ground crew with responsibilities maintaining the group's aircraft. Larry said, "The army chased the famed German General, Rommel, all over Africa, but we didn't see or catch him."

The war-time travels and battles of the 79th could fill a book. . .and it did. After the war, Larry received a book, detailing the record of his "Falcon" outfit, with maps, pictures and complete chronicle of the 79th's story, and a very important part of Larry Demato's life.

Larry gave a complete rundown of the 79th's stopping off points, which included the following, and some are easily recognizable: El Alamin, Alexandria, Derna, El Agele and Tunisa, where the 79th met their American counterparts. With Africa campaign over, it was off to Malta and prepare for the invasion of Sicily. The next historical event was the invasion of Anzio. Things were moving fast for Larry and his group. . .the invasion of southern France. Larry's personal travels took him as far north as Lyons, France, and he was ready to go home.

The day the war ended in Europe, (V-E Day, April, 1945) found Larry in northern Italy. In June, he received his orders for home, with a quick stop in Naples, on to mysterious Casablanca, stop at the Azores, on to Newfoundland and home, La Guardia field.

Among Larry's buddies in the 79th, and there were many, was a man, he called friend, for the four years of service. . .A well-known personality of CBS Television: Bob Drum. Mr. Drum is familiar to golf viewers, which included the GHO, for his funny look at the world of golf, for many years. When he comes to Hartford, Larry and Mr. Drum get together, talk about the war and what is happening in each other's lives. On one occasion, Larry took his friend to the local KofC and a good time was had by all.

It was now, back to civilian life for Larry. He returned to Fuller-Brush, but only for a short time. His brother, Harry, opened a package store and Larry went to work, meeting people, which was more, his way of life.

After a year, Larry took another job, in the same industry, but this time, as a decorator of store windows. He then entered the sales field with Eastern Wine & Liquor. Eventually, went to work for Johnny Barton, Inc. and retired in 1983.

In April, 1951, Larry married Dorothy Nordstrom. Dorothy was from Hartford, and the day they met (at the store, he was working at the time), he later told friends, "I'm going to marry that girl."

Dorothy had a brother, the late Roy Nordstrom and a sister, Jean Hebebrand, who resided in town. Dorothy passed away in 1982. She and Larry had two daughters, Linda, who lives with her father, and Beth Ann, married to Don Sakonchick, an Electrical Engineer. They live in Avon, with their two girls, Kelli and Lindsey.

Larry's life, has not just been a story of war-time, and a varied working career, he's been an active man locally, with the V.F.W., KofC and has been on the Board of Directors, St. Mary's Credit Union.

As a resident, since 1954, Larry is a life Member of the KofC, and has served on the Board of Directors, Building Committee. He recalled, taking a part-time job as a bartender, which was to last only for a short time, it turned out to be twenty years. He was active in the KofC bowling league for years, and I'm told, he was called "coach." His only golf experience was as a caddy at Kenney Park in the late 20s.

He is very proud to say, he was one of the organizers of a KofC "Set-back Card League," along with Jim Lennon, Rich Miller, Jack Carraher and the late Ed Olisky. For the record, he's been a Yankee fan all his life. To complete an active life style, Larry has been an usher at St. Robert's Church, since, he said, "The days when mass was held at Southwest School."

Larry, a small man with strong heart, has had his share of memories, and a difficult period of adjustment, due to his wife's passing. Not an out-spoken man, he did admire another man with that type of reputation—President Harry S. Truman, who, Larry said, "Did a pretty good job, and wasn't even a politician."

Epilog

That's the book on Lawrence John Demato. He's very proud of his family, his friends at the KofC and his part of the 79th Fighter Group, and rightfully so. He does have a lot of memories, and as someone once said. . ."Each of us is the accumulation of our memories."

A Case Of Deja Vu

Little League World Champs Win Again

By Jack Redmond

Features Correspondent

First Class! The best way to describe the trip to Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada for the 1965 Windsor Locks Little League World Champions, accompanied by parents and friends.

The Friday, Aug. 17, reunion of Stoney Creek, the hosts, and Windsor Locks, both, the boys of summer 1965, was a huge success. On Saturday, Aug. 18, the now, men of 1990, played again, at the Berne Arbour Stadium, home of the Hamilton Red Birds, a St. Louis Cardinal farm team, Class "A," in the New York-Penn League. It turned out to be the same, as in 1965, the boys of Windsor Locks won 5-1.

This reunion, the first time in the history of Little League that two teams met in a championship final, re-created another game in order to play again. It turned out to be a larger-than-life spectacle for the players,

parents and friends, on both sides.

The Banquet, it was called appropriately, "Night of Champions," became also a night of honors because, in addition to the Stoney Creek and Windsor Locks teams of 1965, the 1965 Senior Canadian Champs and the 1962 Canadian Champs from Stoney Creek were being honored.

Some of the highlights: Volunteer awards were given to Stoney Creek individuals for their work in the Little League program. Unbeknownst to several of our deserving active people, they too were honored. Our own hard-working Ann Marie Claffey and her husband, Neil, received a plaque, along with "Mr. Little League" himself, Fran Aniello Sr., Dave Yellen, and two men who were not present, Al Wilcox and Wayne Chapple.

When you think about Stoney Creek, the name of Jim Vlajkov immediately comes to mind and through his efforts, the banquet was a

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Bob Creech stands with his son Kevin during a break in the action in a 25th Anniversary Little League rematch game in Canada last week. Kevin was bat boy for his father's team. Windsor Locks beat the Canadian team.

Little League

Continued From Page 1

success for the more than 400 guests who enjoyed the evening. Jim was honored by his town and also by the Little League team of 1965 ... with a large framed decoupage of pictures taken at the May banquet and at the Little League parade. Because of his visit to Windsor Locks and stopping at the popular eatery on Spring Street, Donut Kettle, Jim was given the following by pitcher Mike Roche ... a D.K. hat, D.K. T-shirt with Jim Vlajkov (No. 1 on back) and Windsor Locks sweatpants. Jim and his brothers, Steve and Perry, own and operate a very popular pizza and bar in Stoney Creek, called "The Attic."

Went to the Attic

On that Saturday afternoon, many of the Windsor Locks players, relatives and friends came to the "Attic" and found a most-happy place, filled with baseball and other sports memorabilia, in what Brian McKeown, when he walked in, said looked like "Cooperstown," with pictures of Ruth, Gehrig, Mays and DiMaggio, along with Gordie Howe, Bobby Hull

and Wayne Gretzky for a hockey touch.

Mike Roche and Dale Misiak were given the star treatment on Saturday by way of a talk show on local television, an interview with two of Stoney Creek players and question by phone from local viewers.

Another highlight of the banquet was a short talk by Phil Devlin who acted as spokesman for the Little League players and manager Bob O'Connor and Coach Russ Mattesen. The town of Windsor Locks did not forget their hosts—the town of Stoney Creek and the Stoney Creek players of 1965. A proclamation, issued by First Selectman Edward A. Ferrari, was read by Bob Creech, making Aug. 17, 1990, Stoney Creek Day in Windsor Locks. I had the pleasure of reading a proclamation giving the members of the 1965 Stoney Creek players the town's "Order of the Hat," with each player receiving his own "order" and THE HAT.

The Game... For a while it looked like we may be rained out, but the weather cleared after a heavy rain-storm and we were all off to play Stoney Creek at the Hamilton Red Bird Stadium. The players were both in full uniform, provided by the owner

of the Red Bird team ... Mr. Joe Vellano.

ABC Television Sports were on hand, not only to tape the game, but had filmed interviews of the players at the "Attic" in the afternoon. The tape will be used on tomorrow's ABC Little League World Series in familiar Williamsport. In addition, Public TV, who had interviewed Windsor Locks players in May, was on hand for the game and are compiling a documentary to air in November.

The game ended with the Locks team on top 5-1. Mike Roche was the pitcher of the evening, hurling a three-hitter over the four innings. The star hitter of the game was Al Barrett, with two hits and three of the runs batted in. Both teams looked great on the field, before a large crowd of local baseball fans who would witness another game with its Hamilton team playing a regular league game.

After the game, there was a major picture-taking session, by ABC and several of the local folks, with both teams posing for a historic moment. It was a moment to savor — it appeared no one wanted to leave the park. Everyone just sat around and talked, had a cold drink, and just wanted for time to stand still. It was a good feeling, a great time, a great

bunch of people like Jim Vlajkov and the town of Stoney Creek.

The late Wayne Arent was missed. So was Bill Boardman, Tom Billick and Marine Major Mike O'Connor, son of Bob, who had other plans, a schedule that called for Saudi Arabia.

The names of Ted Holmes, Fran Aniello Jr., Steve Scheerer, Dale Misiak, Bob Creech, Mike Roche, Bruce Akerland, Howie Tersavich, Al Barrett, Phil Devlin, Dennis Dakin and Bob Rumbold will always be remembered as the boys of the summer of 1965 and now grown men with their own families that are as proud of them as is the town of Windsor Locks.

Speaking of families ... the following folks made the trip to Stoney Creek to share the moment (that comes only once): Yellen, Murray, Rumbold, Barrett, Holmes, Trainer, McKeown, Kane, Tersavich, Roche, Munson, Dakin, Scheerer, Creech, Devlin, Claffey, Akerland, and Al Fiocchetta, father of Anne Marie Claffey. Ann Marie said there were 70 people from Windsor Locks who made the trip. She said, "It is hard to describe our time in Stoney Creek ... Jim and the people at 'The Attic' were just wonderful." I mustn't for-

get to mention my grandson, Kevin Creech, who was the team's batboy ... a duty he will never forget. And Billy O'Brien of East Granby who filmed the game.

Best line of the time in Stoney Creek belongs to Fran Aniello Jr., who after the game said... "We haven't lost a game in 25 years."

For the town of Windsor Locks, the 1965 boys will always be winners.

Editor's note: Mr. Redmond travelled with the team for the game.

Les Hinckley Jr.

Local Lives a Life Full of Business

When you meet Les Hinckley Jr. for the first time, you figure he must have been athletic as a kid, and still active in some capacity. He certainly was and is, in both categories.

Les was a star basketball and baseball player at Bloomfield High School in the '60s. He has apparently passed on this ability to his two sons, Les III and Steven, and the youngest in the family, daughter Kara.

Not to get the wrong impression, sports is not the only family trait. Talking to this Bloomfield native, it's a series of hobbies: racing cars, restoring old cars, swimming and hitting baseballs (pool and batting cage in backyard), landscaping, and just to add more beauty, a man with a touch for growing flowers.

Leslie Allen Hinckley Jr. is a big guy, and does have the appearance of an athlete, but one who has been racing cars at Riverside, (and other tracks), unlikely, but true. He surprised me.

First, let's go back to the beginning of the story, of this man, the son of the late Leslie A. Hinckley Sr. and Ellen (Jensen) Hinckley. Mr. Hinckley was originally from Middleboro, Mass., just off the Cape. Les Jr. is proud to say his father's ancestors came from England, following the path of the famed Pilgrims to the Plymouth area in 1636. Mrs. Hinckley was from Denmark. Les has a sister, Carole, who

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resides in Windham Center, Conn.

Les grew up in Bloomfield, near the well-known farm of A.J. Peterson. Saying, "I guess I was a farm boy and we used to chase away the dairy cows in order to play ball in their pasture."

High school at Bloomfield (Class of 1963) was his start at athletics. Les was captain of the basketball and baseball teams, earning Most Valuable Player awards and being voted "Most Outstanding Athlete for Four Years." Les remember playing against the teams in Windsor Locks and, most of all, playing when Dave Lingua was in his prime.

When it was time for college, he enrolled at the Maine Central Institute, a prep school. Les then attended Nichols College in Dudley, Mass., and like Maine Central, participated in his two favorite sports.

In 1968, Les began his diversified working career, starting with the Brown Lighting Protection Company in Bloomfield, until 1973. He said their main function was installing protection systems, not only in private homes but large buildings (commercial), as subcon-



Kara, Susan, Steven, Les Jr., Les III Hinkley and 'Barkley.'

tractors. This five-year period covered work in Boston and New York State, and one job was the State Capitol building at Albany.

Not one to be content to work for others, Les decided to go on his own in the "protection field." This continued for a time, and because one of Les' hobbies was racing cars, and with an interest in mechanical things, Les went to

work for his wife's (Susan) uncle at the Caruso Auto & Body, that lasted two years.

Again, striking out on his own, Les began his own general repair business in Bloomfield. (He had a partner, and later sold the business.)

Next stop, and next job, was with Hertz Rent-A-Car at Bradley Field. He was in charge of maintaining their wide range of equipment. After three years, Les went to work nights for the North Penn Transfer, which lasted six years. In 1988, he was on his own, when he organized "Les Hinckley & Sons," specializing in aircraft ground support of equipment for UPS, again at Bradley Field. Les keeps in mind their slogan... "tightest ship in the shipping industry."

