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Raymond Draghi

Resident Has Fond Memories of 'Good Old Days'

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL JANUARY 4, 1991

Raymond Louis Draghi has been many things in his full life...a ball player, politician, factory employec, devoted father and husband and club organizer in his seventy plus years, and today retired, enjoying his ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The Center Street native has had many fond memories of the good old days in Windsor Locks where he grew up and spent the years, from his youth until his retirement.

Ray was the son of the late Frederick and Lena (Barberi) Draghi. He has a brother, Edward, now living in Enfield and a sister, Theresa Colombi, who resides in town.

Their father came from Italy, at the age of sixteen, lived in New York City for a time, worked on the railroad in Maine, came to Windsor Locks to visit his brother, John Draghi, decided to live here, and married Lena Barberi, a local girl. Mr. Draghi worked locally at Horton and at Montgomery, before going to Pratt & Whitney, retiring from the aircraft company.

Now for the active career of Ray Draghi...who attended local schools, worked on tobacco, as a young boy, on the fields, that are now called Bradley Airport.

His hobby and main sport was baseball. The oldtimers in town will remember the 119-pound lefty pitcher, with credentials fit for semi-pro or major league hurler. Ray averaged 12 to 13 strikeouts a game on local diamonds, in addition to other parks in the area.

cabbages & kings

JACK REDMOND

He played for the local team called "Kettle Brook." The way Ray tells the story... "we were a bunch of Center Street kids, all friendly, from happy families and I wanted to build a clubhouse." These young men, with organizer Ray Draghi taking the lead, persuaded a local turkey farmer to give them one of his prize turkeys for a raffle. It was a success and 13 boys had brand new maroon jackets with the name "Kettle Brook" suitably printed for easy recognition.

The team played in the Farmington Valley League, winning two championships in the 40s. Two of his teammates were John and Vic Sasali. Ray said the team was in the league for five seasons. When his pitching career was over, Ray turned to coaching and manager roles.

When Ray left school he wanted to earn a living and decided to go where his father worked, Pratt & Whitney. He was 18 at the time, it was 1935 and the depression has been felt around the country. But Ray knew what he wanted, some might call him spunky. He got a job and worked there (as an inspector in the Quality Assurance Department) for over 43 years, with his first retirement in 1978. He wanted more work, took a job for the next decade in Windsor at the Redington Counters Company.

Ray never went into the service, well, he almost did, going to New Haven with bags packed in 1945, only to find he was color blind, and was back at Pratt the next day.

Ray had a diversified career, but before telling his entire story the woman in Ray's life played a very important part. He had met Frances Greene, a local girl, at a social in the old Central Hall on Oak and Main, a gathering place for the youth of those times. They were married on November 30 1939, living on Grove Street and at the present home of Ray, on Center Street, opposite his favorite park, Pesci.

Frances, the daughter of the late Tom and Margaret Green, passed away in 1987. She was a high school grad and worked at the school's cafeteria for many years after her family was grown.

And speaking of the family, Frances and Ray had three children...Frances Rae Christian, who lives in West Suffield with her husband, Richard. They have four children. Margaret Flint and her husband, George, lives in town and also have four children. David, father of two, resides in Huntington, Mass. As mentioned, Ray has ten grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren to spoil year round.

On the local political scene, Ray was active for many years.



Ray Draghi, pitcher for Windsor Locks AA's (middle 30s.)

He was a member of the Democratic Town Committee, 28 years; Clerk of the Court, six years; Constable, 15 years; and on the Park Commission for 15 years. He served during the years of James Rabbitt and John Fitzpatrick. Ray was also friendly with the late Ella Grasso. As Clerk of the Court, he worked under Meyer Lynskey in the local court system.

As mentioned, Ray played with and organized the "Kettle Brook," team and club, and in addition, pitched for the Windsor Locks' AAs, while in high school and as an employee of Pratt, played in the Industrial League.

Other memories that we talked about was the time the famed New York Yankees stopped here for a game with Ray saying, "They played just off Route 159, near where the

now Public Works are located." Ray saw the great Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and Bill Dickey. One day, the Babe, always the showman, put on a golf exhibition, before the game, hitting golf balls from Route 159 into the Connecticut River. Ray said the balls hit half way across the river.

The other park, so familiar to Ray, is Pesci Park, just across the street from his home. He recalled when the park was filled with fans, watching semi-pro baseball and football, long before Little League would be a part of the history of Windsor Locks.

Speaking of Little League...Ray was a faithful fan, himself, of the 1965 Champs, led by Bob O'Connor and Russ Mattsen, and a great group of boys, honored last year on their 25th anniversary. In a recent Public Television Program, called "Dreams Go By," Ray played a small part in remembering the games won by the boys of that summer. (Unfortunately, he was listed as "Al Draghi," instead of Ray). However, Ray was pleased to do his bit for local history. He and Frances followed the boys that year and they had the best seat in the house...their house was across the street from the park.

On the subject of baseball, and when you talk to Ray, its the only game in town...he's a great Red Sox and Ted Williams fan, from way back. He did manage to get to attend many of the Yankee games at the stadium, due to the fact that he worked at Pratt with a cousin

of Yankee pitcher, Vic Raschi, a native of nearby Springfield. According to Ray, Vic would receive a call from his cousin for tickets to a game, he and Ray would drive to New York, have the best seats in the house that Ruth built, even get into the club house and Ray said, "We met Yogi Berra., Johnny Mize, Ally Reynolds, Phil Rizzuto and Mickey Mantle."

When Ray is not, these days, watching sports in television, he's into finishing furniture and at holiday time, does a lot of the cooking for the family reunions.

When the children were small, Ray said, they made many trips to the Connecticut Sound, Lake George and Cape Cod. Ray and Frances made two memorable trips to the island of Bermuda, that stands out in his memory bank.

When it came to admiration of others, Ray said, "My father, there wasn't much he couldn't do...I probably picked up a lot from him, especially in wood working." Ray's personal philosophy... "Stay healthy, (Ray has had his share of operations)...don't give up...I love all kids, and enjoy helping people."

Epilog

Raymond Louis Draghi, a true native son, is known around the Center Street area, as just "Pop," And "Pop" has led an interesting and eventful life, with fond memories of Frances, his family, baseball and his town.

Its been said before, but it sort of fits Ray well... "Recall it as often as you wish, a happy memory never wears out."

Living An Active Lifestyle In Retirement

Lila Gagnon was from Fall River, Mass., Bob Farmer was from Waterbury, Vermont. They met while working at Pratt and Whitney, married, and today, have five children, nine grandchildren, enjoying the good life in retirement.

However, not just content to being retired and sitting in a rocking chair, Lila and Bob Farmer are both active...traveling, doing volunteer work, Bob plays a good game of golf, until the snow came, and Lila is a newly appointed Eucharistic Minister at St. Robert's Church.

They both come from large families. Lila, one of ten, Bob had three sisters. They both grew up in their respective birthplaces, with Lila moving to Manchester at 10, and Bob, after a tour of duty in the Navy, came to East Hartford for employment.

Lila Gagnon Farmer was the daughter of the late Adelbert and Ida Gagnon of Fall River. Mr. Gagnon brought his family to Connecticut to work at Pratt.

Lila was graduated from Manchester High School in 1950, where she excelled as a cheerleader, was on the student council, on the swim team, and a member of the cappella choir.

Her husband of 37 years, Robert Moses Farmer Jr. grew up in the area of Mount Snowe where skiing was a full-time sport in the winter months.

Bob was the son of the late Robert Sr. and Alexandria Farmer. Mr. Farmer was a long-time owner of a local grocery store and butcher shop in Waterbury. Mrs. Farmer was originally from Scotland. Bob has a sister, Ann, living in Oregon, and two of their sisters have passed away, Roberta and Florence.

Bob was a three-letter athlete at Waterbury High School. He played four years on the

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basketball, baseball and soccer teams. He hadn't taken up the game of golf until later.

Not long after graduation from high school, Bob joined the U.S. Navy. It was October 1948, and he served four years. He, indeed, joined the Navy to see the world. After boot camp at Great Lakes, Bob spent time at the Philadelphia and Brooklyn Naval Yards before shipping out to Italy, England, Africa and Mediterranean Sea. When the Korean War broke out, Bob was off to the other side of the world, with duty on the USS Corregidor, traveling to Korea and Japan. He was discharged in October, 1952.

Bob returned to Vermont, but found "nothing to do," he said. He came south to visit his sister in East Hartford, went to work at Pratt and also found his girl for life. They both agreed, "It was a short agreement." The Pratt workers were married on July 10, 1953. Lila would work two more years, until the first of their five children was born. Bob stayed at Pratt until Jan. 31, 1987, with 34 years of service. Bob was an important part of the Pratt plant in the Facilities Service end of the large aircraft factory.

The five children of Lila and Bob, Michael, married to Lynn Monteneri, they live in Enfield, and have three children; Susan and Dan Danis reside in Burlington, Vt. with their two children; Judi and Toni Mercadante live across the river in South Windsor with their two children; and a girl I worked with at C-E, Sandy, she and her husband, David Marshall, choose Enfield to live with their two children.

William lives in town, is now

a construction worker on the highway and was quite an athlete as a young boy growing up. Bill played varsity basketball and football at the local high school. He received his football in the midget program, where he received the MVP award. Before high school, Bill played little.

Lila and Bob lived in Manchester the first six years of their life together, before moving to Windsor Locks in 1961. Bob has been a member of the local Knights of Columbus for over 25 years and currently plays golf in the Knight's league. Lila, in addition to her ministerial duties at St. Robert's, is also the President of the Women's Society. And speaking of St. Robert's, Lila has joined an active group. Helen Fitz, Arlene Scanlon, Joe Fiore, Howard White, Tony Monteneri, Glynn Crapo and Rudy Desroches.

This active couple enjoy reading, and when it comes to yard work, Bob is a handyman, at times helping the neighbors. They are involved in Meals on Wheels, and drive folks to the doctors.

Vacation time usually means traveling by car cross country. The Farmers have experienced the thrills and beauty of the Rocky Mountains, West Coast, South Carolina and Florida, among some of their stops. When it comes to sports, Bob was an old Brooklyn Dodger fan, but when the team moved to the West Coast he lost interest. However, he does follow the N.Y. Giants, UConn and the Whalers. A few years back, Bob was active in the local little league program as a manager with Coach Bob Logan. After coaching, he took

up the task of little league umpire.

When admiration for others was mentioned, Bob said, "My dad, a good man, formed a lot of my habits, I always wanted to grow up like him."