Looking back, at a working career for others and himself, he said, "Things do work out, you take your lumps, but if we use our God-given brains and (hard work), you'll make out." Les certainly did.

Boy meets girl, as in most stories. In Les Hinckley's case, it was at Riverside Park. He had just completed a race, was invited up to the stands, suit and all (whatever drivers wear), sat down with the Caruso family and the rest is, boy marries Susan Caruso of Wethersfield, on Oct. 14, 1972.

Susan is the daughter of Marion (Pandolf) and Enrico Caruso, a family well known in the racing circles. No, Les said, "Mr. Caruso cannot sing a note," unlike the famous name he holds. Susan has a brother, John, and two sisters, Joyce and Jean. Susan is a grad of South Catholic High School, and finished her working career at Travelers, with the birth of their first son.

Their first son, Leslie III, now 17 and a senior at the high school, where he plays varsity baseball and basketball. These past weeks, young Les has been patrolling the outfield for Coach Leo Bravakis' American Legion team. His dad was also quick to point out, "Les is also mechanical inclined, but (always) into sports and racing cars." Young Leslie was a coach in the basketball rec league in town, which his dad said "Gave him the exposure, that he may use towards a future career." He may attend Springfield College, but sports will be his first stop.

Steven Hinckley is right behind his brother, at 15, playing baseball and basketball. Both boys began with T-ball, right up to Senior League, where Steven performed this past summer. And not that far behind is their 11-year-old sister, Kara, who attends the Middle School and, yes, is very much into sports. When her father and I met for an interview, Kara was attending a softball camp at Eastern State. She also plays basketball and has tried the art of gymnastics.

The above schedule, for the Hinckley clan, is hectic at times, when the father said, "There's always some activity with the kids, and we try to attend all their games. For example, one night we went to Suffield, Windsor Locks and East Hartford, didn't see all of their games (the kids played in) but were there for part of the action, and that was important."

Les and Susan first lived in the south end of

Hartford, before moving to Windsor Locks in 1975. Their home, as mentioned, has a large pool in the backyard, plus a batting cage for dad and the kids. Also ample room for Les Hinckley's hobbies ... flowers, landscaping jobs, fixing an old racing car, and the fine-looking vintage car. And speaking of one of his main hobbies, racing cars, Les did participate as a driver at Riverside and other speedways in the area, but never felt, he said, to make it a career or race at the famed 500 in Indiana. Just to keep up with the latest on the sports pages, Les follows the Red Sox, Giants and the Celtics.

When asked who he most admired (it seemed at that point I knew)... "My parents," he said, "for their dedication, always there for us,

being steadfast, and (were) the rocks in the family."

Les Hinckley has had his serious times in life, having faced several difficulties, but somehow he knew that "life is peaks and valleys, (in the end) hard work always pays off and perseverance (being the key word)."

EPILOG

Leslie Allen Hinckley Jr. is a man of many hobbies and career changes. And to be successful, in these endeavors, took talent.

An hour with Les, you find a lot of important things about the man, and it may go something like this... "To touch a child's face, a dog's smooth coat, a petaled flower, the rough surface of a rock, is to set up new orders of brain motion. To touch is to communicate."

*"Hard work and perseverance
always pays off..."*

Philosophy of Les Hinckley Jr.

and Family Activity

Tom and Dianne DePascale

Locals are Active

When you enter the home of Tom and Dianne DePascale, a few things catch your eye, especially over, under and around the living room fireplace, pictures of Little League teams (boys & girls), several of their son, Jeffrey, their daughter, Tracy, and with first impressions, this has to be a Little League family.

After an hour of taking down the information (that is standard for an interview), Dianne, the effervescent member of the family, wanted to talk more about the kids' involvement in Little League.

She admitted, "Life will never be the same...we are typical Little League dad and mom...." However, I found there is a lot more to tell about this most happy involved couple and their two children.

So first things first...Thomas Anthony DePascale, son of the late Christopher DePascale, resides in town, and active at the Senior Center. Tom has two brothers, Tony, who lives in town, and Billy, a resident of East Hartford, who was active in Little League circles for years.

Tom has lived in West Hartford and Avon, before the family moved to Windsor Locks in 1953. He was a member of the high school graduation, class of 1962. Growing up, Tom played a lot of sports, and was an All-Star himself, in Little League, back in 1957. No wonder his children are emulating their dad.

In the fall of 1962, young Tom, just out of high school, joined the U.S. Marines, along with a classmate, Dennis Stankiewicz. Tom took his boot camp training at famed Parris Island, South Carolina, saying, "It was rough, but I was prepared for it, I knew what to expect," after an earlier assessment by a friend. Tom was discharged in Oct. 1966, serving most of the time at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He did have additional duty as a guard, for a time, at the base in Cuba, at Guantanamo Bay, and a six-month tour of duty in the Mediterranean.

When did Tom meet Dianne? "Just as I was getting out of the Marine Corps, a close friend arranged a blind date," Tom recalled. And the date was with Dianne Martin, a girl from

cabbages & kings

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Vanburen, Maine, where you could throw a softball and hit Canada. Dianne, was a senior at East Windsor High School, at the time, daughter of Joel and Pat (Bouchard) Martin. She was very active at the high school, in musicals and plays.

The large Martin clan, moved around a bit, and settled in East Windsor. Dianne has four brothers and two sisters...Jim (Florida), Brian (S. Windsor), Gary (East Hartford), Clyde (Enfield), Cindy (East Windsor), and Karen (Ellington). Two more and they would have had a baseball or softball team.

Tom and Dianne were married at St. Philip's Church, East Windsor, in June, 1969, and have lived in Windsor Locks since that day.

And what is Little League all about?...boys and girls. In the DePascale family...the boy, Jeffrey, 15, in the second year of high school. The Senior League All-Star has been on the baseball diamond since he was eight-year's old. In addition, Jeffrey was an All-Star basketball player in the annual Maryland trip. As for baseball, he played at the Middle School and on the JV team as freshman. The honor student is a big summer rooter of the Red Sox and the winter months, its the Whalers.

His sister, Tracy, the girl softball player, is 13, a seventh grader at the Middle School. She is the piano player in the family, and after practice, its softball and some basketball. A good student, was on the Student Council as a sixth-grader. She's an All-Star, in the Majors, as pitcher and all-round player.

Now for their mother's proud moments and serving as good-will ambassador...Dianne wants everyone in town to know, in addition to the great Little League boy's team, there is a very active group of girls playing softball. The girls were District 8 Champions, in both the Senior and Major Leagues this past summer.



CORRECTION

In Jack Redmond's Cabbages and Kings column which ran in last week's Journal, Mr. DePascale's mother's name, Sadie ((D'Onofrio) DePascale was inadvertently omitted from paragraph four. Mrs. DePascale, who lives in town, is active at the Senior Center. The Journal apologizes for the omission.



Dianne, Tracy, Jeffrey and Tom DePascale

The Senior League was coached by Hal Larson and managed by Clarence Michaud. The Majors were coached by Joe Ouellete and managed by Tim Bartlett.

When Tom DePasquale is not active as manager and coach in the Little League (past 8 years), he is a full time worker at Pratt & Whitney, the past twenty-four years, and currently Supervisor of Development Operations. Tom has played softball and coached at the aircraft organization.

What about spare time (when not at LL or Pratt)? Tom is a "good cook," according to Dianne, and tends to the family garden. Dianne, on the other hand, "sews a lot, reads and is the decorator in the family," she said.

The family has spent vacation time at the Cape, Florida and New Hampshire. Tom hasn't forgotten the old Brooklyn Dodgers, and today, roots for the west coach team. Dianne, adding, "Tom knows everything about sports, and then some."

We mustn't forget to mention the working career of Dianne...who was employed by

Combustion Engineering, Inc., in nearby Windsor, for five years in Data Processing. For two years, she was at Dexter's, leaving to have their first child. She has, since then, worked for an accounting firm and currently is a Legal Secretary for Attorney Stuart G. Blackburn, in Suffield.

Dianne had one person in mind, when asked, who she most admired..."My sister-in-law, Tracy Martin...who has a great outlook (on life) and a very positive thinker."

Does Dianne have a favorite saying? "Yes....Lighten up, enjoy yourself." Tom calls her "energetic," and Dianne came right back, with a word for Tom...."Perfectionist."

Epilog

That's the Little League family of Tom, Dianne, Jeffrey and Tracy DePascale. They are "typical", as so appropriately stated by Dianne. And that means a lot of hours, dedication and genuine concern for their children. Hats off to Tom and Dianne and the rest of the Little League parents in this Little League town.

Little League Family and More

Viggiano Has Fond Memories

Edward Daniel Viggiano, a quiet man, with fond memories of growing up in Windsor Locks, along with time in the Navy, playing golf, baseball, before Little League, a thrill, as one who had a tryout with the Brooklyn Dodgers, a diversified career and a long interest in horses.

Years ago, he was known as "Red," and today, it's just Ed, retired, still enjoying the game of golf, now a steady fan at Shea, and admits, very family oriented, with his wife, Alberta, daughters, Susan and Melissa and mother, Sylvia.

Ed drops familiar names in town (which adds something a little extra), quicker than he ever dropped a baseball for the high school, class of 1950. But first, some other names in his family tree...

The lefty golfer, when on the tee at Airways, is the son of the late Frank Viggiano, who passed away in March. Mr. Viggiano was well known in town. He worked at Horton and according to Ed, was the chauffeur for the wealthy Donahue family in Hartford. Ed's mother, Sylvia (Vincioletto) Viggiano resides in town. Ed had a brother, Frank, who is deceased.

Ed's grandfather on his dad's side, was James (also known as Judge) Viggiano, who had barber shops in Warehouse Point and in town. Ed's grandmother was Rose of the Colli clan.

Ed was born and raised on Oak Street, moving to Main Street, attended St Mary's and a 1950 grad of the high school. He played baseball and basketball, and even some football, which was not on the high school agenda, in those days.

He remembers as a young boy, working on tobacco, and during World War Two (at the beginning) had his own shoeshine kit, and shined the GI boots of soldiers at Bradley. He watched, along with other town residents, the first buildings at Bradley and the day Lt. Eugene Bradley was killed. On Sundays, Ed was an altar boy at St. Mary's, with boyhood friend, Ellsworth Case.

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

The year 1950 was an eventful time for young Ed Viggiano. He had just turned 17, in March, graduated from school in June and went to work for the town of Windsor Locks.

In those days, there was no Little League, and Ed had played sandlot ball, starred in high school as a second baseman and outfielder, went on to American Legion, and for the Windsor Locks AA. He played with Joe Barbari and Billy Reilly, who both went on to minor league baseball. Another one he remembers is player-coach, Al Shapiro.

Ed's big chance came in baseball, with a tryout at Brooklyn's famed Ebbets Field. He said there were over 350 boys all looking to play for the Dodgers. It was a thrill, he said, just being there. How did he make out? "When it got down to 18 boys, I was one of them," he said, adding, "I heard later, the Dodgers did talk to one boy." Yes, he did have a dream or two, playing in the big time, but knew his size probably was against him. But he can always say, he did try out for the Dodgers!

Back to Ed's working career...before entering the Navy, in April 1952, he had jobs at Kaman and the Windsor Locks Lumber Co. Upon entering the service, he took his boot camp at Great Lakes in Illinois. He attended aviation school in Norman, Ok., before being stationed in New Jersey. Ed's main contribution was testing aircraft for navy fighting. Ed served overseas off Korea on an aircraft carrier, as crew leader, and was given credit for several missions.

On his discharge, he returned to town employment, but left again for Kaman, that lasted four years. Then his career took a sharp turn, going into the real estate business, with Colli-Wagner and Frank Griffin, on different occasions, until 1974. Another change, Ed decided to operate a package store, at Spring and Turnpike Road, called "Airport Package."

He continued to sell, but a much different product, joining Target Industries in Warehouse Point. After two years, Ed became a salesman for "Bud" Industries, which operated out of Rhode Island. He retired in July, 1989 with the title of director of sales and management, a position he held for 12 years.

Saying, "I knew Alberta Albani all my life," but they met in a more formal way, when they were working at Kaman. Things got serious for the young couple and they were married on Oct. 19, 1957.

of Growing Up Years



Edward Viggiano

Alberta is the daughter of the late Patsy and Rena (Raggio) Albani. She's a Windsor Locks girl from Church Street, and a 1946 grad of the local high school. She has a brother, Charles and a sister, Ann Camioros, both who live in town. They had a brother, John who has passed away.

Ed and Alberta have two daughters...Susan, married to Eric Bergstrom. They live in Vernon. Melissa resides in New Jersey. Both girls are grads of the local high school.

As Ed got older, he had to give up the bat and baseball glove for a 9-iron and golf glove. He has played all around the area, and especially at Airways and Copper Hill. He's a member of the KofC Golf League, that plays Wednesday mornings at George Sandone's Airway course.

Ed has always had an interest in raising horses, along with his daughter, Susan, who has been on a horse since she was a little girl.

'I base everything on family life...'

Ed's philosophy

Their first horse was "Lady," and today, they have a "Morgan" horse with the name of "Sealct Supreme." These horse devotees have used the "Leary Farm in Suffield," as the horse quarters.

He's been a baseball fan since the days of the old Brooklyn Dodgers, and still follows the west coast team, and never misses a game when the Dodgers come to Shea in New York, where the Mets play. Ed holds a season ticket at Shea, and the night after our interview, he was in the crowd watching those Dodgers play the Mets.

Vacation time for the Viggiano family has always been to the New Jersey shore.

Ed has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since the early 60s, and is currently the vice president of the board of directors. He also holds memberships in the American Legion and Italian-American clubs, and is a past member of the local Lions.

When asked who he most admired?...he said, "My parents...I was always close to my grandfather." Another member of Ed's family tree was a man who made quite a name for himself in New York City...that Ed was proud to point out..."My uncle, Prospero (Duke) Viggiano, known in this town as well...and one of the leaders of the famed Democratic "Tammany Hall."

Epilog

Ed Viggiano, local resident, all his life, so proud of his family, past and present. He has worked the full cycle...as a boy (shining shoes and on tobacco), as a man, town employee, factory worker and sales.

When you have to describe this quiet and nice guy, a few words might just say it all..."Other things may change us, but we start and end with family."

Hugh J. Donagher III

Eleven years ago, I met the Donagher family for a C&K interview, naturally, for the first time. Hugh Jr. Barbara, Hugh III, and Krista.

Like all families, things change, jobs change, styles change, and most of all, the kids grow up.

So, this time, we went back to interview Hugh Joseph Donagher III, who is probably best described as a "chip off the old block." Like father, like son, in some ways, not all.

Hugh III, who has just acquired the nickname of "Skip," to which must help when both he and his father, both active in the Lions Club, get together for the meetings, when the men (and now women) decide who will be served next, in the community and state.

In September, 1979, we found out that Hugh Jr. came from the Bronx, New York, Barbara Robitaille was a native of Hartford. Hugh III was only 15 at the time, and Krista, two years younger. He went on to graduate from WLHS in 1982 and Krista in 1984, and in February, this year, was a grad of Western New England College, with a degree in marketing.

For our story on the young Hugh, we'll refer to him as just Hugh. He attended local schools, and in high school was very active, as part of "Boy's State, Model UN, and state officer." During his high school years, Hugh was still in the Boy Scouts, as his father before him. He attained the high rank of Eagle Scout, the same

year he graduated from high school.

In addition, in those high school years, Hugh served as a lector at St. Mary's Church. He, like a lot of kids, worked at McDonald's and Burger King.

What was on the mind of this young graduate, as to his future and college? "I wanted to be a lawyer...to study accounting and go on to Law School," he said, with much optimism. He knew this bold pursuit would take time, hopefully, its still in his plans for the future.

He chose Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania, which was northwest of Philadelphia, a liberal arts school. Again, Hugh was an active student, serving on the Editorial Board of the college newspaper, and the Executive Board of the college radio station, Hugh admitted, "I didn't like accounting, gave up my major in this subject, really enjoyed the languages." Hugh graduated in 1986, with a degree in psychology and Spanish.

After leaving college, had a few odd jobs, before the family decided to go into business for a three-year period operating Deck the Walls and Wicks 'N' Sticks, at one of the

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Serves The Community



Hugh J Donagher III

nearby malls.

The younger Hugh went on his own, to work for "DISC," in Farmington as their newsletter editor. That was short-lived, after six months. Hugh went to his current position with RIS (Resource Integration Systems) in Granby saying, "RIS is the largest in the field of recycling," with consultant work in its field, in the Cape Cod Region, Los Angeles and the City of New York

When you talk hobbies, with this ambitious young man, "its the Lions and scouting," he said. For the past 13 years, Hugh has been involved in scouting, and today is the Scoutmaster of Troop 261. Its the "Lions Chartered Boy Scout Troop," where Hugh has found "a lot of fun, working with boys, only ten years younger. I'm not a parent figure, and can relate to them." This past summer the troop attended a camp in Plymouth, Connecticut, called Mattatuck.

Hugh still pursues his boyhood hobby of photography, which was enhanced in college by learning the techniques of the dark room, and currently is the Lions photographer, Dis-

My family set the tone for me to lead a normal life...'

Hugh J. Donagher, III

trict 238, And speaking of his other favorite hobby...since Oct. 1986, the Lions Club of Windsor Locks. Hugh is third vice president (his dad, 1st VP), and on the board of directors with participation in the club's annual Pancake Breakfast, Youth Day, Oil Raffle, Food Baskets and at Bickfords. In addition, Hugh was chairman of the "Peace Poster Contest," and has served on the ambulance committee. He was active in Scott Storms campaign for district governor (which he won) and Hugh serves on the District Cabinet.

Both Hugh and his father are active in the town's Democratic Party, with the elder Hugh as chairman of the Board of Finance, with the younger Hugh now on the Planning and Zoning Commission...which he considers "a very important board in town."

When it comes to vacation time, Hugh; has spent many happy hours in Maine and on the island of Martha's Vineyard. Hugh was a member, a few years back, of the popular Pine Meadow Players, has since given up the stage, but not the plays put on by the Hartford Stage Company.

He does follow the Red Sox and Whalers, only to a point. One show, according to Hugh, that he and his sister, Krista, hardly ever miss, is the late showing of "Night Court," with his "look-alike," John Larroquette, as one of the wacky stars of the show.

Admiration for this most active young man is "my family," he said, "who set the tone (for me) in leading a normal life," after the discovery of his hearing loss, as a very young child. Adding, "Their support and always pushing me to do things," was something their son has appreciated, in no uncertain terms.

Hugh was asked if he had a favorite saying and a personal philosophy...he did, and it was summed up this way..."Service we render to others, is really the rent we pay for our room on earth."

Epilog

That's the story of Hugh Joseph Donagher III, a young man, with a busy schedule, with the Lions, scouting and a career. Hugh has overcome a handicap, with love and understanding by his parents.

The following words, by the famous coach, John Wooden, may say it all..."Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do..."

Camilleri Local Businessman and Family Man

Back in the 60s, Mike Camilleri went from a job at a bank, to a much bigger career opportunity in floor and wall covering. Today, with his brothers, they operate their own business in the Rainbow section of Poquonock, a part of Windsor.

Mike, his wife, Laurel, and their four children have been residents of Windsor Locks since 1967. Three of their children have graduated from the local high school, and now Maria, in her second year, is as active on the sports field, as her two sisters and brother before her.

Getting down to specific details on the father of this clan, Michael James Camilleri Sr., a native of Hartford, attended Vine Street School, Jones Middle School (for you capital city natives to reminisce) and Weaver High School. But the family moved before Mike could complete his classes at Weaver and he graduated from Bloomfield High School in 1963.

This sincere, sensitive married man of a quarter of a century, looking back to those days at Weaver and Bloomfield, recalled playing sandlot softball and freshman football, but due to the loss of some teeth, (today's equipment would have saved him), Mike had to give up football and wait for the day for his son to play for the Raiders.

Mike also recalled the "good memories of the north end of Hartford, when all the folks were hard-working people, a mixture of Italians, Irish, Blacks and Jewish." Adding, "A good place to grow up, a way to meet all kinds of people."

Mike is the son of the late Thomas Camilleri, Sr., and Christine Ferranti Camilleri, who now resides in Windsor. His parents were both from Hartford, with Mr. Camilleri, a builder cabinet maker, and an employee with the Hartford Housing Authority for ten years. He passed away in July of this year.

Mike has three brothers... Thomas, Jr., who lives in Windsor, and an engineer at Combustion Engineering, Inc., Lucian of Windsor

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Locks and Anthony of Enfield, who are in the business with Mike.

As mentioned, Mike began his working career at a bank, the Hartford National Bank (for little over a year) and probably the best part of the job was meeting his future bride, Laurel DePaolis, who at the time also worked at the bank. They were married on January 2, 1965, with their first home in Hartford, and then decided to move to little old Windsor Locks, two years later.

Laurel is the daughter of Philip (of Hartford) and Laurel Pfau DePaolis (South Glastonbury), who now lives in Windsor Locks. Their daughter kiddingly said, "They followed us up here..." The young Laurel graduated from Bulkeley High School in 1961. She has a brother, Michael, who resides in Windsor. This mother of four active children, knows how to handle children...she's been a local school bus driver for the past decade. Saying, "I have driven students to all the schools, and (honestly) they are all good kids, and no trouble."

Back to Mike, while he was holding down the job at the bank, during the day, he was attending classes nights, at the University of Hartford. He really switched careers, when he left the bank to work three years at Epstein Floor Covering in Hartford. There, he learned the trade, that he and his brothers would eventually make their careers in the area.

The Camilleri Brothers began, what he said was "out of our house," but soon set up their own business location on Rainbow Road. Its been their business for the past 22 years with jobs all over New England and New York state. Mike said customers who have left the region, have called upon the Camilleri family to come to their new homes for floor and wall covering. He said they have a lot of faithful



Michael and Laurel Camilleri

customers. Mike did have one regret, saying, "It was much more fun on the road (working and meeting customers at their homes, than working in the store, where now I spend my business hours."

Some information on the four children of Mike and Laurel: Christine, married to Paul Shermer (from Enfield). They live in town, and have a daughter Kimberly. Paul is an optometrist, with offices in Manchester. Christine was a swimmer and softball player in high school. Laurel, like her sister before her, attended Asnuntuck Community College. The younger Laurel, also played softball and the game of soccer. She is married to John Hoynoski. They live in town, and John is employed by Gerber Scientific Instruments.

The football player in the family (taking up after his dad) is Michael Jr. The younger Mike played Little League, Midget Football and four years on the varsity team under Coach Pat Sceiza. He is currently attending Southern State University in New Haven, with hopes of becoming a history teacher. Due to an injury, Mike is unable to play college ball.

'I was her boss...now she's the boss...'

When Mike first met Laurel

Maria, in her second year at the high school, is also into sports, with field hockey, softball and basketball. She wants to be an interior decorator.

When it comes to hobbies for the father of these active kids, Mike says, he enjoys wood-working, and is the handyman around the house, with furniture his specialty. Any spare time is spent, Mike added, "with my wife." For their 25th wedding anniversary, the children sent their appreciative parents to Williamsburg, Va. Other vacation spots have been to the other New England states, plus New York and Pennsylvania. Mike is a big Red Sox and Giant fan, and when it comes to television, he's usually tuned into Public TV. When the question was asked, who was the disciplinarian in the family? Maria said "They both are soft at heart."

Saying, "Money isn't everything," Mike gave his personal philosophy... "you should be happy in what you do, awards come from the people around you...(and I'm) surrounded by my wife and family." As for admiration...Mike said, "My father...who taught us (the true) values of life and (we received) much love from our father and mother."

Epilog

Michael James Camilleri Sr., local businessman for over two decades, for him, its a family affair, at work and at home. He's a man dedicated to work and family and has probably found the following words to be so true... "Family faces are magic mirrors. Looking at people who belong to us, we see the past, present and future.

We make discoveries about ourselves. "

Christine Drapeau Cullen

Local Young Mother Now Into Running

Move over to the other lane, Carolyn Bravakis, Windsor Locks now has another young mother who has entered the field of running in marathons, or least, for starters, a mile-race in the area.

A while back, a short item appeared in the local daily paper, and made mention that

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Christine Cullen had placed second in the East Hartford Memorial Day Mile (Women's Open) with a

time of 6:57:42.

Why not look up this story of a local resident, who, like Carolyn, finds running good exercise, and mainly the reason Christine began running while at college.

So I decided to find what Christine Drapeau Cullen was up to and why she wanted to take up the physical side of running, be it just for exercise or competition.

She is a native of Windsor Locks, growing up on Whiton, Reed and Glendale Circle. She graduated from the local high school in 1981, where cheerleading was her major contribution to the sports scene. She is the daughter of George and Patricia (Krupa) Drapeau, who live in town. Mr. Drapeau has been a member of the Air National Guard for many years.

Christine has two brothers, Guy and Steven, and a sister, Cherie. Guy (WLHS '86) is a senior at Eastern Connecticut. Steven is a junior at the Raider School. Both boys played Little League and varsity baseball and soccer. Cherie (WLHS '80) graduated from Emmanuel College in Boston with an education degree and is currently working at Aetna. She is married to another well-known family member, Joseph Seaha, and they reside in town.

After graduation from the local high school, Christine followed her sister to Emmanuel, receiving her degree in business management/



Christine Cullen with daughters Kaitly and Jessica.

accounting in 1985. Her first job was at a Hartford brokerage firm. She returned closer to home, accepting a position at Corporate/Air at Bradley, where she met her future husband, Edward Paul Cullen. After Corporate/Air went out of business, Christine and Ed found other employment, she at Digital and Ed at Dexter, where he's been in the accounting department the past three years.