Lila said, "My mother, she had a hard life, but was always a cheerful person." Bob added, "Lila is the best thing that ever happened to me. Lila's philosophy is to smile.

When it came to a favorite saying, Bob recalled, Bob said, "I know I usually say, 'That aint going anywhere.'"

Epilog

That's the story of Bob and Lila Farmer, and the rest of the family. And it seems they were always going somewhere. When I first asked Lila for an interview, she said, "We're just plain folks." Maybe so, but it's folks like the Farmers who epitomize the following (from a survey)... "Our surveys provide convincing evidence that the American people are far more solid than they are given credit. They are more solid in their aspirations and values, and less materialistic than generally assumed. Our findings lead me to conclude that the doomsayers of family life are wrong. The family structure, and its underlying values are alive and well, thriving in the rich, spiritual soil that is America."

Editor's Note: This is Jack Redmond's 700th Cabbages and Kings interview.

Columnist Mihir Patel Has Hopes for Aerospace Career

Mihir K. Patel is the local high school columnist for the Hartford Courant, reporting the news and activities at the Raider school.

Now in his senior year, Mihir has not made up his mind what college (he's considering nine) he will attend this fall. However, the Hartford-born young man knows what he hopes his eventual goal will be — aerospace engineer.

He has had a family background in engineering. His father is an engineer at Combustion Engineering Inc., while his brother is studying mechanical engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y.

Mihir is the son of Kasenbhai Patel and Gitaben Kasen Patel, who reside in town. Both of his parents were born in India. They were college trained and married in Mr. Patel's small farming community, north of Bombay. Mihir's brother, Nirid, was born in India, coming to America with his parents at a young age.

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Mihir's father, an engineer in India, first worked at Travelers after settling in East Hartford. He joined C-E 15 years ago, now known as ABB (Asea Brown Boveri). Mihir's mother is currently employed at Redington Counters.

Mihir was born in Hartford. His family lived in East Hartford for five years before moving to Windsor Locks. He had started kindergarten in East Hartford, but completed his first year of school at our South Street School.

At the high school, Mihir, or as his fellow students call him ("affectionately," he said.) "Meat Ball" or "Meat Head," has been a busy scholar and active on the sports scene. He's a member of the indoor spring track team (middle distance) and in the National Honor Society, Math Team and Model United Nations.

As for his journalistic talents, Mihir writes a monthly column for the newspaper, reporting on news of the students in the Music Department, Student Council activities, the sports calendar and any other news at the high school. He was chosen for the role as reporter by the then-principal, Raymond Grasso.

When this active student is not at school, any spare time is devoted to table tennis, some basketball and chess. He is an avid Boston fan, rooting for the Sox, Celtics and Patriots. When it comes to music, its rap and some pop. "Cheers" and "Head of the Class," are his favorites on the tube. He enjoys adventure movies, like "Indiana Jones," and like any American boy, loves pizza and hamburgers.

Yes, Mihir has traveled to his folks' native soil. In fact,



Mihir K. Patel

he has made two trips there. The first time he was too young to remember. A few years ago, the second trip was more memorable, and he recalled, it took 26 hours. He did visit his parents' home town and found India "quite different ... my first impressions ... it was not like America, very few cars,

no telephones, but of course, Bombay is a large city."

Stateside, Mihir has made a trip to sunny Florida on one occasion.

As for his future plans, he said, "My father has always advised me in a positive way, never forcing me to be what I do not want, an engineer." ("It's

something I always wanted to be"). He has been accepted at the University of Connecticut and Georgia Tech, has applied to seven other schools, which include his first choice — Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

When he was asked who had influenced him among world politics and leaders, Mihir said, "I would say three men: Gandhi, John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr., because they worked for their own causes, by peaceful methods."

The question of a personal philosophy went like this — "Do well in school, be honest, independent, (but) also strive for your goals, whatever they may be."

Gandhi, JFK and Reverend King all had famous quotes, long remembered and used frequently. One of those quotes was recalled by Mihir of Gandhi, "Courage, endurance, fearlessness and above all, self-sacrificing are the qualities required of our leaders."

Law is a Family Affair

All you television fans of "LA Law," move over, right here in Windsor Locks, we have our own WL Law, with the Storms family of Ron, Scott and Dale.

In March, 1976, we interviewed the patriarch of this legal family, Ronald F. Storms. Ron is still going strong in local business and political circles. The past ten years, he's had a partner, his son, Scott A. Storms. Seven years ago, the name of Dale Ann Storms, Scott's wife, was added to the firm to make to truly WL Law, with a more friendlier demeanor than that TV make believe law firm.

This month we interviewed Scott and Dale, squeezing in our chat before Scott was off to a Lion's meeting.

When you talk to this friendly couple, its the family, the boys, the Lions and law practice, that you just know, receives their loyal and concerned attention.

Dale, his wife of nine years, is his support, with Scott giving Dale a great deal of credit, especially when he was District Governor of the Lions, saying, "She was my partner in service," and he could not have achieved the success in this important role, without her.

Second Generation

This will be the story of Scott, Dale, their two sons, Drew and Kyle, the second generation of Storms serving the community, in what Scott describes, referring to his legal practice . . . "I'm like a country doctor, its my job (general practice)," and he's been at it since he left Bridgeport Law School, where he met Dale Ann Feinblatt, both 1980 grads of the Connecticut school.

Scott is not a native, but he said, "Windsor Locks, the only hometown, I have ever known." Back in the 50s, (his

dad in the U.S. Air Force) Scott was" born in Wichita Falls, Texas. However, at the age of two, the family settled in town, so you can see why Scott figures its, "the only hometown." Scott's parents have also called Windsor Locks their home since the early 60s. Ron Storms was from Salisbury, Ct., Scott's mother, Polly Ann Miller Storms, was from Sheffield, Mass. Ron is a grad of Trinity College and UConn Law School, and has been active in town for many years, and currently on the Republican Town Committee.

Local Schools

Back to their son, Scott attended local grammar schools, and Hotchkiss High School (in Lakeview, Ct, where his dad was a grad) Class of 1973. Son like father, Scott was an Eagle Scout, as was Ron. When it came to picking a career, Scott was undecided, maybe teaching, was a history major at the University of Hartford. But the call to follow his dad's path, was probably the biggest factor (he admits). After receiving a degree in Hartford in 1977, Scott went on to the Bridgeport Law School.

Before telling Dale's story, another Storm family connection: Scott has two sisters, Kim, born in Nebraska (another of dad's stops), now lives in Ann Arbor, Mich. with her husband, Tom Ufer, and their five children. Holly, the athlete in the family, at high school, was born in Windsor Locks, now resides in Cincinnati, Ohio, with her husband, Tom Muehlenkamp and their three children.

Now to the mother of two sons, and a lawyer in her own

right. . . Dale Ann Feinblatt Storms, the daughter of Dr. Theodore and Sandy Feinblatt, was born in Brooklyn, New York (Flatbush and Church...for any former residents of that popular place). Her father, now retired from his medical practice, was a native of Brooklyn. Mrs. Feinblatt, was from Penn. and now enjoys retirement in Florida, with the good doctor. She was a nurse, and one of her claims to fame was, as part of her training, working at the famed Ebbets Field, treating and meeting some of the famed Dodgers. To this day, Sandy is still a loyal Dodger fan.

At the age of 14, Dale's family moved to Chappaqua, New York, in Westchester County, where she completed high school in 1972. She went on to Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Penn. With degree in hand, Dale worked a year in Allentown, before attending Bridgeport Law School, and as mentioned, met her future husband. Dale has a brother, Randall McGavock, who lives and works in Arizona.

Married in 1981

Scott and Dale were married in June of 1981, and have lived in town since their wedding day. Their two sons...Drew and Kyle. Drew, 7 1/2, a student at North (where his mother is active in the PTO), is involved in Cub Scouts, a real sports fan. Kyle, 5, attends the Windsor Locks Congregational Church Nursery School and like Drew, is into gymnastics and learning the finer points of playing hockey, in the 4-8 age group, at the Enfield Twin Rinks. Both boys attend Sun-

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Scott, Dale, Drew and Kyle Storms

day School at their church, (Windsor Locks Congregational) where their parents are very active. Other activities include Scott's membership in the Masons. Dale was on the New Library Committee and had served on the Planning & Zoning in town.

Scott had joined the family legal firm in 1980, while Dale joined in 1983, after a few years with the Hartford Insurance Group, until Drew was born. Scott said, "Dale gives her time to the boys, and also helps out with the clerical end of the legal practice." Scott had a try for the political part of town, running against fellow lawyer, Dave Wenc, in the 1982 campaign for the House of Representatives.

When it comes to hobbies, Scott and his father are in a different league, with their own small plane (at Bradley), a 4-seater, with both holding pilot licences. Scott has other hobbies, that you might say, fall into a different category...skiing, tennis, and following the New York Giants.

Vacations have been to Florida, Bermuda, upper New

England and of course, the annual Lions conventions, in such places as . . . Denver, Miami, Nashville and New Mexico.

Scott entered the service of Lionism in 1973, as the youngest member of the Windsor Locks Lions Club. During his seventeen years as a Lion, he had held major offices of his club and as President in 1984-1985. He has served on the District Cabinet since 1985, and has held the positions of Cabinet Chairman for the Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation, Sight Conservation and Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer. He has received numerous awards including an

International President's Certificate of Appreciation and three District Governor's Appreciation Awards. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation for the past three years and served on the Board of Directors of Fidelco (Fidelco Guide Dog foundation).

Scott's personal comments on his Lions activity. . . "Its helping others, it gives one a great feeling, its giving back to the community, the way my father brought us up and (I must add) Dale is just as active. . . "

Epilog

That's the story of the second generation of the Storms family . . . Scott, Dale, Drew and Kyle. Scott and Dale were asked who they most admired . . . both chose their fathers. Scott, "My dad, strong personality." Dale, "My father, has a good sense of humor, (when he talks to others, he makes them all (seem) very important." Dale agreed with Scott's philosophy. . . "Be a bridge builder today, and tomorrow for others that come after us will be a better place." They both had favorite sayings . . . Dale. . . "May you live as long as you wish, and love as long as you live." Scott . . . "with storms you get rainbows." It seems to fit this most happy couple.

for the Storms

Remotti Family Involved In the Community

Claudio Paul Remotti came to America from his native Italy at the age of two. The year was 1947. Today Claudio is the father of four talented children. He is an Air Force veteran of four years service for his adopted country and currently a member of the American Legion.

Called Claud by his friends and co-workers, he adjusted easily to his new home, after arrival from Garbana, a small town in the northern part of Italy, with his parents, Peter and Gian Remotti, who also reside in Windsor Locks.