Edward is the son of Edward and Mary (Dejoia) Cullen of East Hartford. He's a grad

of East Hartford, Class of 1981, where he starred in three sports ... basketball, baseball and football. He went on to Central Connecticut, graduating as a finance major in 1985. The young couple married in May, 1988 and have lived in her hometown since their wedding day.

Ed has a brother, Paul, who lives in Colchester with his wife, Linda. His sister, Jean, is married to Dan Alden and they reside in Rockville.

Back to the runner. Christine gave up her position at Digital (where she had worked during her college years) when their first daughter, Jessica was born. Jessica, 2, is a fan of the television show, "Sesame Street." She has a new sister, five-month old, Kaitlyn.

Christine now works part-time at the popular Poquonock restaurant, "The Italian Corner." As a waitress, Christine must get her share of exercise, without the running. Additional exercise comes from her love of skiing.

With two young children, Christine and Ed are busy parents, and Ed kiddingly said, "It seems we do a lot of baby-sitting." But he has managed to play a lot of basketball in town and at times a round of golf. Christine is into "arts and crafts," and mainly, saying, "I run, that's it for hobbies." When it comes to spectator sports, Ed is a Red Sox fan.

As for the running, Christine began in college, actually, just for the exercise, saying, "It all began running with a friend." Her entrances into local races were apparently just one of those things. She has participated in the Manchester Road Race and in addition, the East Hartford race, where she places second. What's her schedule, as to running ... "I run every day, never miss, at least two miles each day."

The young couple have experienced their share of traveling, with trips to Florida, Pennsylvania, St. Thomas and the Cape.

When it comes to admiration, Christine had this to say, "My mother ... a hard worker. I have learned a lot from her. I would consider her my best friend." Her philosophy: "Live each day to the fullest," and adding, "is basically what I do every day."

EPILOG

Christine Drapeau Cullen, local young woman who has found running to her liking, and has managed to combine the care of her girls (along with proud dad), working, and her special form of exercise. I'm sure Christine has also found the competitive urge to continue running for the sport and exercise.

Dick Sterner—A 'Music Man'

Dick Sterner has been directing musicals in East Hartford for a quarter of a century, and the past two years has added Windsor Locks High School to his credits with the successful direction of "Grease" and "Carnival."

No man better exemplifies the title of "Music Man," with his numerous awards and accolades over the years, be it from the State of Connecticut, service organizations or from the many talented people he has nurtured in musical roles for so many "Broadway" hits in the area.

Our own High School Principal, Raymond Grasso, in tribute to his friend, Dick, wrote the music and lyrics to an original song, entitled, "Music Man."

When you first meet Richard Allan Sterner, which I had the pleasure, only recently, you find a friendly, informed, interesting and a man of the theater, who you must know, enjoys the "roar of the grease paint."

The story of Dick Sterner begins in Detroit, Michigan, where he was born, and even as a young boy, "wanted to be a music teacher." Dick was the son of the late Kenny and Lois Sterner. He has a brother, Robert, who lives in the motor city, and a sister, Kathy, who resides in San Jose, California. Their parents were from Upper Sandusky, Ohio, where Dick spent the years 3 to 12, with his grandparents.

He returned to Detroit to attend high school, Cass Technical, which offered Science, Art, Aeronautics, and Music. He graduated in 1947, going on to higher education at the University of Michigan and Detroit Institute of Musical Arts. He received a degree from Michigan State College (now University) in Music. Dick had his baptism in the serious side of music, while in high school, studying music theory, playing instruments, harmony, choir and band/orchestra.

At Cass High School, he said, "The student body was made up of the very talented and dedicated pupils in the Detroit School System." At college, Dick continued his active career in the Glee Club, a cappella choir and was assistant director of musicals and member of Delta Chi fraternity.

Then it was time to go teach....his first position was in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, in Gladwin, where he taught kindergarten to high school the art of music appreciation for

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five years. The next six years were in Battle Creek, Michigan, at the junior high level, the school being located across the street from the famed Kellogg plant. There he taught music, speech and dramatics.

In Battle Creek, Dick took part in a few musicals and plays, and one he will always remember, "The Boy Friend," he played opposite his future wife, Audrey Covalt, who was a native of the city. They were married in November, 1962. Audrey, also an active one in plays and in the music field, was in "Guys & Dolls," and ironically, when their daughter, Jill, was born, Dick was performing in "New Girl in Town."

Audrey, who passed away in 1988, in addition to her talents on the stage, was a nurse, who had worked at St.

Francis Hospital, Bickford's Prospect Hill Home and Mount Sinai Hospital. Readers of the Windsor Locks Journal would also remember her stories on "Arts & Entertainment," that appeared over a three-year period.

The Sterner family came east, as Dick recalled, "Audrey did summer stock in Massachusetts...we liked it here...and I wrote different schools for any open positions...Mt. Kisco, New York, a Greenwich in Connecticut and East Hartford.

In the fall of 1963, Dick was accepted at East Hartford and he taught junior high at first, and then at high school as, what he likes to say... "A music teacher." He has at times, been an assistant music supervisor, but apparently his first love is as music teacher.

Their daughter, Jill Sterner, will be remembered in the title role of "Mame," in the 1983 Senior Class Musical. Jill was a member of the well-known group of Pine Meadow Players, and in addition, played the flute for nine years, was in the school's concert band for four years, and stage band for two. Jill was listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students." She attended Hartt and UConn and has been involved in East Hartford musicals, as a singer, and currently member of a local band called "Core." The band plays at wed-

'Everyone is a star.'

Dick's Favorite Saying

dings, and night clubs, and as Dick said, "the other band in town...Savage Brothers being the other."

Dick Sterner, a man of music, does have a hobby, but doesn't take up much of his time.....art. He has finished a few paintings, however, he admitted, "I wasn't as talented as my wife...as you can see (in their den) several examples of her work," also surrounded by many of his awards and memorabilia.

As a young boy in the cold of Michigan winters, he was into ice skating, and in the summer, swimming. Today, he's into spectator sports....watching tennis, hockey, gymnastics and his Detroit Tigers on television. Travel was something special for Dick and Audrey and he proudly stated, "We traveled all over this country...been in every state but Alaska, Washington and Oregon....our favorite were the Black Hills of South Dakota... along with the City of Atlanta and New Orleans, where great music was heard, day and night."

Dick belongs to various teaching organizations and was a member of the Lions Club, while living in Battle Creek. The Sterner family have lived in town since July of 1963.

The stage has been an important part of Dick's life for the past thirty-eight seasons. He has had numerous stage roles and one of his first was summer stock in Warsaw, Indiana. The past twenty-five years, he has been involved in the East Hartford Summer Youth Festival and because of this endeavor, Dick received honors from the State of Connecticut.

John Gionfriddo (another man of music at the high school) and Bill Nabel, who has appeared on Broadway in "42nd Street and Sweeney Todd," among others, are both friends and contemporaries of Dick Sterner. And speaking of Broadway, Dick was asked what was his favorite musical....he didn't have to repeat himself...."Music Man." (no kidding) He does have, however, several musical performers, he admires....among them are the pretty and talented Bernadette Peters and popular Angela Lansbury. Dick and I, both had an occasion to meet Ms. Lansbury, we (my wife and daughters), the performance of "Mame" at the Winter Garden in New York City and Dick at the Hartford Stage.

What were Dick's reactions after directing the last two musicals at the high school? ("Grease" and "Carnival")..."it was my first opportunity in town and I loved it...the kids were just wonderful, I can't say enough for the (cooperation) from the teachers, Ray Grasso, Bob Oliva and Neil Rinaldi." Also among Dick's accomplishments locally, was the di-

recting role back in 1965, for the first Windsor Jester's musical.

Dick also manages to keep his voice in trim....as member of the Asylum Hill Congregational Church's Oratorio Choir, and as organist and director of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church choir in Suffield.

Dick said, "There are so many people who have done so much for me over the years," when asked who he most admired. He went on to say, "I have taken so much and only given half back...but there was a teacher, in 5th grade, Gertrude Mittermeir, who said, 'if you want to stay in this little town, stay and do nothing, but leave here and there is nothing you can't do.'"

His personal philosophy..."Lift your voice and you sing your song...something wonderful will happen...it all comes back to you..." This still active man has no immediate plans for retirement, saying, "I have respect for the kids of today," and he is a music man and feels "everyone is a star."

Epilog

Richard Allan Sterner, a "Music Man," for all seasons. There is so much to this man's life....in school and on the stage. I would like to quote a few lines of Mr. Meredith Wilson, who wrote the book, music and lyrics of "Music Man."

"There's some sort of wistful yearning for Broadway in the heart of a person like myself who has been in show business his whole life, has reveled in it...And when that live audience reacts and you actually hear it, it is, if Mr. Lombardo will forgive me, the sweetest music this side of heaven. Nothing in my experience of the last twenty-four hours (when "Music Man" was first performed) has failed to bear this out. I could have kissed everybody in the house..."

Dick Sterner must realize and know that feeling...and that's why he's a true blue "Music Man."

in Two Communities

Mr. Redmond Goes To Washington

"I predict a great week ... (with) votes on Judge Souter, the Persian Gulf and the Budget ... " Senator Chris Dodd on our welcome to Washington, D.C.

As in the movie, "Mr. Smith Goes To Washington," I had the pleasure and honor to be chosen a member of the Connecticut Senior Intern Program Inc., sponsored by U.S. Sen. Christopher J. Dodd, with contributors from the private sector, and our own Dexter Corporation, for the week of Oct. 1 to 5.

Unlike "Mr. Smith," (played by Jimmy Stewart) who was a senator, I was one of 43 Connecticut residents from Enfield to Greenwich, with varied backgrounds, traveling to our nation's capitol, "for a close look at what goes on in Washington ... " The week proved, not only a closer look, but an educational experience, that may come only once in a lifetime.

cabbages & kings

JACK REDMOND

We met, talked to, on any subject, enlightened (we hope), our own Connecticut delegation of representatives and senators, and several of the well-known senators from other states. It was the week that was, and as Senator Dodd predicted, it was a time for critical decisions by Congress, and we were there as, what the congenial senator remarked, "You are all member of my staff for five days."

We have all watched on television, read in the papers, the actions or at times, inaction, of famous political figures, and we met them face to face. Names like Kennedy, Kerry, Rockefeller and others, exchanging ideas and opinions, plus an in depth meeting, as mentioned, with our Connecticut members of Congress.

I want to cover the five days (not as a travelogue), but the agenda that was planned and certainly operated efficiently, by the senator's staff. For the record, this program was started in 1974 by the then Sen. Lowell P. Weicker, and taken over by Senator Dodd in 1989.

First Day: Due to the home locations of the group, from over the state, the bus pickup was in Hartford, New Haven and Darien. We left Hartford at 7:45 a.m. and arrived in

Washington, D.C. at our hotel, at 4:25 p.m.

After a dinner at the hotel, Senator Dodd arrived to greet us and met each person individually, and explain what should be a very interesting week, that was in store for us. The group was now ready to tackle the next four days.

Second Day: Breakfast (incidentally, all expenses were met by the contributors ... meals, hotel and bus) was in the Senator Cafeteria. Up to a meeting room, were Senator Dodd welcomed us again. The morning was filled with education and children's issues by the senator's staff: a representative from the White House spoke on the "many interests of President Bush on volunteerism."

Sen. Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia, Sen. Barbara Mikulski of Maryland and Paul Rundquest gave us an overview of the "Pepper Commission, National Service and political historical data," respectfully. Local note: Senator Mikulski, a bundle of energy, said, "My best friend (in the Congress) is your Barbara Kennelly."

Included in the session was a quick meeting and talk by the other Connecticut Senator, Joe Lieberman. In the afternoon, after lunch, we walked (under the passage way) to the Capitol Building from the Senate Building. There are three Senate buildings ... named after Russel, Dirksen and Phil Hart (not to be confused with Gary). We then were taken to the upper Senate chamber to watch the senators at work. We witnessed the vote on "Bush's Actions in the Gulf," which passed 96-3. Then a full discussion on Judge David H. Souter for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, by Sens. Joseph R. Biden Jr. of Delaware, Strom Thurmond of South Carolina and Charles Grassley of Iowa. A vote later

that evening was 90-9 for confirmation. An added note ... Senator Bidensaid he would vote for Judge Souter, with "the benefit of the doubt as the best we can hope for from the administration." The Senator from Delaware is a Democrat.

A tour of the capitol was followed by a dinner at the renovated Union Station. A night tour of the city completed our day, with the beauty of the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials and Iwo Jima the Marine Statue.

Third Day: The day to meet Senator Dodd's legislative staff, who gave details, such as the vast mail (1,500 to 2,000 letters a week from the senator's constituents) that comes into their office, duties of the press secretary and the various legislative assistants. Senator Dodd at the offset of the meeting, said he was in close contact with business, labor and state officials on the current budget problems.

Early into the meeting, we had a visitor (we knew he was coming), Sen. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts. He spoke on several topics, which included some kind remarks about his 100-year-old mother, Rose Kennedy. He said, she sends her best wishes to we senior citizens. On a serious note, the senator mentioned why he voted against Judge Souter and recalled how when his brother was president, and nominated Justice White, no questions of the current magnitude were ever asked. That's why he believes in the total inquiry.

The afternoon was also something special ... a tour of the famous Pentagon and a short briefing of the Defense Budget. Our tour guide was a young gung ho "Honor Guard" soldier whose voice could be heard back at the capitol. He was good, and took us into the hallowed halls of each branch of service and their contributions to their country in time of war. The Defense Budget meeting was held in a small theatre-type, with explanations of the different percentages that make up the defense budget

and other parts of the budget.

Dinner that night was at the Kennedy Center Cafeteria, followed by the play "Playboy of the Western World" at the Eisenhower Theater. The famed Abbey Theater staged the production, and if you understand real Irish brogue, you probably could understand the play, better than I did.

Fourth Day: This day was a combination of "issues, budgets and what happens and why." First, a panel discussion with representatives of the senior group, AARP, the budget committee and other government agencies. One of the main themes was "watch how your representatives and senators vote on the budget." Another speaker was from ACTION, a Federal Domestic Volunteer Agency and explained the many benefits of being a volunteer. Of course, this was right on the mark ... most of the group were already volunteers in their hometown.

During our lunch break, we did find out (well maybe) "how (senators) would vote," on the budget. We had visits from some pretty big guns (all, by the efforts of Senator Dodd). . Sens. Bob Kerrey of Nebraska, Bob Dole of Kansas, Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas and young John Kerry of Massachusetts. We were told ... "Its our toughest vote (the budget)." We received a history lesson ... Senator Kassebaum, a lovely lady, who looks more like a gentle grandmother, was the daughter of the late Alfred Landon, who lost to President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1936.

In the afternoon, in another small room in the capitol, we met with our Connecticut delegation, mostly talking about the budget: John Rowland ("against the package"), Barbara Kennelly ("that's what you sent us to do"), Chris Shays ("I have a great job, will vote yes"), Sam Gejdenson ("budget terrible"), Nancy Johnson ("hope we are going to pass it") and Bruce Morrison ("so-called agreement, but I don't agree).

After dinner at "Clyde's of Georgetown," it was back to the hotel and be ready for our trip home on Friday.

We mentioned, that in the group there were folks from all over the state and one in particular need mention. Marion E. Newberg of Middletown, who has been active in Democratic circles since (as she recalled) Nov. 6, 1934. She has been on the State Central Committee since 1956. She was also the campaign manager for Gov. Ella Grasso's first run as secretary of the state.

Fifth Day: Even before breakfast at the hotel, the group was off to see the White House. Its a great place to visit and worth the short wait to see what history is all about at this framed building. We got off for home at 10:45 a.m. and we Hartford residents arrived at 8:15 p.m. The holiday traffic was something else and we were now home, safe and sound.

Epilogue

It's a great place to visit ... well you know the rest. We didn't travel to Washington, D.C. to live, but to be a witness, for a week, to see and listen to the sounds of government. I feel we achieved the program's objectives and as I write this, the budget is page one news.

Washington, D.C., not only the seat of our government, but a city of large beautiful buildings, with its own share of traffic, government workers, tributes to famous people, its share of crime, that we hear and read about on a daily basis. We couldn't miss the homeless people camped out across the street from the White House, in Lafayette Park.

If you ever get the chance to participate in this yearly trip ... go for it. It was worth the time and energy, and our Senator Dodd was so right ... "It was a great week to be in Washington, D.C." We had the opportunity to meet the entire staff of the Senator on the Thursday of that week ... truly a professional group.

(with 43 other seniors)

Bill Taylor Discovers the Joys of Retirement

Bill Taylor is very proud of his 37 years with the Air National Guard, and rightfully so. The former Chief Master Sergeant is now retired.

He keeps busy hunting and fishing, in the role of president of the Old Newgate Coon Club in Norfolk, Conn., is an avid reader of everything and also the proud father of six grown children and two grandchildren.

This friendly Hartford native has lived in town with his wife, Evelyn, since 1966, where all their children graduated from the local high school.

He started life with the full name of William Stern Taylor, but soon was called "Bones" by the kids in school because he was so "tall and thin."

Today, Bill is still tall, not as thin, enjoys retirement with Evelyn, and they have made the best of these years traveling across country from Connecticut to California and even Hawaii.

We'll stick to Bill, for the story (but the men of the 103rd Fighter Group at Bradley will remember him better as "Bones"). He was the son of the late Clarence and Evelyn Taylor. Mr. Taylor, a World War I vet, worked 44 years with the telephone company, and passed away 14 years ago. Mrs. Taylor died at the age of 96, just this year. Bill has a brother, Russell, of Simsbury

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who also worked for the telephone company for four decades. They have a sister, Joan, who resides in East Hartford.

Bill's family lived in the northwest section of the capital city. Bill was not into sports, as he "worked after school and at Weaver (Class of 1948) worked in the cafeteria for the free lunch." He remembers his city in those days, walking to school the five blocks, working on tobacco in Simsbury and Windsor Locks, where Choice Vend is now located.

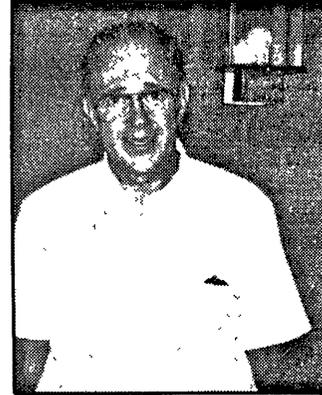
During World War II, Bill had the job as "official messenger," with white helmet and arm band, for the Air Raid program, making sure residents were obeying rules set up for the wartime conditions. He did mention one of the thrills for the kids was watching the many convoys of soldiers in trucks along Route 44 on their way to camps or overseas.

Bill's first job after high school was at the Austin Organ Co. for two years. Just before graduation, he had joined the Air National Guard (May 1948) and in January 1950 his unit was called into active duty, where he served 18 months, four months at Bradley and the remaining time at a Long Is-

land, N.Y. air base. He said the unit "acted as coastal patrol on the watch for subs."

Still a member of the guard, after active duty, Bill worked at Colt's for two years before making a career (November 1953) with the Air National Guard at Bradley. He had a distinguished career serving in weapons and missile shops, and as supervisor of munitions and electronics. He was a member of the 103rd (CAM Squadron) retiring in March, 1985. On several occasions, when he was called upon to fly around the country on assignment, one of his fellow airmen was Russ Lose, a local man, who has also retired from the Guard. Bill has many pictures and memorabilia at his home, reminding him of the many years at the guard and the men he served with for 37 years.

When Bill was on active duty in 1950, he met his future bride, Evelyn Liggett, on a blind date. She was the daughter of the late Donald and Dorothy Liggett. She was from West Hartford and a grad of Hall High School. They were married in June 1952. They lived in Hartford and West Hartford before making their home in Windsor Locks. They have six children.



'Bones Taylor'

As mentioned, the father of this clan is an avid hunter and fisherman. Bill is the president of the Fish & Gun Club in Norfolk, and as president the past four years has had the main job of stocking pheasant for the club's hunt.

Bill and Evelyn have taken advantage of his retirement years, with trips to Washington D.C., Nashville, Canada, the "Amish Country," California and sunny Hawaii. (Actually, Bill was on duty in Hawaii part of the time, and Evelyn joined him to enjoy the beauty of the islands.)

Bill is not one to watch much television, unless it's on Public Television or Thursday nights when "Cheers" is on. He does have a favorite in sports- the Red Sox, and he admits during this past season "I cried a lot," and other Sox fans can appreciate his sentiment.

This veteran of many years of service holds membership in the local American Legion Post, and on the roll of the "Retiree Activities Office" at Westover and a former member of the West Hartford Elks Club.

Bill Taylor has that "golden rule" philosophy of "Live and Let Live." When asked who he most admired... looking back, he said "I always felt that President Harry Truman was a good president and a good politician." And speaking of "good," Evelyn said, "He's a good friend to have," when asked to describe Bill.

EPILOGUE

That's the story of "Bones" Taylor... who made the Air National Guard his life's work. Now he and Evelyn, parents of six, are enjoying their retirement, with plenty of memories to look back upon. Bill would agree... "Recall it as often as you wish, a happy memory never wears out."

Jim McLaughlin a Vermont Native with Irish Roots

Big Jim McLaughlin admits "most northerners (in his case, Vermonters) come south" as he did in the middle '50s, moving to Connecticut from his homeland in Rutland, Vt.

After graduation from St. Michael's College in Winooski, Class of 1952, with a degree in Business, Jim took a job with Pratt & Whitney for his first two years in Connecticut.

A few family facts on James Thomas McLaughlin, a man with a steady and easy-going disposition. He is the son of the late Henry and Nora McLaughlin. Mr. McLaughlin was a native of Rutland and Mrs. McLaughlin came from Ireland, settling in Springfield, Mass. where she met her Henry, who had taken a job at the Indian Motorcycle plant.

The McLaughlins then settled for Rutland, raising a large family — four sons and five daughters. Where they are today? Gerald lives in East Hartford, Maurice near Rutland. Their four remaining sisters, Ann and Sheila reside in Rutland, with Claire and Helen preferring the city of Pittsfield, Mass. Henry Jr. and Kathleen had passed away.

It's still a close-knit family, Jim says, "We have reunions

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of the McLaughlin clan every two years, in either Vermont or Massachusetts, with over 75 in attendance."

Now the story on Jim. He attended grammar and high school in Rutland. The year he was born? ... "the year Ruth hit 60 home runs and the year Lindberg crossed the Atlantic..." He was big, as a youth went out for the high school basketball team. Made the team, was kicked off, he said, "for smoking." So much for his athletic career.

Jim was actually too busy for sports ... delivering the "Rutland Herald" every day, which meant getting up at 3 a.m., taking the paper off the press, and as carrier to early risers, for the morning paper.

Immediately after graduation from high school, Jim and three of his classmates decided to join the Navy and see the world. Two of the new recruits got into the Navy, one into the Marines and Jim didn't pass the tests. However, in October of 1945, the year of his graduation from school, Jim

was drafted into the U.S. Army Air Corps. He spent a year in both Mississippi (basic training) and what he called "good duty at a desk job" near Orlando, Fla. at an air base.

With his service time out of the way, Jim went to work at a few odd jobs, and then decided to attend St. Michael's and four years later, 1952, earned a Business degree. He came to Connecticut, was employed at Pratt & Whitney for two years, before really starting his lifetime career, in the world of insurance.

Jim had joined the American Surety Company of New York, located in Hartford, and retired this past Jan. 1, 1990. He served 36 years with the company, which was purchased in 1964 by Trans American.

In 1957, Jim met his future bride, Patricia Monahan, at the Catholic Graduates Club of Hartford. They were married in August of the following year. Pat is the daughter of the late Charles and Mary Irene Monahan. Pat grew up in



Jim and Pat McLaughlin

Massachusetts, graduating from Newton High School in 1949 and from Emmanuel College in Boston in 1953. She attended the Boston School of Occupational Therapy for two years. She, too, came to Connecticut for work and has been at the following, in her chosen field: Veterans Hospital in Rocky Hill, St. Francis Hospital, Visiting Nurse Association (home care for various agencies), and currently employed by the Enfield School System.

When Pat and Jim were first married, they lived in Hartford, moving to Windsor Locks in 1960. They have three children: Maureen, Daniel and

Kerryann.

The threesome are grads of WLHS and live in town. Maureen works for Aetna, Daniel is married to Debbie (Quick) and is employed by the Hartford Insurance Group. Kerryann took a different path — she became a nurse and is currently working at Windsor Hall Convalescent Home.

Jim has been a member of the local K of C for more than a quarter of a century. He's been a member of the bowling league for as long. In the summer months he is at Airways, in the K of C Golf League.

Sticking with his Irish background, Jim said, "I'm nuts

over Irish music ... enjoy everything Irish when it comes to music." In addition, Jim and Pat take in Irish dances in the area, be it Round or Ballroom dancing. Jim, in his typical manner, said, "The only reason I married Pat, she was born on St. Patrick's Day" (a likely story).

Jim is an oldtime Ted Williams and Red Sox fan and follows the art of boxing, going back to the glory days of Joe Louis. Vacations have included the beauty of Bermuda and two memorable trips to Ireland, where Pat and Jim visited the famed "Blarney Stone." When the children were much smaller, camping was a way of life for the McLaughlins.

Jim handles himself in an easy-going manner. When it was time to name someone he admired, he chose Harry Truman who he said, "Handled himself (as president)." Jim is also a man who understands and lives by the "Golden Rule." He does have a favorite song (that's not Irish), "Moonlight Over Vermont."