As in many cases, the father came to the states from Europe to find employment and a new home and start for his family. He would eventually send for his family, as Peter did in 1947.

Peter (known as Pietro in his native country) came to America the year before to Hartford, where his mother's uncle lived. Peter took up the trade of a mason, and then sent for his family.

Claud has a brother, Louis Remotti, who was born in the states and is a resident of Hartford. At the age of three, Claud's parents moved to town. Claud attended local grammar schools and graduated from the high school in 1965. He said, he hadn't time for sports as he worked a lot of part-time jobs.

After high school, he took a job at Pratt & Whitney as a machine operator for a few months, but decided it was not fulfilling.

For the next year, he was a member of the P&W apprentice program, where he studied the tool and die trade. However, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, serving four years, saying, "Not bad service, two years in Nevada and a few trips to Las Vegas and two years in Florida."

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In Florida, he was stationed at the Eglin Air Force Base. With some time on his hands, the airman wanted to try a much different trade than machine operator or tool and die, to become a pilot, at a nearby flight school. He was to take private lessons and did so, but also met the secretary of the school, Margaret Stanley. Claud was not only successful in flying, but married the secretary in June, 1971.

After discharge from the service, he also attended a flight school in Tampa for a commercial license.

But more important, the bride and former airman came north to live, in Windsor Locks. Margaret was born in Crestview, Florida, the daughter of William and Lois Stanley, who were from and still reside in Baker, Florida, located in the northwestern part of the

sunny state. Margaret, also known as Marge, had two brothers, David and John, who live in Florida.

The talented children of Claud and Marge...Melissa, 13, an 8th grader at the Middle School, has a full activity schedule...collects coins, plays in the school band, jazz stage band, was a member of the Water Jets and her instruments, include the flute, piano, French horn and tenor sax. Melissa's long range plan is to become an elementary teacher. Jason, 11, in the 5th grade at South, is an altar boy at St. Mary's, a veteran of the Water Jets, favorite sport is football, does follow the New York Mets and plays the drums in the school band. James, 8 also at South, collects baseball cards, is a swimmer like his brother and sister before him, into Cub Scouts where his father and mother are assistant leaders, Troop 261. Little Mary, just two years old, but anxiously waiting in the wings to follow her brothers and sister.

Another note on Melissa, she was chosen as a TAG student (Talented and Gifted), with main requirements being high grades and working on extra projects in school and home.

Back to their Dad's working career after the service. Claud returned to Connecticut, went to work at the East Windsor facility of Combustion Engineering. Fifteen years of service ended when the plant closed down. After a few odd jobs, Claud joined Emhart two years ago in Windsor.

Claud is what you would call a man who is always "tinkering around the house." He's also a collector of things, always building things according to Marge. When pinned down, woodworking is one of his main hobbies, along with the enthusiasm for science fiction and a fan of "Star Trek."

Vacation for the family meant a trip to Florida and to visit the grandparents and a look at the famed Disney World. In 1960, Claud, his brother and parents made a journey to Italy to see the home town one more time. It was their first cruise (over) and a return trip by plane. Claud, looking back at that vacation said, "The region was still recovering from World War II, cities were still in ruins."

Two years ago, Claud wanted to "make a difference," and joined the American Legion. He is currently the historian of the Post and said, "I

have always been partial to veterans and the benefits should be retained, and I just might make a difference."

Epilog

Claudio Paul Remotti, active in scouting and concerned about veterans affairs, has lived in his adopted country most of his life and served in the armed forces.

He appears to be a quiet man, "takes one day at a time," admires no individual in particular, only to say, "Anyone who started at rock bottom, and achieved success," is a person to be admired. He did give one example of such a person, writer Tom Clancy, who penned "Hunt for Red October."

It was difficult for Marge to come up with one word to describe this friendly quiet father of four, saying, "Maybe two words, helpful and great." That said it all for a man called Claud, who might be just a "trekie" at heart.

Jack Carragher Has Traveled

The travels and work assignments of Jack Carragher took him to many interesting places, names like United Arab Emirates, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Northern Ireland and Blackpool, England.

Jack's story is also one of family, employment in the above exotic places, and locally his social activities with the KofC.

With some of the above distant places, now familiar to so many because of world events, were locations Jack worked, lived and even today enjoys vacation with his family, and remembering the honeymoon with his pretty wife, Anna, at Blackpool.

John Thomas Carragher is a most happy and interesting man, who knows what he wants, has worked from San Francisco to the Persian Gulf for United Technologies Corp., enjoys the good life, father of five children and four grandchildren, and just to round out a full career, Jack served with the Royal Air Force during the Berlin airlift in the '40s.

Where did this globetrotter begin his life? Newark, New Jersey, of all places. He was the son of the late Francis Carragher and Margaret (Grant) Carragher, who still resides in Windsor Locks. The Carraghers were born in Scotland, came to America, met in New Jersey, and were then married.

When Jack was a little over three, the family, which also included Jack's sister Alice, who was born in the states, traveled back to their parents' homeland ... Glasgow, Scotland. Another sister of Jack's was born in Scotland, Dorothy

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Lee, who now lives in Enfield with her husband, Raymond Lee.

It was in the '30s when the Carraghers moved back, with Jack and his sisters entering school. Among Jack's classmates was Jim Lennon. They had been friends since they were 11 years old. Jim, a native of Glasgow, became a member of the family by marrying Alice. They too came to America and settled in Windsor Locks. Back in November 1978, Jim and Alice were subjects of a C&K column.

At the age of 18 Jack enlisted in England's Royal Air Force, serving from 1948 to 1950, mostly as a mechanic during the famed Berlin Air Lift.

The next 25 years found Jack in different areas of work, his wedding to Anna Forrester, her raising five children and Jack would probably agree, an exciting life style.

First his marriage to Anna. In 1951, fresh from his airman's time, Jack was persuaded to attend a dance, where he met young Anna. As the story goes, Anna said she was 18, was actually 15. He found out later from his sister, and had the feeling ... "I'll see you when you grow up..."

Anna did grow up and Jack did see her. They were married on June 11, 1955 and honeymooned in Blackpool, England (seaside resort in Lancashire, on the Irish Sea). According to Jack, millions of

visitors come to this popular resort every year. When they were on their honeymoon, they loved the place, purchased a home, decided to live in their new home, still own today, and use it (as do friends and relatives) whenever the family travels to England for yearly vacations.

Anna was the daughter of the late John Forrester and Agnes Forrester who today resides in Blackpool, England. Anna, according to her proud husband, had won two beauty contests ... Anna was "Miss Scotland and Miss Isle of Man."

Back to Jack's employment ... for a time he worked in Northern Ireland for DuPont. In the '60s, and due to the trouble in Ireland, Jack and Anna made a trip to the states, to visit his mother, sister, here in Windsor Locks and old friend, Jim Lennon. They decided to stay, with Jack taking a position in New York City for a few months. The year was 1966, and Jack gave up the job in the big city and came to Windsor Locks.

Jack joined Hamilton-Standard's Engineering Department, and just to keep up his traveling schedule, worked in San Francisco for a time, and then another assignment half-way across the world to Saudi Arabia and Iran, as part of United Tech. Jack said it was the time (in Iran) of the reign of the Shah. He spent four years in that troubled area, saying, "I know the Gulf very

TownsPeople



The Carragher Family in 1977—Brent, Barry, Kim, Grant, Mark, Jack and Anna.

well ... (but it was not all work) I would meet Anna and the children in England, at our favorite place," from time to time during his stay in the Middle East.

The five children, an important part of Jack and Anna's life — are all grads of WLHS—the boys all played Little League.

Barry, currently in England, visiting his grandmother. Kim, married to John Russell, have a home in Wethersfield, and they are awaiting their first child (at this writing). Grant is married to Mary Callahan and live in town with their son, Dylen. Grant played soccer for the Raider school, with the next son, Brent, the football player in the family, lives at home. Mark is married to Eva Anderson, they reside in town

with their two children, Catherine and Ian.

Admitting "I'm a busy guy," and not much time for any specific hobbies, Jack does find time and pleasure in playing cards and shooting pool, both in KofC Leagues. The set-back card game was organized years ago by Jack and his buddies, Jim Lennon, Larry Damato, Rich Miller and the late Edward Olisky. To be honest, he said, traveling was his and Anna's main diversion. When it comes to sports, for Jack, only one sport and one team, the New York Giants. As for the Knights of Columbus, Jack joined in 1967, is a former Grand Knight of Council 26 and has always been active. He was a member of Hamilton's ToastMaster group a few years back.

Who does this versatile individual admire? "Obviously, Anna, because she puts up with me," he said, with his Scottish smile. His personal philosophy ... "Never do anything to someone, that you would not want done to yourself." Anna's one word description of her husband ... "workaholic."

EPILOG

John Thomas Carragher, employee in many distant lands, knows where to enjoy life with the family, has roots in many places. Came across two sayings, Jack may well appreciate: Arabian proverb ... "He who has health has hope, and he who has hope has everything." Persian proverb ... "Trust in God ... but tie your camel tight."

the World Over

Bowling Is The Name

We called Marge Bowen because she was a member of the three-citizen panel of the local Jury Committee. However, a bigger story unfolded when we met Marge and Burney Bowen at their comfortable home on North Street.

The Bowens have lived in town the past 11 years and have made bowling the big pins at Bradley Lanes a full-time hobby and great way to be active in the retirement years. It's not unusual for this congenial couple to be hitting the pins in three different leagues, be it morning, noon or nighttime.

Marge and Burney have traveled a great deal, taking in the sights from coast to coast, usually visiting one of their children. And it's quite a family — five children, 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

We must go back a few

Cabbages and Knigs

JACK REDMOND

years when Marjorie Blanchard Bowen was living on an island off the coast of Maine—Mt. Desert Island. A large island, she said, where she grew up on the family farm, the daughter of the late Holsey and Sarah Blanchard. Marge attended school on the island and in Boston, before graduating from high school in 1943. Did she have any career highs? “Yes,” she said, “I wanted to be a doctor, but it just didn't turn out that way, so I attended the Waltham (Mass.) School of Nursing.” During World War II, Marge served in the Cadet Nursing Corps in that area.

Burney Bowen was a na-

tive of Hartford, attended local schools and some time in Vermont, before entering the U.S. Army in 1942. For more than a year Burney was a member of the Military Police, stationed in Texas. He was the son of the late Homer Bowen. His mother, Hazel Bowen, a spry 90-year-old, currently resides at an Enfield convalescent home. Marge and Burney proudly said, “We take her for a ride every Sunday, and she enjoys the change of scenery.”

Marge and Burney were married in June, 1975, first living in nearby Granby for five years before settling in Windsor Locks. Before detail-

Of The Game for The Bowens

ing their main activity (and her civic duties), with years of employment ... the family of Marge and Burney Bowen ... Paul, Dale, JoAnn, Michael and Cheryl.

Paul and Joyce live in town and have four children; Dale and Andrea are on the west coast, in Hisperia, Calif., with their two children; JoAnn and her husband, William Coates, reside in town and have three children; Michael and Bonnie live in sunny Jacksonville, Fla. with their two children; Cheryl and Preston Jackson call Rincon, Ga. home. Cheryl is a Penney High School grad, with Michael graduating from East Hartford High, and Paul, Dale and JoAnn from East Windsor High School. There was another son, James, who lived in Windsor, who passed away in 1990, leaving two children. So, one can easily see why Marge and Burney travel from coast to coast visiting their children and grandkids.

Informally Retired

And that employment record, Burney had two main jobs, both lasting 23 years each, at Colt's and Terry Steam. He is probably called informally retired, since February 1983. Marge had a longtime service record with Cigna, with just over 19 years of office procedures.

Locally, Burney joined the American Legion Post three years ago. He and Marge are members of the Windsor Locks Historical Society and the town's Senior Citizens Club, but admit, at times, too busy to be active.

As mentioned, bowling is their name of the game. When not hitting the pins at Bradley, Burney raises roses, Marge is an avid reader, "plays around with computers," swims at a health club in Manchester. Both enjoy playing cards. Travel has been to California, Georgia, Florida and most of New England.

Area Coaches

To pass on their love of bowling and knowledge of the game, Marge and Burney are coaches of area youth (ages 5 to 18) every Saturday morning at Bradley. Burney sports a 180 average in league com-



Marge and Burney Bowen

petition and Marge is not that far behind, with 165. Burney has bowled a perfect 300 game, while Marge's high game was 263. In addition, Marge is secretary of the KofC Mixed Bowling League.

When ABC Sports comes to Bradley for the annual ProTour, you can be sure Marge and Burney will be there, as spectators and also among the many workers that are required for such a large event, shown nationally on television. They have both participated in a Pro Bowling Camp, what they called "intensive training" by pro bowlers. For the record, and many years ago, Marge Blanchard was a champion duckpin bowler and has many trophies to remember those days.

Jury Committee Member

The past three years, Marge has been a member of the local Jury Committee, along with Howard White and John Harnedy. According to Marge, the committee meets once a year. She said, explaining the procedure on how jury candidates are selected ... "The voting lists of the town, containing the names of citizens, also lists numbers assigned to each voter ... actually," she said, "it's a lottery ... there are

usually 600 numbers selected, from the list of names, and then submitted to the State of Connecticut for eventual jury selection, at a later date." Adding, "It's a clerical procedure, and it's been good working with John and Howard."

Marge was asked who she most admired. She said, "Tom Dooley, who was known for helping people, who required medical assistance." Mr. Dooley (1927-1961) was known as the "jungle doctor, noted for efforts to supply medical aid to underdeveloped countries."

Her philosophy has always been to "live a good life, give help and enjoy life."

EPILOG

Marge and Burney Bowen, with bowling, civic responsibility, veteran affairs and keeping up with a large family, the real name of their game of life, in the retirement years.

When I entered the Bowen home, I was greeted by the family dog who showed a lot of enthusiasm, while the family cat motionless, in its favorite basket. I believe the Bowens would appreciate the following ... "In order to maintain a well-balanced perspective, the person who has a dog to worship him should also have a cat to ignore him."

Amo Has Lead in

I first saw Michelle Patrice Amo at the high school gym, singing the "Star-Spangled Banner," before one of the Raiders' basketball games.

Asking a few nearby students... "What's her name?" And by the way, what's the name of this year's musical... if they knew? The students, very informative to this older fan, said, "Guys and Dolls." What about Michelle? "Oh, she has the lead," they said, in the famed Broadway and movie musical. This annual (and always show-stopper) production will be the senior class presentation, and will be staged the latter part of March.

We had to find out more about this pretty and talented singer, and this information was supplied by Michelle and her parents in an interview last month.

Michelle, called "Micky" by her parents, Theresa and Dennis Amo, and "Shelba" by her friends, is a local girl, has attended North Street School and will graduate this June — Class of 1991.

Michelle has had an eventful singing career, that probably began in her years at the Middle School, continuing at the high school. For the record, she was a member of a choir in the fourth grade, and has been singing ever since. At the Middle School, Michelle was among the 30 students of a "Select Chorus." In the sixth grade, she performed in a musical called "Freedom Bound," then attending a "Northern Region Musical" as one of 10 students from New

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

England, performing at Central Connecticut State University.

Vocal Motion Member

Michelle is currently a member of the popular local group, "Vocal Motion," which was organized by John S. Gionfriddo, director of vocal music and assistant band director at the Raider School. One of his students is Michelle, who is "still" taking private lessons from "Mr. G."

For the past three years, Michelle, in addition to her singing talents, was a member of the Indoor/Outdoor school track team. In other school activities, she has been on the Student Council the past two years, and holds the title of vice president.

Some information on her parents... Dennis Amo is a native of Hartford, with his father, also Dennis, (who resides in Manchester), and his late mother, Gertrude Amo, came to Windsor Locks in 1955. The younger Dennis graduated from the local high school in 1962. Mr. Amo was a horn player in the town's Senior Drum & Bugle Corps for more than a decade. The past 25 years, he has been employed at Pratt & Whitney as training representative.

Theresa O'Donnell Amo is an Enfield native, graduating from that town's high school in 1965. Her mother, Elizabeth O'Donnell, resides in

Longmeadow, Mass. Her father, Francis O'Donnell, is deceased. Both of Michelle's parents admit, "Neither of

us have any singing talent, like Michelle. Dennis played the horn, and Theresa said she was in the color guard of the Windsor Locks Cavaliers. They were married in October, 1967, first living in Enfield, then East Hartford, before moving to Windsor Locks 18 years ago.

Enjoys Music

When their daughter is not singing up a storm, what does she find interesting? Sometimes, more singing, by Whitney Houston or Barbra Streisand. Michelle does enjoy reading outside of class and in class, received second honors.

Michelle does enjoy all types of music, from pop to classical. She's not much of a television watcher, prefers old movies, especially musicals. Her favorite, "West Side Story." Has been to New York's Broadway in 1990 to see "Les Miserables." This year, plans to see "Cats" in the Big Apple. Oh yes, she has a favorite food, according to her father, "macaroni and cheese."

In next month's production of "Guys & Dolls," Michelle will play the part of a Salvation Army worker, Sarah Brown, the role Jean Simmons excelled in the movie, which also starred Frank Sinatra and yes, Marlon Brando. Michelle had seen the movie on TV and the stage production at the Coachlight Theater in East



Michelle Patrice Amo

Windsor. This year's musical, one of the highlights of the winter season, will be again directed by Richard Sterner, with "Mr. G" as vocal music director, orchestra leader, Neil Rinaldi and Kathy Munson as choreographer.

The future plans of this talented young lady? She said, she will soon apply to Lowell University and major in mu-

sic management and sound recording technology, with a minor in music performance.

Last summer, two local singers were chosen to be a part of the nationally-known cast for the Fred Waring U.S. Chorus ... Michelle Amo and Mark Burke. Michelle and Mark were selected singers, ages 16-24, who spent 12 days at Penn State performing in a

one-hour television show. According to Michelle, the show will be on some time in March or April, on local Public Television. Obviously to be chosen for this chorus of students from all over the country, is an honor for Michelle and Mark. Also a senior, Mark will be in the cast of "Guys & Dolls."

Support from Relatives

Michelle has always received constant support from her parents in her singing career. She mentioned two others, close to her, who have added their assistance... her grandmother, Elizabeth O'Donnell, who "shows a lot of love and support," and her aunt, Clare Doran of Rocky Hill, "who took me to several musicals when I was a young girl, and (like the others) was always there with that needed support." Ms. Doran is a teacher at Bay Path and is a choreographer.

EPILOG

Michelle Patrice Amo has a favorite saying... "cool beans." She was certainly cool when she shared the stage at Penn State with some of America's young performers in the famed U.S. Chorus, and now will share the stage with her fellow seniors next month.

As a young lady, she knows what she wants in life, but only time will give her the answers.

As with her teacher, "Mr. G.," Michelle knows "music makes the world go round," and gives everyone many happy moments for the people who appreciate the sounds of music.

Local Couple

If ever good guys finish first, it's got to be Dwight and Nancy Phelps, with scouting the family game, her involvement in drug awareness teaching position and his time in Vietnam and today, a veteran SNET employee.

Dwight was from Suffield, Nancy from Enfield, they were married, and that's right, settled for Windsor Locks ("as common ground"), the town benefiting, and other towns, as her story is told.

They are parents of three scouting enthusiasts, as mom and dad, and it didn't take long for one to figure out the Phelps family are as normal as apple pie, the flag, PTO and merit badges.

Dwight Apollos Phelps, with a middle name from the family that goes way back. He grew up in Suffield, worked on dairy farms, and had a limited sporting career as a freshman on the track team. Dwight was too busy for sports, the son of the late Jasper Phelps and Irene Phelps,

cabbages & kings

Jack Redmond

who still resides in nearby Suffield. Dwight has three brothers: Robert of Enfield, Brian of Suffield and John of Manchester.

Dwight graduated from the Suffield High School in 1967, had high hopes to join the Air Force, but was drafted in April of 1968, at the age of 19.

The young soldier took basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., and advanced infantry training at Fort Polk, La. These exercises proved to be handy, as Dwight saw 11 months in Vietnam, where combat was a daily routine for this infantry soldier. He said he had become a replacement after the Tet offensive. The young man from Suffield has several battle field honors: Accommodation Medal, Air Medal and Bronze Star, with the famed 101st Airborne.

Some comments on his Vietnam experiences ... "Did

not know of the protests (in the states), until I got home ... the biggest lesson our citizens can face (even today) is not taking out their frustrations on servicemen in battle or when they return ... in Vietnam, it was a gallant (effort), we tried to do something, the Vietnamese people wanted to be free, but we failed, from Vietnam, a lot of lessons had to be learned ... and today, it's gratifying the support the troops in the Persian Gulf are now receiving at home ..."