Epilogue

Big Jim McLaughlin has a big heart when it comes to people and living the good life. Pat and her Irish counterpart ... (she is a Monahan) enjoy retirement and dancing a few extra steps.

And like one of the Irish sayings goes... "until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand..."

The Savage Brothers

The Savage Brothers are a busy bunch of young musical men, with a schedule that reminds one of the so-called old days of the Big Band era.

The week after I met with the four brothers, their schedule of towns, where they appeared for one-night stands, went something like this ... Mystic, Danbury, Hartford, Southington, and Keene, N.H.

That was typical, according to Tom Savage, manager and leader of the band, voted "Best Band Hartford" in 1988.

Tom, Mark, Steve and Mike Savage are brothers four in the band which had its initial start at a local restaurant, now "Jakes," on June 1, 1984 and went "full time" in the fall of 1987. There are two other musicians that complete the band ... Frank Cook of Windsor Locks and Ed Roland of West Hartford.

We wanted to interview the Savage Brothers for some time but with their schedule, we did manage to catch them on a Monday evening, an off night, with "Monday Night Football," their only appearance, in front of a television set.

We also vaguely remember them, back in November 1978, when we had the pleasure of meeting their parents, Joe and Bernadette Savage, for a C&K story. At the time, their ages ranged from 16 to little Debbie, their sister, who was 9. Today, Debbie is employed at the Finast Warehouse where her father has worked for years.

Joe Savage was a successful jazz player in his native Ireland. He and his pretty bride, Bernadette O'Hanlon, came to America in 1961 and raised four sons and their daughter, first in Hartford, and the move to Windsor Locks in 1969. Their children were all born at St. Francis Hospital and graduated from the local high school.

This was my first experience in interviewing four at a time, especially four young men, all with their own brand of personality, strong opinions, Irish wit and charm, and an honest and realistic approach to life, and their future in the rather tough life of band business, and making a living at it.

We mentioned the high school, the four boys had their football start in the Midget Program and all went on to play at the Raider School. Tom was captain in '80 and Mark in '81, and were followed by Steve and Mike. Even to this day, Mark said he misses the

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game. They all follow a different game now, and will elaborate later. Tom went on to Plymouth State University in New Hampshire, earning a Business Education degree, and Mark, a Communications degree at Central Connecticut.

Now to the business of band life and all that goes into it ... on an average, Tom said, "We do five shows a week ... practice twice a week." The band is quite diversified, when it comes to instruments, as follows: Tom plays soprano, alto and tenor sax, flute and vocals; Mark, on the trumpet, fluegal horn and the lead singer of the band; Steven, the trombone, rhythm guitar, harmonica and on the vocals; and Mike on drums, and like his brothers, on the vocal end. The two other players ... Frank Cook plays lead guitar, and Ed Roland, the bassist.

This diversified instrumentation within the band has created a unique style for the band, as listed in their biography. It went on to say ... this unique style has developed considerably throughout the past four years. The music the band performs is of a vast variety. Rock-n-Roll (older and contemporary), Rhythm and Blues, Swing, etc. are all genres of music covered by the band. The music is arranged in a fashion which complements the band; by giving each musician the opportunity to play alone as well as a unified group. And when questioned further, as to what types of music, I might understand, Mark said, "Hard Rock to Glenn Miller, and everything in between."

The list, of what they call a "client list" (where they have performed), is very impressive ... numerous clubs in Massachusetts, Vermont, Rhode Island, Maine, New York and Connecticut. Any favorite spots ... "The Muse in Nantucket Island and Island House at Misquamicut." They all agreed, however, "Jake's (on Spring Street) in our town is home of the Savage Brothers."

In addition to the club dates, the band has played in many towns in Connecticut, at Riverside and Lake Compounce, festivals in Glastonbury and Hartford. Schools also have been on their itinerary, all over New England and at

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a Local Band Keeps Busy Year Round



Mark, Mike, Tom and Steve Savage are all members of the Savage Brothers Band.

Kueka College in New York. Where would they like to play? "How about the Hartford Civic Center and then at Foxboro before 60,000 fans..."

What about records? The band released their first cassette in April 1988 and another two-song cassette in September 1989. Their more recent was a Record Compact Disc, recorded portions at Jake's. And how are sales? "Going very good, better than expected," they said.

When asked about the future plans for the band? ... (Hopefully) sign a record deal with a major label ... the town is getting behind us (and that's good) and we will take the band as far as it goes..." was the consensus of the group.

Some personal things about these boys... "We're from an Irish-Catholic family... a tight-knit group." How do they get along? "We're brothers, close... hold no grudges."

What about their off-hours? No football, but their current sports activity ... "Wally-Ball (volleyball), played on a racquet court, at the Sports Complex on 75 ... we have a team in the league."

Hobbies.....Tom collects coins, model trains; Mark has his jeep, outdoor's man, into hiking and boating; Steve, reading, biking and tennis; Mike, the music collector in the family, has his fish tank and is into the latest craze....."Nintendo."

The entire Savage family are travelers....the boys have seen the beauty of Europe and their parent's homeland of Ireland. There they visit many of their relatives and enjoy, what they call "Irish music, good drinking music." Saying, "We all have made trips to Ireland, since we were kids, our home away from home."

The boys follow football.....Tom and Mark are Giant fans, while Steve cheers for the Vikings and Mike the Dallas Cowboys. When pinned down, Tom's favorite music "Rhythm and Blues," Mark, the singer in the family, is an "Elvis" devotee, Steve and Mike, "Rock & Roll."

Some of their favorite sayings....and the boys give all their success, credit and admiration to their parents, with these remarks, "They were the foundation and support (when we started), like our parents, when we start something, we finish it and that goes with the responsibilities."

Back to music, when asked again their opinions on different types of music, Mark, the singer and also the philosopher in the group, said, "There's a place for all kinds of music, who ever does it best, and (sometimes) it depends on a person's mood."

Epilog

Savage Brothers Band....Tom, Mark, Mike and Steve...all named after Saints, by their

proud parents. The sounds of music from these four men and the other members, (Frank & Ed) making up what the "Hartford Advocate" found out to be "Best of Hartford," in their 1988 reader's poll.

Their hectic schedule keeps them on the move, be it Wobbly Barn in Killington, Vermont, or just "Rock Around the Block," at Jake's, their home for all types of music, and "everything in between."

Former Little Leaguer, Now Involved With PTO and Scouts

Twenty years ago, young Philip Charles Famiglietti was a Senior League Little Leaguer All-Star. He and a group of the town's Little Leaguers played for the Villa Rose team in the senior division, under the guidance of coaches George Hall, myself and the late Bob Dion.

Phil, the son of Philip Frederick and Catherine (Romaniello) Famiglietti, is now a dedicated parent with his wife, Sue, two children of their own, and devotes many hours to the Parents Teaching Organization and local Boy Scouts.

The memories of the days of Little League were remembered by Phil and I, last month, and we have accompanied his story with a picture, taken 20 years ago at South West Park...the 1970 Villa Rose team. Phil is in the second row, third from the right and as he said, "the only one with glasses." (Oh yes, I have glasses on too). We could not identify all the players...but a few...Billy King, Billy La-Torra, Mark Nolan, Eddie Reale, Mike Bednarz and Bryan Squires.

The past two decades, for young Phil, have been filled with schooling, work, civic involvement, becoming a husband, father and for eight years, combined them with a role of student, earning a degree.

Phil, a native of town, attended local schools, and is a grad of the high school, class of 1937. Sports after Little League, did not play a part of his life, when he decided to work after school, as a student

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janitor at South West School. Higher education came next, a year at UConn's Hartford branch, two years at Hartford State Tech, with an associate degree in manufacturing engineering in 1976. Then the hardest and grueling part...eight years going to Central State nights, and earning his full degree.

With schooling, an important part of Phil's life, it was probably in the cards, to marry his "high school sweetheart," Sue McDowell. The girl named Sue, the daughter of Janet Ogden and Dick McDowell, was born in New York state in a town with the unusual of Penn Yan. Located near the famed Finger Lakes, Pen Yan received its name by settlers with Pennsylvania and Yankee backgrounds. Her father, a long-time employee of Metropolitan Life, was transferred to Connecticut in 1963 and the McDowells set up their home in Windsor Locks. Sue's mother is a long-time employee of Combustion Engineering, Inc.

Phil and Sue were married on September 25, 1976 and have lived in town since their wedding day. Sue, like her mother, had worked at C-E and for a time at Hamilton Standard, until their first child was born. And speaking of their children—David, 12, attends



1970 Villa Rose LL Seniors.

Middle School, played Little League for two years, and is currently in the school's band, with the trumpet as his instrument. He started his scouting career as a Cub and now into Boy Scouts, and an altar boy at St. Mary's Church.

His sister, Kristine, 10, attends South School, is a Girl Scout, has played T-Ball and into acrobatics.

Sue has two sisters, Judy Chapman of West Suffield and Pat Murphy of Windsor Locks. Phil has a brother, Charles, also living in town, and three sisters—Joan of Enfield, and twins: Donna in California and Linda residing in Long Island.

Philip F. Famiglietti, who we interviewed back in Febru-

ary, 1984, is a well known park commissioner and member of the GOP Party in town. The younger Phil is a Democrat and has served as an alternate on the Inland Wetlands Agency.

His working career began with a nine-month period at Excello in East Windsor, followed by four years at Hamilton Standard, a year at Colt's and back to Hamilton, where he's been since 1982 in the Manufacturing Engineering Division of the local company.

What keeps Phil busy, when

not at work or at his other "claim to fame," (my words, not his) activities? "I putter around the house, yard and garden...have played softball and volleyball (industrial), camping with guys from work." Phil is a big Red Sox and Giant fan, enjoys public television ("This Old House") and on regular TV... "Wonder Years," because, as he said, "The show is so much like my life, when I was growing up." Phil does like old movies...especially, "Jimmy

Stewart in "Its a Wonderful Life," Sue said, "When I'm not busy with the kids, I too enjoy the yard and into aerobics." Sue likes the lake life, while Phil is more a beach person. Their big trip was to Disney World in sunny Florida.

Both Phil and Sue are very much involved in the PTO, he's president of the North Street organization and also the Windsor Locks Elementary school's PTO. They are on the advisory committee of the North and South Schools. Phil was a den father (Cub Scouts) and now with son David in the Boy Scouts. Phil's philosophy is always "give 110 percent in what I'm doing...give up yourself, people depend on you."

When asked who he most admired...after a short time, said, "I'm an old movie buff...and I'd have to say Jimmy Stewart, for all his great pictures, h[is] been involved with over the years."

Epilog

Sue Famiglietti had one word to describe her Phil... "dedicated." And that's the impression one receives in knowing and talking to Phil, who was an All-Star 20 years ago. Today, like a lot of local folks he plays a different game and they do not call them all-stars, just an active citizen and parent, for him, the Scouts and PTO.

Philip Charles Famiglietti

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B D Delivery Service is a Team Effort for Munson Family

Bob and Dick Munson do have a sense of humor, but its all business when it comes to their company, B D Delivery Service, a local family and team effort since late 1985.

The twin sons of Donald and Sadie (Spalluto) Munson, "do everything together." Operating a business, working together on a daily basis, is no strange paradox, it presents no problems, has been a successful venture for these local men and their equally local wives, Gail (Hannigan) Munson and Joanne (Seaha) Munson.

Those familiar names of Munson, Hannigan, Seaha and Spalluto have all played an important role in this family affair, where they say, "everyone is involved," in addition to their motto, "Same Day Delivery."

The boys grew up on Spring Street, as did their brothers: Donald, Gary and Brian, and sisters, Carol Brown and Pat Misiek, who resides in New Orleans, with her husband, Dale, he of the 1965 Little League World Champs.

Robert Joseph Munson and Richard Munson graduated from the local high school in 1971. Incidentally, according to Bob, he's "a minute older and wiser," then his brother Dick.

At the age of 15, they joined the Civil Defense Fire Department and in 1972, became full firefighters, where today, they are still "actively involved." The local fire department is

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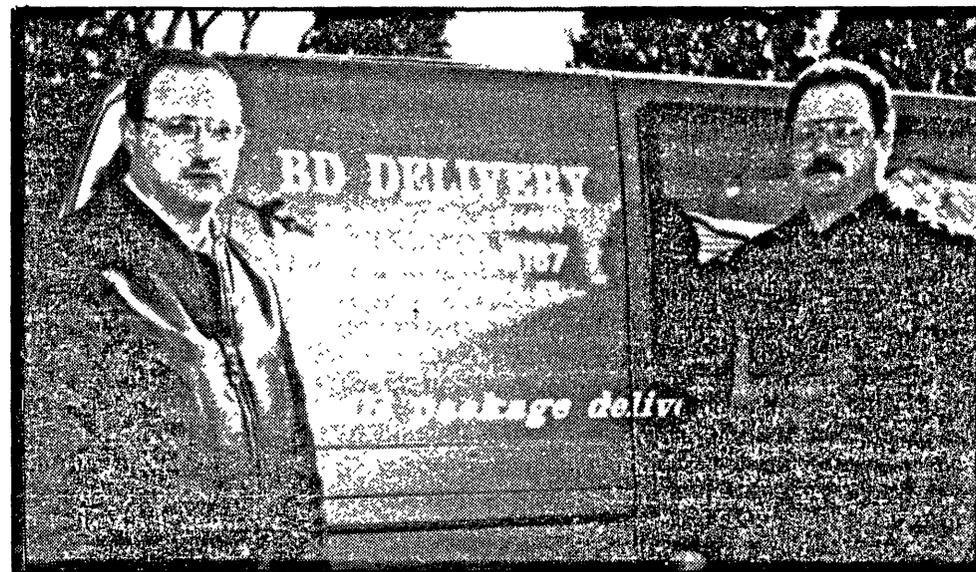
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well represented by their brother, Gary, cousins, Jack and Tom Cannone, Larry and Joey Spalluto, Uncle Frank "Speedy" Spalluto, and former member, brother Donald.