The teacher and mother of three, Nancy Lee Phelps, daughter of the late Milton and Grace Lee, who were natives of Enfield. Nancy grew up there, graduating from the high school in 1968. She was active in the drama club and vice president of the Junior Class. Nancy has a brother, David who lives in the shore town of Clinton and a sister,

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Lives Full Community Life

Debbie of Ellington.

While attending Central Connecticut State University for a teaching degree, she worked part-time at an Enfield dairy bar and one of her best customers was Dwight Phelps. After her graduation from college in 1972, she and that best customer were married in November, 1973. She later went on to earn a master's degree at Central and was an elementary teacher in Enfield for six years until the birth of their first child. The Phelps have lived in town since their wedding day.

The children of Nancy and Dwight: Katy is 12, in the 7th grade at the Middle School. Katy is on the Cross Country team, reads a lot, is a bowler and a Cadet Girl Scout, Troop 567.

Melissa, 10, at the South School in the 4th grade, also enjoys bowling, plays the sax and is a Junior girl Scout, Troop 551.

Craig, 8, 2nd grade at North, the soccer player in the family

and Cub Scout, Troop 261. His dad is very involved as a member of the "Committee" of the Girl and Boy Scouts, a steering committee, Dwight said, setting the programs and organizing of events. Nancy is also into scouting as a Leader, just to complete the family scouting team and she's also in the PTO.

The father of this clan joined the Southern New England Telephone Co. in July, 1970, soon after his discharge from the army. He did mention, before leaving the service on his return from Nam, spending seven months at Fort Carson in Colorado and then returned to civilian life. Back to SNET ... Dwight began as a linesman and today is a supervisor working out of the Manchester area.

Dwight and Nancy are bikers in the summer months and when it's time for vacations, Vermont is their getaway. When she is at her needlepoint, Dwight will be woodworking, and the fruits

of his labor are part of the new addition to their home. They are not much for television, unless the show "Columbo," is on the tube.

Nancy's needlepoint has to wait most of the time; she's usually too busy teaching CCD at St. Mary's Church, the scouting activities and another talent that towns and school systems have been the beneficiaries of. For the past six years, Nancy has been teaching and explaining the dangers of drugs and alcohol. This program is sponsored by an Enfield agency, New Directions. Nancy lectures to students in a six-week awareness program in Windsor Locks, Suffield, Somers, East Windsor and Enfield in what she called "stressing the prevention and intervention" of drugs and alcohol.

Dwight does have a favorite saying, that he said, originated years ago, when he was driving with Nancy and his driving directions were in

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Local Couple Lives Fully

Continued from page 12

questions ... and he said, "Trust me." He still uses these honest words today, and his children gave him a plaque with those words, for the home, just to remind him. Dwight had some other words for Nancy ... "She's my best friend." While Nancy said, "He is very caring." At that point, Dwight suggested that, "we are getting a little serious."

But both were serious when it came to admiration Nancy said, "My mother, Grace

Cimino Lee, a caring and giving person, who came from immigrant parents." Dwight also said, "My mother, who was always there for us, welcomed and accepted everyone."

Epilog

That's the story of the full community life of Dwight and Nancy Phelps and their three children. The Phelps are as American as apple pie, the flag and when you see a local scout leader with a handlebar mustache, it's Dwight Apollos Phelps.

Vere W. Bryan, Jr.

Vere Whitstanford Bryan Jr. was one of several speakers at the "Evening Commemorating...Noden Reed Park as an official town park," in November.

Why was he chosen? Because he was to speak on "Being a new resident and a new citizen." Mr. Bryan, who has lived in town with his wife, Marcia, since February, 1989, became a citizen in November, and as a newcomer to this country, said that "opportunity": was his reason for coming from his native country of Barbados.

That special evening (November 30, anniversary of the passing of Miss Gladys H. Reed) was also the date of the full independence of Barbados, Vere said, with its special significance for him, Marcia and his brother, Vincent.

Vere, Marcia and Vincent have found that "opportunity" and are now attending college and have found employment, in pursuing their goals.

Some history and geography: Barbados is located in the Atlantic, farthest island east of the West Indies, near Trinidad and Grenada. Barbados is an independent sovereign state with the Commonwealth of England (head of state: Queen Elizabeth II) and has a prime minister.

And background on these congenial folks who are what America and its opportunities and challenges are all about. Vere was born and raised in the capital town of Bridgetown. He attended grammar schools and St. Leonard's Boys School, graduating in 1981, where he was a middle distance runner and member of the Cadet Corps (as in America's ROTC).

Vere is the son of Vere Sr. and Velde Bryan. He has two brothers, Vernal, who resides in Massachusetts and Vincent,

who lives with Vere and Marcia.

Marcia Norville

Bryan is the daughter of Colin and Yvonne Norville. She graduated from St. Michael's Girls School in 1982, and like her "high school sweetheart," was a member of her school's Cadet Corps for Girls, and was active in the school choir. Ironically, both of her parents and Vere's parents attended the same school in their native Barbados.

And where did Vere and Marcia meet?...at their church, where she was singing in the choir and he was an altar boy. She came to the states in July of 1983, corresponding with Vere, who did not leave Barbados until January, 1984.

In Barbados, after high school, Vere said, "I wanted (just to go) work...to attend the one college and one university (on the islands) was hard to get to," and he decided any future education would have to wait. He was fortunate, taking a job as a bookkeeper for a two-year period. He was giving serious thoughts about coming to America, and it was possible, because his parents were in the states and probably more important to this young man, Marcia was there.

He made a big move...coming to Hartford, living with relatives, who were residents and citizens and could vouch for him. It didn't take long for Vere to establish himself, working as a file clerk and a second job at McDonalds. There was a five-year resident period, and Vere was willing to work and wait for his goal of citizenship.

The wedding of Vere and Marcia did not wait...they

cabbages & kings

BY JACK REDMOND

were married on November 3, 1984 at the Northeast Methodist Church in Hartford. A honeymoon would be put on the waiting list too. They lived in the capital city for four years, in Vernon for three months and in February 1989 came to the town of Windsor Locks.

Marcia's path to the states and Connecticut began in Brooklyn, New York where she lived for a year. It was to be Marcia and Vere would end up living and working in the insurance capital of the world.

After the wedding, Vere attended computer classes at CPI in East Hartford. After learning all about bits and programs, he joined USF&G for two years, as an "Insurance Rater." The past four years, Vere has been working with American States as an underwriter.

Marcia began at Travelers also an insurance rater, and after a short time, joined USF&G for over a year and presently is employed at RC Knox Co. Inc. in Hartford as a commercial marketing assistant. They both have come a long way.

It was difficult to pin down this busy couple for an interview, not only do they hold down full time positions, but

Finds “Opportunity”



Marcia and Vere W. Bryan

both attend the Greater Hartford Community College where they expect to receive their associate degrees in December. However, they have larger plans—both have been accepted at UConn for their full degrees.

When it comes to free time, there isn't much. Marcia

admits, “time permitting, I enjoy reading and to listen to music, pop to classical.” Vere on the other hand, “loves politics, I like to debate the issues of the day, ever since high school...listen to CNN (on the tube) when I can, to keep with the latest...do follow college basketball, especially UConn

and the Whalers on the ice, and yes, I'm a Yankee fan when it comes to baseball.” When it comes to vacations, this young couple have made trips back to their native island and the Dominican Republic, in the states, they have enjoyed the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania.

Admired Kennedy

When admiration for others was discussed, Vere said, on the national scene, he has and followed and read about the careers of John Kennedy, Franklin Roosevelt and Martin Luther King Jr.” Someone more close to Vere is his uncle, Arden Sealy of Barbados, because “when I was a kid growing up (I observed) my uncle always hard at work and (eventually) working himself up to his company's Board of Directors.” That went along with Vere's personal philosophy...“Hard work pays off.”

Vere's favorite saying (sounds like something out of the Simpsons) “Don't have a cow, man.” He did not have a “a cow “ in talking about the differences between living on the island of Barbados and the states...“Island living is definitely slower and I must say, the people are a lot friendlier.”

A neighbor of the Bryans is Mickey Danyluk, who has shown his friendship and was instrumental in the “Town Park” referendum, and having Vere speak. Welcome... Vere, Marcia and Vincent.

in America

Local Man Peter Raymond Blais

Peter Raymond Blais is a career soldier. The local man, a WLHS graduate, Class of 1984, said he is making the National Guard his career, "To better myself, and serve my country."

Now a member of Company "D", 169th AVN Regiment at Camp Hartell, Pete has been in the service of his country since June 1984, joining the regular army the day after receiving his high school diploma.

Pete, with the rank of E-4 (Corporal to you WWII Vets), has had a diversified and traveling career the past five years, starting with basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., and further training in Maryland and Kentucky, before being shipped to Alaska for three years in the state known as "The Last Frontier." But he said, "I loved the duty there." Of course, it helped a great deal having his high school

sweetheart, Toni Saccente Blais, sharing his army life, living on the base, only a few months after their wedding on May 10, 1986.

At this point in Pete and Toni's story, their large families deserve recognition ... Pete is the son of Joe and Robbertine (Croteau) Blais of Windsor Locks. His folks originally came from Berlin, N.H. Pete has six brothers and two sisters: Bruno (Suffield), Rene (Torrington), Donald (Enfield), Paul, Billy and Rita reside in town. Their other sister, Elaine Pivin, is married to Airman Steve Pivin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rolland (Frenchy) Pivin. The young service couple are stationed in Las Vegas.

Antoinette Saccente Blais is the daughter of Carl and Patricia (McNamara) Saccente, who



Peter R. Blais

were from Hartford and now live in town.

Toni was a graduate of WLHS, Class of 1985. She has two brothers, Carl (Enfield) and Jimmy (Las Vegas), and two sisters, Donna and Michelle (Windsor Locks). When the families get together for holidays, Pete and Toni said, it also includes 13 grandchildren of Joe and Robbertine and five grandchildren of Carl and Patricia.

Back to Pete and Toni ... They have a five-month-old daughter by the name of Samantha. After his tour of duty in Alaska, the young couple moved back to their hometown.

Pete, as a young boy growing up had two vocations, one was playing hockey locally and the other "working since (he) was 14, on tobacco, as a busboy at the Coachlight, Delta Industries in East Granby and the

First National Warehouse."

When Pete entered the army, he signed up for four years. When he completed the hitch, which he served as welder worker on army vehicles, was honorably discharged, and then made a decision. He joined the Connecticut National Guard as a part-time soldier at Camp Hartell. Again, a decision this time, to be a full time National Guard in the AGR (Active Guard Reserve).