Back to the Bob and Dick show—Bob attended Springfield Technical Community College, for two years, in the study of "Fire Science." Bob and Dick's first employment was at Hamilton-Standard, with Dick leaving in '84, and Bob in '85. Both men were married before entering the world of delivery.

Bob is the oldest, so let's start with him—he met Gail Hannigan when she was a waitress at the East Windsor Grill. They were married on June 16, 1979. Gail was a 1976 high school grad and has lived in town all of her life. Today, she is office manager of the family business. They have four children: Christopher 8, second grader at North; Deborah, 6, first grader at North; Timothy is 3, and little Kimberly will be 2 in January.

Dick said, "I've known Joanne Seaha (WLHS 1972) all of our life ... she used to walk past the fire house (the old one) and I noticed her and we were married on Jan. 29, 1977. Dick, Bob and Gail, all



Dick and Bob Munson

agreed, Joanne was a great help in the beginning of the family business. Today, Joanne is employed as operations manager at C. Bruno & Son Inc. Dick and Joanne who "live just around the corner" from Bob and Gail, said, "Their children have two mothers and two fathers, we're that close."

B D Delivery Service ... whose idea? Saying, "Actually, both of us. (Bob and Dick), we wanted to do something (different)." They started at Bradley Airport, delivering lost baggage for Eastern Airlines. They earned an award from Eastern for excellence in this work. When it all started, it was at Bob's house ... then they diversified, delivering small packages, with the "same

day" philosophy, that works for them, even today. "We, of course, outgrew Bob's house," Dick said. Adding, "and with their four children, Gail had enough and who could blame her?" Then they opened their current location at 58 Main St. the condo offices at Church and Main.

Today, the business employs 17, with 10 trucks and two cars, and said, they will deliver anywhere. Just after our interview last month, Dick was off to make four stops in Florida. What do Bob and Dick do on their off delivery hours? First, they said, "Windsor Locks, an excellent little town. We wouldn't move for anything"

Bob, Gail, Dick and Joanne

(wasn't there a movie about them?) usually vacation together ... which has included the sights of Florida, Hawaii, Las Vegas, Arizona and New Orleans. Both men enjoy fishing, "watching the races at Riverside." When he finds the time, Dick has his own boat. They are Giants, Red Sox and Celtic fans. When it comes to television, sports is the only show on the dial. Dick did a special trip to Australia, and while there visited Joanne's brother, Jimmy Seaha, who resides down under with his family.

This Damon and Pythias relationship is one of two hard working guys and is probably further explained, when they were asked who they most

admired. There was total agreement: "Our parents and Chief Bill Reilly." Their parents, they said, "Are hard working, always there when we needed them (when starting our business) and now our father helps out in Gary's business." As for the late and well respected Fire Chief Bill Reilly—the Munson boys said, "Bill Reilly gave us the basic foundation for self-esteem and set us straight." They also mentioned that it was the Chief that started them in the Fife and Drum Corps of the fire department.

They couldn't come up with any favorite sayings, but Gail had no trouble—"You have to have a sense of humor (to work) with them."

They may be twins, and think alike, in most cases, however, Bob appears to be the jokester in the family, while Dick is more on the serious side. When asked for their philosophy Bob did say, "If you work at it, you will succeed."

Epilog

That's the story of Bob and Dick Munson, the young men who became volunteer firemen in their town and now local businessmen in a specialized delivery service.

Their close relationship is only enriched further by Gail and Joanne Munson. We not only found the closeness of four individuals, but what B D stands for ... better delivery by Bob and Dick.

Ray Graczyk, a Businessman with Local Lighting Connections

Raymond Walter Graczyk is leading the full life—businessman, sportsman, civic involvement, volunteer on the ski slopes, and father of two active daughters.

Sounds like a lot; it is, but not to hear Ray tell his story. The list of involvements and achievements came as a matter of course for this concerned local man in the "Lighting Center" business, with two locations, East Windsor and Windsor.

Before all that, the young man was growing up in Windsor Locks, the son of Walter and Helen (Zimowski) Graczyk, who reside in town. Walter came from Rockville; Helen, a true blue native. Ray has a brother, Mike, of town, and in the "Courier Service" business in the area.

He attended local schools, graduating from the high school in 1969. Did play freshman baseball, before that, Babe Ruth baseball and CYO basketball. Most of the time, after school, you would find Ray working at the popular Market on Main Street, now Geissler's. Ray said he made a lot of friends working at the store and the friendships have lasted over the years.

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

Soon after high school, Ray traded the groceries for the role of electrician apprentice in Local 35, in their five-year program. He said it was through the efforts of Bob Fahey that started Ray on his eventual career.

Ray worked on the Travelers building, Civic Center, Holiday Inn in Hartford, and other various projects, earning his electrician's license in 1974. It meant a lot of hard work, working days on the projects, nights in school participation. He went on to work for contractors until 1976, then the area was hit with a recession. He was unemployed for a time, doing odd jobs.

Another man on the apprentice program (during Ray's first years) was Pat Coughlin of Hartford. In 1977, they put their heads together and decided to go into business for themselves. They organized the Graco Electrical Supplies Inc. (GRA for Graczyk/CO for Coughlin).

Ray and Pat operate at two

locations, with the "Graco Lightings Centers" on Main in East Windsor and Windsor Avenue in Windsor. And how's business, Ray? "Not great, not bad."

More on the personal side of Ray Graczyk... He and Michele Curry were "high school sweethearts," with Michele graduating in 1970. She's a native daughter of Harvey and Jean (Fauteux) Curry. Harry was from North Brookfield, Mass. and Jean was from up north in Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada. Michele has a brother, Bruce, and three sisters: Susan, Pam and Lucille.

Ray and Michele were married on Nov. 6, 1972. They lived in Suffield two years before moving back to their home town. They have two active daughters, Anne, 11, and Lauren, 8. The girls both attend St. Adalbert's School in Enfield. Anne plays the piano and is "a good singer," according to dad, and into soccer, while Lauren takes ballet lessons.



Ray, Michele, Anne and Lauren Graczyk

Ray is active in many areas—vice president of the Connecticut Electrical Association, a trade group; on the Advisory Board of the Savings Bank of Manchester; and, locally, a member of the Windsor Locks Affordable Housing Task Force and the Knights of Columbus. Back in 1970, Ray joined the Connecticut Air National Guard and served six years.

His hobbies range from sail-

ing on the lakes of New Hampshire, skiing in the north country, and playing golf with the Windsor Locks League for many years and at Ellington Ridge. Ray sports a creditable 10 handicap. He's an old Yankee fan from 'way back but has switched to the Red Sox. He follows the Celtics and UConn on the basketball court. Vacations for the family have been summers in New Hampshire and a few trips to Puerto Rico.

One involvement, Ray is rightfully proud of ... as instructor, guide and teacher to blind students, the past five years, on the slopes of New Hampshire, in the art of skiing. Saying, "There are two instructors for each student ... we act as their eyes ... assisting the students down the snowy hills." Something real special.

When asked who he most admired, Ray said, "I have to mention immigrants, all immigrants, especially my four grandparents who came from Poland. I admired their courage ... leaving their homes and families..." Ray is a man who tries live by the famed "Golden Rule."

EPILOG

For Ray Graczyk, the "Golden Rule" must work. He paid his dues as an apprentice electrician and now with a fellow apprentice have their own business in two towns.

Michele was asked for a few chosen words to describe her husband... she said, "Just two words ... gregarious (and) optimist." And it probably takes those two ingredients to be successful in business today.

Politics and Sports

We recently met and interviewed young Mike Ellis, at the high school, for two reasons — he's the president of the 1991 Senior Class at the school, and a guy who loves football, and his specialty was quarterback, like his brother, Dave, before him.

The day we talked, Mike was on crutches, result of a football injury that closed his high school gridiron career for the Raiders.



Mike Ellis

With Michael Joseph Ellis, football was and is his sport, pastime and love. It's been four years since we interviewed Dave, when he was also the star quarterback at the high school.

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According to proud Mike, when talking about his brother, he said, "We are very close ... we talk on the phone about college and sports." An update on Dave ... he entered West Point after graduation here and next

year will be a 2nd Lieutenant, and Mike said "will stay in the service for the five-year requirement and then enter the world of Wall Street."

More on the president and quarterback ... Mike was born in Springfield, the son of Kathy (Travers) and Colbin "Lefty" Ellis. Mike began school in Detroit, continued on in nearby Windsor, when the family moved East, and the past 10 years has been a student in Windsor Locks.

He's another three-sport star the school can be proud of, in addition to his classmates, who picked him as their president.

For the record, his fellow officers are as follows: vice president, Mark Burke; secretary, Erin Morris; and treasurer, Chris Rucci.

And speaking of class officers ... what keeps them busy? According to President Ellis, "the magazine drive is important (a fundraiser), organizing next year's prom, and just working together for the class." Adding, "Next year will be hectic, with school work (he's in the top 15 percent), baseball, and other class responsibilities."

Back to football, when Mike was in the town's Midget football program, his brother was playing quarterback at the high school. In the midgets, Mike was a running back, and when he got to high school, with "Oh, Dave's your brother" routine, Mike became a quarterback, but had to wait a year, another Mike, Collins, that is, was the Raider signal caller.

Looking back at his football years, Mike was a member of Coach Pat Scelza's team that went 7 and 3 (Mike's first year), the second year, 4 and 5, and at the time of his injury the team was 1 and 1.

At the high school, when Mike is not at the books, played,

not only football but was a third baseman on the diamond and sprinter and relay runner on the indoor track team. With the football injury, which occurred in the third game of the season, Mike said, "Now that the operation is behind me and when the cast comes off, I should be ready for baseball in 1991, but not track."

When you play three sports you are bound to get to know your coaches. For Mike, he was impressed with all of them ... for him, "They were excellent, all the best you could have (as a player)." And the coaches: Jim O'Brien, his track coach, Dan Sullivan in baseball, and Coach Pat Scelza and assistant coach Ted Netcoh in football.

Does Mike have any favorite teachers? "All are great (spoken like a true politician) — Mr. Grasso and Mr. Oliva have been very helpful with the class officers, and Coach Pat Scelza has always been there for me."

Hobbies? "Football, the only thing I think about," he said. But in season, Mike does cheer for the New York Yankees and his favorite player was Graig Nettles. In football, the Miami Dolphins and favorite player ... Barry Sanders of Detroit. In the music department it's the heavy metal group, "Queensryche." TV "Cheers," and this year's big movie, "Ghost."

When you pin this outstanding athlete down, he says, "My dream is to travel ... been to Florida, Ohio, Michigan and all of New England, but want to see Europe and the rest of the world ... there's so much to see and I can't understand

why some people do not want to travel." Out of the mouth of one young man.

His future college plans ... "The University of Michigan." Will Mike, who was recently named the high school's Daughters of the American Revolution—Good Citizenship Award, play football in the Big Ten? "No, I'm too small, but fully intend to play intramural sports." About after college ... he said, "I want to be a history teacher."

EPILOG

Michael Joseph Ellis is a young active boy with a dream, has not forgotten who helped him along the path to become a better student and athlete.

When it came to admiration, Mike said, "My father started (my brother and I) in sports, our mother came to our games, and as for my brother, he has a strong attitude towards life ... Coach Scelza helped me a lot ... he's a coach with two championships and always with a small group of players."

He also mentioned Coaches Sullivan and O'Brien, his principal, Mr. Grasso, and teacher, Bob Oliva, were special to this boy. Probably the words of Coach Lou Holtz of Notre Dame summed it all up—"I do not believe a coach is anything more than a teacher—if you're a good teacher, you'll be a good coach. If you're a good coach, you'll be a good teacher. And to be good at either, you've got to have discipline. There is no way people can teach, or people can learn, if it's not in a disciplined environment. And discipline, by the way, is not what you do to people, it is what you do for them."

Are Both Important to Mike Ellis

Brennan Family Involved With The Town

Brian Scott Brennan said a person should be "open, honest and care for others." This native of Windsor Locks certainly emulates these qualities, in discussing his involvement with the Lions, Scouts and as father of two active youngsters.

Son, Michael, and daughter, Jennifer, have already chosen a list of presents they might expect from Santa in less than two weeks.

The children of Brian and Kathy Brennan were ready when asked what they had in mind, and it was dolls for Jennifer to "Nintendo" games for Michael.

Before we expose their gift list... some facts on their parents and large families they came from, and how Christmas is celebrated by the Brennan family.

Brian is the son of Richard and Alma (Carlson) Brennan, who we had the pleasure of a C&K interview in July, 1988. His dad, better known as Dick, is past president of the Lions and retired from Bradley International Airport as the Plant Facilities Engineer.

Brian has a sister, Nina, married to David Martineau, and three brothers: Glenn and his wife Phyllis, live in Windsor, Dean in Florida and Todd in Vermont.

This young father, who is called "happy and funny, which is real nice," by Kathy, graduated from the local high school in 1977. Since he was twelve, the Boy Scouts have played an important role in his growing up process. He was an active scout for Troop 263, and to-

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day, Troop 261 receives his attention, with Michael a Cub Scout, and dad, Assistant Den Leader, with Charles Bomas, the Den Leader.

Kathy Kennedy Brennan was born and raised in Suffield, until her marriage to Brian on September 15, 1979. She is the daughter of Richard and Annette (DuPont) Johnson of Suffield. She has three brothers, Billy and Matt of Suffield, Chris of Windsor Locks, and two sisters, Gale in Maine and Jane, in as cold, Minnesota.

Kathy graduated from Suffield High School in 1976, admitting, "I was very shy, but did manage to sing in the chorus for the school's musicals."

After high school, Brian and Kathy met while they were both working at the local First National Store. Brian had worked in the store since he was 16, during high school years. He went full time and worked at the store for seven years. In 1983, he went to work for his father-in-law, Richard Johnson, in the siding contracting business. This past April, Brian left the siding industry to work as a cabinet maker for Castlewood Enterprises.

Kathy, after leaving the store, worked three years in "pre-school teaching," in Suffield, and recently became involved in opening her own



The Brennan Family

"home pre-school day care." She said, "I enjoy the work and the children, and have always been active with (her own) in Suffield."

The children of Kathy and Brian... Michael, ten, a 4th grader at South School, is a Cub Scout, "likes to invent things, explore and catch frogs." He's also an active player when it comes to the game of "Nintendo." His sister, Jennifer, is eight, in the 2nd grade at North, "Likes to swim, reads a lot, is a member of the Brownies and attends dance class."

Saying, "We don't have much time for hobbies," Brian does enjoy woodworking, wiring (Mr. Fix-it around the

house)." The family have all tried camping, mostly in Rhode Island and Vermont. The family big trip was to Ixtapa, Mexico, located on the pacific Coast, 150 miles from Acapulco.

Brian joined the Lions in 1987, and has been active ever since, working on projects, such as, the Tag Sale, Pancake Breakfast, Easter Egg Hunt and distribution of holiday baskets. he's on the membership committee and currently the "Tail Twister," as his father before him.

Christmas time for the Brennan family has always been a family affair... on Christmas Eve, they go to Kathy's parents home for a big dinner and

exchange of gifts, while on Christmas Day, it's the home of his parents, another big dinner and exchange. Kathy remembers her earlier holidays, "it meant eating and more eating, and opening of the gifts from Santa." Brian also recalled his youthful days, but sometimes, they would have to wait for his father, he was busy plowing the heavy snows off the runways at Bradley.

Michael Brennan is looking forward to Santa's visit... would like to have a two-wheel scooter and more "Nintendo" games. Jennifer, as with other girls her age, has hopes for dolls... Barbie, Baby Alive, and a Ballerina Doll, plus a game "Lego For Girls."

When it came to who this

young father admired, he said, "I look up to my own father, who is understanding, caring and there when you need him." In addition, he mentioned his two grandfathers... Mike Brennan of East Windsor, "a loving and caring person," and Walter Carlson, of Florida. Now that Mr. Carlson is in warmer climate, Brian misses the family reunions in Vermont, when his grandparents lived there.

As with many of the Lions members... father and son are on the roles... Brian and Dick Brennan are both active and they may have the same philosophy... Brian saying, "Be open, honest and care for others," which certainly goes with the Lions motto... "We Serve."

Grandchild Celebrates

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL DECEMBER 21, 1990

The pleasure of being a grandfather is watching the grandchildren grow up. On this Friday before Christmas, please indulge a grandfather a column on his latest grandchild. Not only is this little Brittany Marie Creech's first Christmas, but on the 28th of December, she will also be celebrating her first birthday.

Brittany is the daughter of former residents, my daughter, Patricia Redmond Creech and my son-in-law, Bob Creech, who now make their home in nearby East Granby.

In other years, I took space in my favorite newspaper, with Christmas stories on our other grandchildren. . . Pat and Mike Deshaies, and Brittany's brother, Kevin, and sister, Lindsey. I was given the eye, "aren't you going to do a column on Brittany?" So you see, here again, writing a story on little Brittany.

But I must admit, I do enjoy writing something special, especially when it comes to grandchildren. Someone once said, "Grandchildren are gifts from God." And Rita and I have been very fortunate in

My grandfather (the man who writes these weekly stories) was born on Christmas Eve. I was born three days after, so I guess you would say, I'm almost a Christmas baby. But I hear, I'll get presents on Christ-

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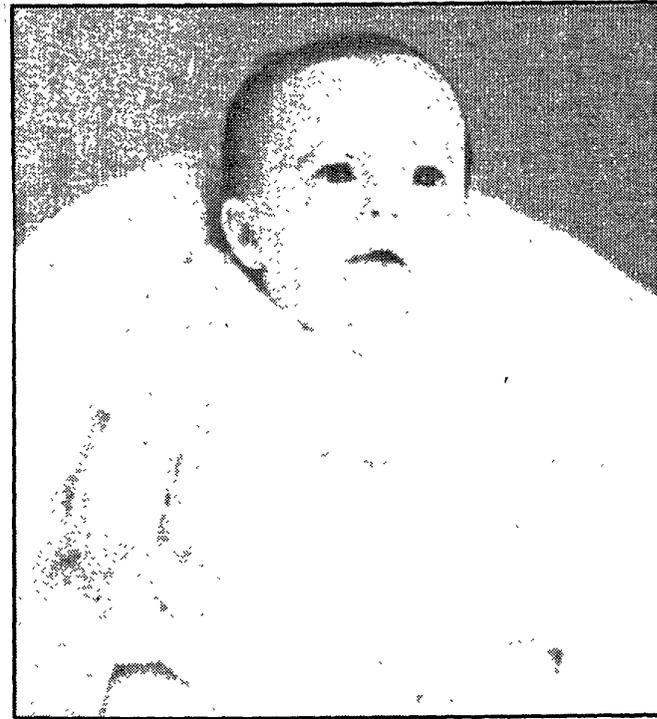
having five grandchildren and seeing them grow up and what better time to talk about them than Christmas.

If Brittany could talk. . . I have been listening to Kevin and Lindsey say what they are getting from Santa Claus. Of course, I'm not sure who this man is. . . Santa. But according to these two talkative kids, he's the man who comes down the chimney on Christmas morning and leaves all sorts of gifts for "good little kids." I guess Kevin and Lindsey are always good, or at least they say so.

Kevin wants a few more "Nintendo" games. It seems every day after school, he rushes down to the basement and sits in front of a screen and plays until our mother says dinner is ready. I just do not understand, but you must remember, I'm almost one year old, and this is all new to me.

mas morning and then again, in a few days. So I was better off, being born on the 28th.

I can't forget to say what Lindsey wants. . . she'll be five in March and I'm really not sure what she wants. She is



Brittany Marie Creech

pretty particular, when it comes to gifts, I'm told. You can be sure Grandma Rita will be making clothes for Kevin, Lindsey and me. She does buy a few things, to play with, but a lot of toys, according to Kevin, our other grandmother, Carol Creech, who lives in that town (Windsor Locks) where we spend some time, will come loaded with gifts that Santa left at her home for her grandchildren. So we kids make out, just fine. Of course, I'm just repeating what Kevin and Lindsey say. Those kids sure talk a lot, and everyone is waiting for me to talk. I'm just starting to walk, and that's enough trouble, for a little girl, that's almost one.

I am looking forward to my first Christmas and birthday, and then I find out if Kevin and Lindsey were right, when it comes to this special day. . . back to her grandfather.

That's what little Brittany is probably thinking about in her mind, as the days get closer to Christmas and her birthday. Wait till she sees a large tree in the living room. . . she surely will wonder what's going on in her home. It is a mystery. . . what little children, at that age, are thinking about as they watch their parents and other members of their families go about the business of living and talking about holidays, be it Christmas or a birthday.

So good people of Windsor Locks and East Granby, the Creech and Redmond family wish all a very Merry Christmas. May Santa Claus bring to your homes all the good things in life.

For Brittany, Kevin, Lindsey, Pat and Mike, it's been my pleasure to write a few words on their special days. Thanks again for your indulgence.

First Christmas and Birthday

1991—A New Year, A New Set of Gifts or Dreams for Local Folks

"An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves..."

What some of the local folks may want or dream of in the new year just around the corner:

John Gionfriddo/Dick Sterner - Another successful musical at the high school.

Raymond Grasso - May your new role at Rocky Hill High School be as successful as it was here.

Coach Mary Jane Hussey - To write a book... "How to Coach with a Baby."

Frankie Allen - A book on "How to Use My Irons."

Dave Yellen - Another Little League World Championship.

Hugh J. Donagher III - To understudy John Larroquette in "Night Court."

Paul Mona - A big box of Cuban cigars.

Bob Fahey - A book on "How to Beat Duke Marotta at Golf."

Coach Dan Sullivan - a few good (big) men on the court.

Christine Cullen - When is the Boston Marathon?

Barbara O'Brien - To write a book... "A Day at the Theater."

Ken Williams - Will someone please pick up my trash.

Joe Bonito - I'll play anywhere the Savage Brothers play.

Savage Brothers - When do we play the Civic Center?

Ed Brazalovich - A few more Yankee victories... Please!!

Dave Farr - Still one of the last Yankee fans... a big year??

Ray Roncari - To have a horse in the Kentucky Derby.

Barry Gray - Bet (Barry) will not go to Gov.-Elect Weicker's Inauguration Ball!

Ed Ferrari - Another two years on Church Street.

Sy Preli - Change of personnel on Church Street

Duke Marotta - Good weather for golf from May to September.

Jim McLaughlin - To write a book... "How to be a good sub in the KofC Golf League."

Cliff Randall - A tag sale with no strings.

Father Tim Meehan - To teach Father Robert Grace the game of golf.

Mike Wrabel - Hopes for a light snow fall this winter.

Chuck Bonadies - Political office, at the right time.

Norm Messier - Just like the ad... Norm "Keeps going," for the Lions.

John Lee - No "Digbe O'Dell" jokes in the new year.

Joe Barile - More volunteers for ambulance service.

Joe Cooper - A lot of successful meetings at President of the local Seniors.

Mickey Danyluk - To keep up the history of the town.

Gov. Elect Lowell Weicker - Don't forget the Firemen's Parade in July.

Sen. Con O'Leary and Rep. Carl Schiessl - You can now relax until 1993.

Windsor Locks Fire Department - Just the start of another hundred years of service.

VFW Sports Night - Another successful night, honoring a local sportsman.

Joe Netolicky - Any new fish stories for the new year?

Lenny Patient - He is ready for another cruise in 91.

Saul Goldfarb - To stay the most active Justice of the Peace in town.

George Scott - How about sharing your recipe for beef stew with the GOP?

Chief Joe LaPierre - Find out the secret of Coach Tom LaSorda's way of keeping down his weight.

Ralph McComb - When's the next veteran's parade?

Joe Ouellette - I still love to fly (Delta) and it shows.

Bob Rumbold - His own sports program on local television.

Aldo Sicbaldi - The year his

St. Louis Cards wake up.

Wendy Davies - A good year for our newest lawyer in town.

Dick Williams - Probably (by now) has recovered from the Red Sox Playoff loss.

Hugh Donagher Jr. - No problems at budget time.

Brian McKeown - Is there a Davies, Cangemi, Flanders or Tremblay in the girls' basketball program at the high school?

Russ Gabrielson - Still only a "Country Boy" at heart.

Paul Seaha - Flowers in all the town's parks.

Alice Clack - The year to run again?

Fran Aniello Sr. - Lessons on how to use his irons. (The same book Frankie Allen is looking for.)

And may the Lions, KofC, VFW, Rotary and other organizations prosper in the new year for their members and the town.

Have a good day, I mean, a good year, and a happy one!!

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JACK REDMOND

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL DECEMBER 28, 1990