Pete had recently completed a course at Fort Eustis, Va., to be a helicopter mechanic. As mentioned, Pete has had a diversified career, and at the outbreak of war, he was called upon as "Training NCO," for two companies, one Medical and the other Military Police, in dif-

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Is A Career Soldier at Camp Hartell

cabbages & kings

BY JACK REDMOND

ferent phases of their duties, before being shipped to Saudi Arabia.

With his schedule, Pete does not have much time for his two hobbies: fishing and hunting. A week up north is his idea of a good vacation. That's right, fishing and hunting. At home he likes to work around the house and refers to himself as "Mr. Fix-It." He hasn't forgotten his love for hockey, following the Whalers, at least in the newspapers.

Pete was asked who he most admired. He said, "My father. Why? Because he was the bread winner for nine kids." Pete went on to

say, "And my father has been playing country music in a band for 30 years ... a band called 'Connecticut Valley Boys.'"

Epilog

E-4 Peter Raymond Blais, was called "dependable" by his young wife. He has chosen the career of a soldier, be it Camp Hartell, another tour of duty in Alaska, or wherever he is called upon to go, in what he now knows best ... soldiering.

It takes welders, training NCOs, helicopter mechanics, in addition to regular combat soldiers to keep up our country's strength.

Pete is a young man, married, with a wife and child, in the long haul, wants to "better (himself) and serve (his) country." He is doing just that.

DeSousas

If Jordan and Jean DeSousa are just what they call themselves, "average people," the town is not in trouble, when it comes to the scouting program or civic involvement in PTO activities.

Jordan is a New Bedford, Mass. native with proud Portuguese heritage, while Jean, a town native, with her maiden name of Viggiano, has an equally proud Italian background.

It makes for a happy combination for Jordan DeSousa, Jean (Viggiano) DeSousa and the two boys, Marc and Brian. Must not forget another member of the family, a crested fantail pigeon, named "Angel," all white, found by Jordan on Main Street, and now the number one pet in the DeSousa home.

Before these "high school sweethearts," met and married, a little background on Jordan. He's the son of the late Jordan DeSousa, who was born in Portugal, a house and commercial painter for years in this area. The younger Jordan's (both his father and grandfather went by the name of Jordan) mother Alice (Ponte) DeSousa, was from New Bedford, and now resides in Enfield. Jordan has three brothers: Norbert (Windsor Locks), Carlos (East Wind-

sor) Gerald (Enfield) and a sister, Margaret (Enfield).

Jordan left New Bedford at the age of two, moving to Warehouse Point until he was six, and then the family moved to Enfield, where he graduated from the high school in 1972. Jordan was not into sports, but did assist with scenery in the school plays and was very involved when it came to art classes.

Local Resident

Jean Viggiano grew up in town, the daughter of the late Frank "Skippy" Viggiano, a native and veteran Kaman employee. Her mother Katherine (Doughney) Viggiano was from Suffield and now resides in Windsor Locks. Jean has a brother, Jim, who lives in Suffield, and has his own business, Bacher Corporation of Connecticut in East Windsor, specializing in lawn mowers for state and commercial use. Jean works for her brother.

Jean met Jordan in Windsor Locks by way of introduction by a few relatives, during their high school years. She was a grad of the local high school, class of 1972. They were married at St. Robert's

cabbages & kings

BY JACK REDMOND

Church by Father Ted Raczynski on May 17, 1975.

Their first home was an apartment at "Turkey Hills" in East Granby, followed by a move to Windsor to another apartment, which were at one time, the Windsor Grange. In 1979, they came to Jean's hometown, and now are part of the scouting and PTO action.

Their Children

Their children... Marc and Brian DeSousa... Marc, ten, is in the fourth grade at South, follows all sports, a Yankee baseball fan, "has tried everything in sports," according to his parents. Has been a Water Jet, into T-Ball and bowling. He's a member of Troop 261, where his dad has been active the past four years. Brian, will be six on March 31st. He is a kindergarten student at North, also a bowler at Bradley; and interested in gymnastics and karate, and most important, to him, the Red Sox fan in the family.

Now to Jordan's working career... as an art student, he wanted to specialize in commercial art, attended Northwestern Connecticut Community College for a short time, but due to finances and traveling, dropped out. Jordan switched from art to plumbing as an apprentice in South Windsor for a three-year period. Next job was with Northeastern Fastener for six years. The past 12 years Jordan has been firmly established at Hamilton Standard as a production machinist. In addition, Jordan is a member of the company's fire brigade.

Jordan is into fishing and camping, which means the

Are Involved With Community



Marc, Jordan, Brian and Jean DeSousa

summer is special for the family on their camping trips. The family has visited Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, the Cape, but "we always end up at Rocky Neck Park," he said.

Collect Gnomes

Another family hobby is collecting "Tom Clark Gnomes." Jordan said, these are the famed collectable molds of Mr. Clark...small statues, depicting all walks of life. Jordan and Jean have several of these molds and one, prominently displayed, is one of scouting. Each mold contains an old coin as part of its uniqueness. They have met Mr. Clark and he had autographed a few of their collectable models, which added

to their special significance.

Why are these two active parents into scouting and PTO? "Because of the kids," they agreed. On the PTO level, Jean is currently working on a renovation committee as part of her activities with the Windsor Locks Elementary School PTO. Saying, "We go to the meetings and help out where ever we can."

Speaking of renovation, Jean, surely a native daughter, expressed strong feelings on her town's Main Street, or the way it was, when she was growing up. "I was sorry to see Main Street go...should have left it the way it was," she said.

On a different subject, admiration, Jordan said, "You can always learn from some-

one (and in his case) it was my father, in the way he brought me up, everything I know, I owe to him." When it came to a personal philosophy, Jordan said, "People (sometimes) do not do enough for others." Jean echoed those sentiments, and in describing her husband she said, "He's always there to help me, the family and others."

Epilog

"Just average people.": Its probably what makes this town, what it is...just average people, with above average volunteer activities, be it on boards, commissions, school activities or scouting. Jordan and Jean DeSousa have the credentials...and are trying to do that extra "for others."

Joseph Doering

"Work hard, do your best, and good things will come..." And that's exactly what Joe Doering's personal philosophy turned out to be after several years at Hi-G and Hamilton-Standard. Today, the Hartford native and longtime Windsor Locks residents, is vice president of Porter & Chester Institute in Enfield.

Joe's summary of working assignments may not fall into a "Horatio Alger story," but not bad for a young man who began as a draftsman, through the efforts of a teacher (Mr. DeCarli, formerly with WLHS) who had faith in his student, and now Joe has achieved an executive position at an early age.

But first things first... Joseph Michael Doering was born in Hartford, the son of the late William Doering, who passed away in 1973, who was originally from Glastonbury. Joe's mother, Lucy (Randazzo) Doering was from Hartford and has resided in Windsor Locks for many years.

Joe has two sisters, Teresa (Bolton) and Jane (Enfield). He came to Windsor Locks at the age of 3, attending Union, the Middle School and is a grad from the local high school, Class of 1973. Joe played varsity soccer his senior year, in addition to intramural basketball and at a younger age, was part of the town's Little League program.

With the old adage, there's a woman behind every successful man, it is probably true in Joe's case, with his pretty wife, Kathy, they will be celebrating their 10th anniversary in June.

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

Family Roots

Kathy (Looby) Doering is the daughter of Wilfred Sr. and Veronica (Osowiecki) Looby. Mr. Looby was from Poquonock. Mrs. Looby is from Windsor Locks (where Bradley International Airport is today) and then moved to Suffield. He was a 30-year veteran of Combustion Engineering Inc. They now reside in Windsor Locks. Kathy has two brothers, Wilfred Jr. (Enfield) and Michael (Maine). Kathy was only four when the family moved from Poquonock to town. She too graduated from WLHS in 1973. The funny part of their story (funny now when they look back), Joe didn't know Kathy as a classmate, and met her formally at their fifth high school reunion. Joe admitted he thought Kathy was someone else during their high school years. But the reunion must have been the key, they went together "off and on," they said, for three years, until they were married in June 1981.

Was Kathy active in school? "I didn't have time," she said, "had a paper route (Courant), using my brother's name, because girls were not allowed to have paper routes in the '70s." How times have changed.

Kathy followed her father and worked at C-E, as a secretary for six years. Left C-E for a year at Central Connecticut, then tried work again at Connecticut General and her work-

ing career coming to an end (not really) with her marriage to Joe.

Three Children

Before going into Joe's employment career... let's talk about their three children... Christopher, 9 next month, Travis 7, and Rebecca, 4 years old. Christopher, a third grader at South, "just loves to play soccer, is the writer in the family and enjoys drawing." Travis, a first grader at North, is a member of Boy Scout Troop 261, along with his brother.

Joe began his working career as a draftsman at Hi-G. He was there for four years, and in addition took courses at Asnuntuck Community College and at the University of Hartford. He was at Hamilton-Standard for two years, and then joined Porter & Chester Institute, where today he has the role of vice president. The institute prepares students for careers in a varied assortment of courses: electronics, computers, drafting/design, CAD/CAM, secretarial, word processing and automotive. They also have a Child Care Center called "Children's Corner."

Likes Racing Cars

Wait a minute... did you say automotive? "Yes," Joe said, "because we (the school) have two racing cars at Riverside and it gives students the opportunity to work on cars... and I'm a big fan of racing cars." At home, Joe can also work on his 1978 Corvette.



Kathy, Travis, Christopher, Joe and Rebecca Doering

Locally, Joe is a coach in the town's soccer league for young boys and girls. In the capitol city, Joe is a past chairman of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Hartford Chapter No. 7, and member of that organization for 11 years.

Kathy calls her husband "a perfectionist." When it came to his personal admiration for another person, Joe quickly said, "Father Ted Raczynski, formerly of St. Roberts and

now Pastor at Suffield's Sacred Heart Church." Joe went on to say, "Father Ted, a wonderful person, he knows how to treat people, makes them feel comfortable and a man with a sense of humor." Joe's own philosophy ... "Work hard, do your best and the good things will come." Did he have a favorite saying? "Yes, the words that Robert Kennedy was known for ... 'Some men see things as they

are and say why ... I dream things that never were and say why not.'"

Epilog

Joseph Michael Doering, administrator, coach, into racing cars and father of three active children. He must have had a dream or two, was shown the way by a teacher, who probably said to him ... "why not." It certainly worked for Joe.

is President of Area School

CORRECTION

Joseph Doering featured in last week's Cabbages and Kings was misidentified in the headline as being president of the Porter & Chester Institute. He is however the school's vice president. The Journal regrets the error.

APRIL 5, 1991

Hockey Is the Name

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND

Young Christopher William Battistini is all hockey, since he was a little boy, maybe even before he could walk or talk. Or at least you get that good feeling from his parents, Donald and Patricia Battistini.

For Chris, they have been very supportive in his quest to be a hockey player. Now at the age of 14, he has played organized ice hockey, beginning at the age of 7.

Chris, a freshman at the high school, has attended hockey camps, met a few stars of the hockey world, listens and watches hockey on the radio, television, a big Whaler and Chicago Black Hawk fan, with a bedroom filled with pictures, awards for excellence and numerous trophies for his hockey talents in Windsor and now for the Suffield High School team that plays the game of Orr, Howe and Gretzky around the state, against other high schools in the recent hockey season.

Some boys want to be firemen, some can't wait to play baseball, but there is no question about Chris. It appears he always wanted to be just a hockey player. He found baseball, as a Little Leaguer, a bit boring, not fast enough action for this left-winger.

We came across a picture in the newspaper a few weeks back, of Chris playing hockey (on roller skates) at Southwest Park, near his home. Even

in the warm weather, hockey did not stop for Chris. We just knew there was a story behind this hockey player's photo. We were right.

Chris was 9 years old when he and his parents moved to Windsor Locks in 1986. His father, who has four other sons, Donald Jr., James, Tony and Richie, was originally from Windsor. He served in the U.S. Army for two years, with state-side duty in New Jersey and Virginia before a tour of duty in Germany. The past 11 years he has been a part of the maintenance department of the Loomis Chaffee School in Windsor. Donald is a 1954 grad of the Windsor High School, where he played basketball, baseball and soccer, but no hockey. After school, he continued his sports career, but in the field of semi-pro boxing, during the days of the great Willie Pep.

Chris's mother, Patricia (Stansky) Battistini, was from East Hartford, where she was a high school grad in 1957. Patricia has a daughter, Sandra (Nazlian) Gavette, who was a freelance writer for the Windsor Journal and other newspapers a few years back.

Back to the hockey player in the family... maybe dad and mom did not play the

game, like their son, are big fans, especially the Whalers, and the farm team in Springfield. (We know the prices in Springfield for those games are not as much as in Hartford.) So Donald and his son may go to a few Whaler games, but Springfield, where they can watch future Whalers in action, is their main priority right now.

At 7, Chris was a member of the Windsor Youth Hockey League, which played at Loomis. At 10, he played as a member of the Northern Connecticut Flyers, Youth Hockey at the Enfield Twin Rinks. Last year he was a part of the host school, Suffield High School, which includes players from Suffield, Windsor Locks and Granby.

As mentioned, Chris has attended hockey camps to sharpen his knowledge of the game, at Brown University in Providence, which was headed by Coach Dick Gagliardi, Hamden's great hockey leader for many years, Salem State in Massachusetts and at South Windsor's rink, operated by Whalers' Skip Cunningham, with instructor Ron Francis and other Whalers. One of Chris's prized possessions was an autographed hockey stick by former Whaler great, Ron

Francis. Also among his many mementos is a picture of Chris with Bruins hockey star, Cam Neely.

Chris and his parents agree... "hockey players are easy to talk to, I (Chris) have met several, at autograph sessions or when they appear at a store or gas station to (plug) a product," Chris said.

When Chris played in the Windsor Youth league, in 1986-87, for the "Squirt II" team, he was coached by Steve Gross and Bill Adams.

Every boy who has played "squirt" hockey, advanced hockey or in high school, who remember the early practice sessions, when, as in Chris's case, getting up at 4:30 a.m. and to practice for the 5:30 face-off. And how did Chris get to that early practice? "My father took me," he said proudly and with a big smile, adding, "and it was cold and dark." But, as any player devoted to the game will tell you, once on the ice, you forget the hour and just enjoy doing what you like best. (I know, I played high school hockey and those were the hours at the old New Haven Arena, back many years, I hate to admit.)

The Suffield team, this past season, played all over the state, in East Haven, New Milford, West Hartford, New Haven and this area, with a schedule of 20 games.

The Battistini family is not



Chris Battistini

all hockey (not sure Chris would agree), they do enjoy the Cape in the summer and were campers a few years back. Chris doesn't watch much television, unless of course there's a hockey game

Hockey/page 10

Hockey Is The Name of His Game

Continued from page 9

on, or his favorite show, "The Simpsons," are on the tube. He does have a favorite food — pasta, and a favorite subject in school — history, and is waiting for a class on the history of hockey.

When asked who he most admired, the young boy said "My great-uncle, Dr. Larry Battistini." The doctor, who now resides in East Lansing, Mich., was a professor at Michigan State, has attended Brown, Trinity, and Yale. He is well known in this area as football coach at Middletown High School in the '40s. Dr. Battistini was in the OSS during World War II, has written several books and, best of all, the pen-pal of Chris. He writes to Chris often, encouraging him to do well in school (and

on the ice). Chris's parents said the doctor has been a "great influence" on their son.

The future plans of this 14-year-old boy who lives and breathes hockey... college, hockey (maybe pro hockey), and to become a lawyer.

EPILOG

I'm sure glad I found what was behind the picture of Chris Battistini. He greeted me, the night of the interview, in a Whaler jersey, but no skates, and we talked hockey and more hockey.

Will certainly follow the career of this boy, and maybe he'll be another local boy who made good, like Craig Janney of Enfield, and now a star with the Boston Bruins. Chris has the desire, support of his parents, and gaining experience all the time.

It Happens Every Spring

It happens every spring.

A young man's (in my case, older man's) fancy turns to love...his fancy (as he becomes older) quickly returns to where it was in the first place, which is baseball.

Talk about service and a man's fancy...chauffeured to Bradley by my wife, Rita, and met at the Tampa Airport by my daughter, Nancy.

What was in store for this baseball fan of too many years to count? Nearly a full week of baseball's spring training in the Tampa area, for a visit-

ing fireman. (I mean Fire Commissioner).

I want to thank my son-in-law, Frank DeShaies, and Nancy, who are formerly from Connecticut and Duxbury, Mass., and now permanent residents of Palm Harbor, Fla. just west of Tampa, for inviting me down and for getting the tickets to be a part of spring training. Last year, I made the trip, but baseball was on strike.

This year I had tickets for the following games: Cincinnati Reds vs. Montreal Expos; Toronto Blue Jays vs. Baltimore Orioles; Boston Red Sox vs. Houston Astros.

The Reds game would be in Plant City, Blue Jays in nearby Dunedin and New England's favorite team, the Red Sox at Winter Haven.

After a few rare days of rain on the west coast of Florida, the sun was a welcome sight for this visitor, the locals and we must not forget the famed "snow birds," those folks from the north and midwest who come south for sun and baseball.

My baseball schedule would include three games, six different teams from the American and three from the National. Can't beat that for a look see at spring training.

When not at the parks, some easy living at the DeShaies home, with pool and lanai and reading about the weather in Windsor Locks and how UConn lost.

First Game: Reds, the 1990 World Champions. Played the Montreal Expos, who may have a fair team, but, in my opinion, look like a bunch of softball players in their uniforms. So much for uniforms, the team from up north, way up north, did not treat the Reds as champs, with the Reds blowing a 6-2 lead and eventually beaten by the team

managed by Buck Rodgers (that's his name), 11-7. There were over 4,000 fans watching the game, made up of mostly retired men and women, from all over the country. The parking lot was filled with cars from Vermont to Ohio. This time I was chauffeured by Frank. Nancy, a 1965 WLHS grad. was at work at her job at the University of Tampa. Frank took the afternoon off from his consulting duties.

Second Game: The game in Dunedin had a Canadian flavor, with the host team, the Toronto Blue Jays, playing Frank Robinson's Baltimore Orioles. The crowd, well over 5,000, were rooting for the home team, as we sat next to fans from Canada. This game I was with my wife's uncle, Peter Prates, of Dunedin and North Haven, Connecticut. The Orioles had other ideas, winning 11-9, as we witnessed a home run derby.

Third Game: The Boston Red Sox were as hot as the weather, as Nancy, Frank and I watched them best the Houston Astros, 5-2. We had front row seats and kids still love to receive autographs from the players. The Sox have two teams, one at Winter Haven that day, and another one on the road. We saw Greenwall, Burks and others, while Boggs and Clark were playing the Chicago White Sox at Sarasota. There were over 3,500 people at our game.

Analysis: Three games do not make a season. How true. Not because I'm a Red Sox fan, but they do have the best hitting team in baseball this spring. They should again win in the East in the American League.

The game we saw the Reds...well there again, only one game, but if Eric Davis plays a full season, they could again be champs.

It will be a long season, and we true baseball fans (big contracts for Clemens, and the others, not withstanding) are looking forward to the call of "Play Ball!"

Thanks again to Nancy, Frank and Peter for helping me relive my fancy.

-By Jack Redmond

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

APRIL 5, 1991

Jack Navoroli Fancies Flying

The best place to catch Jack Navoroli for an interview is his place of business, the Windsor Locks Fabrication & Welding on King Spring Road in town, since 1983, where he opened his own business after several welding jobs in his chosen field.

Jack Anthony Navoroli is a local boy: Little League, WLHS, Class of 1968, the Lions Club and former chairman of the Lions Ambulance Corps. With Jack, its always business first, but any free time he has you might find him skyward, he'd be flying his own Piper Warrior plane out of Skylark Air Park in East Windsor.

Jack is the son of Dominic and Evelyn (Moselsky) Navoroli. Both were from Hartford and have lived in Windsor Locks for years. They have a daughter, Arlene Chiarello of Suffield. Mr. Navoroli is a retired welder, after many years at Stanadyne, and according to his proud son, "was one of the hardest workers and why I'm in the business today."

Little League

Jack's last year in Little League was 1964, just a year before the town had a team that won the world championship. Jack recalled his coach was Bill Copley. During Jack's high school years he did some "track, was interested in girls, and martial arts." Did he have any idea what he wanted to do? "Yes, I really wanted to be a doctor, all through high school, always interested in medicine, but finances (at the time) ... so I pursued my father's field of welding."

But for Jack, a career in welding had to wait — in March, 1969, until Jan. 1971, he wore the uniform of the United States Army. After basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., the newly made soldier was off to Vietnam. How long was he there? "Eleven months and 29 days," he said, "and surprised I made it ... I (admit) was scared all of the time." Jack did see a lot of action. He

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Nicole, Jack, Victoria Navoroli

earned two medals that tell the story: a Silver Star and Bronze Star (gallantry in action/heroism in ground combat)

Upon his return to the states, home and discharge had to wait for a time, he was off to Fort Riley, Kansas, and then two months in Germany. How was Germany? "I didn't like it, too cold," he said. On a question about Vietnam and the war he said, "I was not aware of the anti-Vietnam feeling until I came back to the states."

Worked at Stanadyne

In 1972, Jack went to work at his father's place, Stanadyne, as maintenance welder, just as his father became a foreman. After two years, he went to Pratt & Whitney as welder, asked to be put into the apprentice program, but they had other ideas, wanted him to stay as a welder. After six months he was gone. Worked at Aetna Specialty Manufacturing and attended night school (A.I. Prince) taking up sheet metal work. He also attended University of Hartford (Ward Tech) studying electrics, until government finances stopped.

His next two job assignments were at East Windsor Welding for eight years, and at East Hartford's James Howden of America. In 1983, Jack decided with his skills and experiences, to open his own shop, and today, employs five welders (including him-

self) specializing in industrial fabrication.

Today, his company is having "a rough time (due to economic conditions. We have had better years, but thanks to good customers like Dexter, we are holding our own." They supply machines for Dexter, he said, for recycling tanks used in environmental protection in the hazardous waste field.

Family Man

Jack has two daughters: Nicole, 19, a student at Bay Path, studying to be a paralegal. She's a graduate of Enfield High School and played softball. Her sister, Victoria, 14, a freshman at Enfield High School, also plays softball and last year was active in basketball.

When it came time to name Jack's hobbies, only one hobby, flying his own Piper Warrior, which he has owned and operated the past two years. His busy schedule does not allow him as much time in the air as he would like. Jack calls flying, "My main interest, enjoy it, go where I want to go." How did he get started? "A few friends of mine are pilots, I would go up with them, and that's how I learned to fly," he said.

His only spectator sport is watching the Yankees play the Red Sox. There was a time, Jack was very active in the Lions Club ... Chairman of the annual Pancake Breakfast,

the Candy Drive, and other projects, soon after he joined in 1980. His biggest contribution to the "We Serve" local club, was a two-year chairmanship of the Lions Ambulance Corps saying, "I loved it, but 40 hours on duty a week and another 40 at work was just too much." He was also an EMT (emergency medical technician.)

Saying, "Why I'm in this profession (fabrication and welding) and own my company, is because of my father." Adding, "My father, I have always admired him, as a boy growing up, I observed his many talents, building a house, working on his car ... I always wanted to be like him." That certainly agrees with Jack's philosophy ... "Always try to give of myself to others."

Epilog

Jack Navoroli, local man, with strong local and family ties, is his own man, be it business or flying the wild blue yonder. Which reminds one of the following words: "What we do during our working hours determine what we have; what we do in our leisure hours determine what we are."

APRIL 12, 1991

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

Today The Undertaker Cried

To the Editor:

Today the undertaker cried. I had to bury a very best friend. Not my best friend, as that division was not possible, you see, there were three of us, Saul, Bob and me. We loved,

laughed and cried over each others happy and sad times, together. The celebration of life was important to us. Today more than ever we celebrate the life of Robert J. Santamaria, a devoted family member, friend, co-worker and educator. The outpouring of love and affection that was paid to my friend was overwhelming.

The genuine concern of the student body of Windsor Locks High School past and present was very evident at his funeral service. The members of the high school's group "Vocal Motion," singing of "Showing Us The Way" was a beautiful and fitting tribute to express what Bob did in touching all of our lives. He leaves with each of us a different remembrance of his sharing and caring life. We say not good-bye ... for we shall meet again.

Today the undertaker cried.

*John J. Lee
101 Spring St.*

Santamaria Remembered

The priest said, "Bob gave his life to others ..."

In the church, filled with students, teachers, school administrators and so many friends, Robert J. Santamaria was eulogized at St. Mary's Church last week; the church he attended all of his life and where he was baptized.

Bob's untimely death was a shock to the students at the high school (where he was interim principal), teachers, school administrators and the town where he was born.

Bob always had that friendly smile ... as for my

recognition, be it at the high school office, if I came to interview a student or teacher or coach, or the many fans at the basketball game. That's what I remember best about the husband of Barbara; children Steven, Susan, Linda, and his brother, Francis.

Bob lived the life of a true member of the Lions Club. John, Moe, and the other Lions will surely miss this gentle man ... he will always be in their hearts.

Yes, Bob Santamaria gave his life to others.

-By Jack Redmond

Bob Richards Is Active in the Community

As with Robert Gerald Richard, the titles of "Past" and "Grand," are associated with leaders in community organizations, such as Past Commander of the American Legion and Past Grand Knight of the K of C. Not many local individuals have attained these lofty positions (Example: John Scanlon, Past Grand Knight of the K of C and Past Commander of the VFW) as Bob has, which requires dedication, time and energy.

In addition, Bob is a Hartford native, and former resident of Maine and Canada, member of the Italian-American Club and formerly on the roster of the Lions Club. To say Bob was a joiner, may be just an understatement.

In our recent interview, Bob assessed his civic and fraternal involvements by saying, "These organizations do a lot of good (deeds) on the local and state scene."

Some background on this U.S. Navy Veteran...Bob is the son of the late Ben Richard, who was from New Brunswick, Canada. Bob's mother, now at the age of 91, lives in Biddeford, Maine, and she too was from the Canadian Maritime Province. Bob has a brother, Raymond of Boston and two sisters, Lorraine and Rita, who also reside in Biddeford.

Bob said his parents came to the states on their honeymoon, lived in Massachusetts and Hartford, after leaving their home in Canada. As mentioned, Bob was born in Hartford, lived in Maine and Canada, graduating from St. Hyacinth High School, located in the Province of Quebec.

Bob grew up speaking English and French, and admits he might be just losing

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JACK REDMOND

his command of French, but whenever he visits his mother, French is the only language spoken.

His parents were very religious, and they "wanted me to be a priest." However, he had other plans, he was more interested in playing tennis, and becoming a speed skater, but gave up the idea of skating, after breaking a few ribs jumping over barrels. He continued his tennis and has also pursued the game of golf, over the years.

After graduation from high school in 1948, it wasn't too long before Bob was in the uniform of the U.S. Navy. He served until 1953, with training at Newport in Rhode Island, some time in sunny Florida and then became an instructor training recruits at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

With the discharge from the navy, Bob returned to Maine and took a job as a "shop guard." He also met his future bride, Connie (Angers) Richard, who was from Biddeford. They were married on November 5, 1955. Mrs. Richard passed away in 1984. Bob and Connie have a son, Mathieu and a daughter, Cathy.

Mathieu and his wife, Carol, live in Enfield, and have a son Mathieu II. His dad played football and baseball at WLHS (Class of 1974), and is currently employed by National Rent-A-Car. Carol works at Aetna.

Cathy, who played soccer at the Raider School, (Class of 1978) is married to Wayne Kupec, they reside in Broad

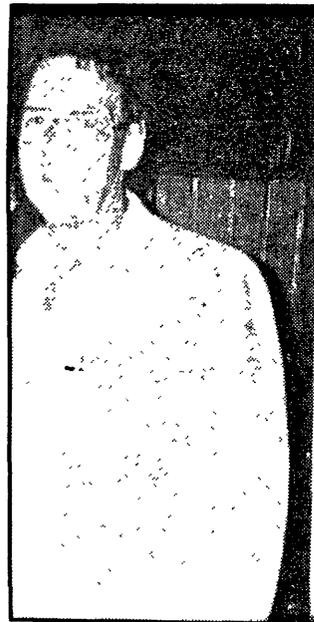
Brook, with their daughter, Michele. Cathy is employed by UPS in Hartford, and a grad of Bryant (1982), a school in Smithfield, R.I.

Bob and Connie lived in Biddeford after their wedding, moving to Hartford in 1956. The past twenty-nine years Bob has been his active self in Windsor Locks.

Bob worked for the National Detective Agency for a year, when he became a resident of Hartford. This was followed by jobs at Valco Machine, American Tool and he is now employed by Central Metal in East Windsor. Bob has been with Central for 18 years, and is involved with the company's Quality Control.

Bob is still interested in tennis (was a teacher, while living in Maine), plays golf at Grassmere in Enfield, as part of a shop league. He firmly believes in "physical fitness." He has his own equipment at home to stay in condition. Vacation means a yearly Florida trip and some time in Maine, in the summer, Bob enjoys the sun and beach. He follows the Red Sox, Celtics and Giants, strictly an eastern team fan.

The former navy veteran has been a member of the American Legion for the past 17 years, where he was Past Commander of the local post. Saying, "The Legion does a lot of good locally, for the Boy Scouts program and for the kids in sports." He joined the K of C in 1985, is Past Grand Knight and currently



Bob Richard

Faithful Navigator in the 4th Degree. As with the Legion, "The Knights do good for the Little League program, Boy Scouts and help the "special children, with yearly picnics and a trip to Fenway Park."

As for a personal philosophy...he said, "A person must enjoy life, and with me, my daily routine is up early in the morning, (try) to be in a good mood and that's why I'm taking care of myself in (my own) exercise program."

Epilog

Robert Gerald Richard, who has had a personal loss in life, faced the future, which at times, he admits, were difficult. He is now a man who enjoys his grandchildren, has a personal exercise program and spends time in the sun. Yes, Bob has been in local organizations, and achieved two lofty goals...Past and Grand.

Vi Smalley



Vi Smalley

In high school and college, Vi Smalley was active in the classroom and on the tennis court, with honors in both endeavors. She was a volunteer tutor to high school students, became involved in a political and government club, plus Harvard Model United Nations.

Today, this native daughter of the well-known family of Smalley, continues a busy schedule as a member of the Lions Ambulance Corps, computer specialist for Tandy, teaching techniques to business and schools. She says, in her "spare time," is a YMCA swimming instructor and community representative for the "Neighbor to Neighbor" program, greeting new residents to town. One could speculate, that this young lady has the full life...but not Vi Smalley, her future plans: law school.

Vi is a daughter of Ted Smalley and Olive Gerish, who were both natives of Windsor Locks. Mr. Smalley, always very active in town and business affairs...the family paving and construction company from 1943 to

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1989, past president of the Lions Club and the Italian-American Club in town. Vi has two sisters, Justine Bendel of East Hartford, and Robin McIntyre of Vernon.

Outstanding Student

With Vi, activities, probably with achievement in mind, made her an outstanding student, beginning at the high school level. She graduated from the WLHS, class of 1986, leaving her mark with high honors scholastically, and as an athlete. She was "number one player" and co-captain of the tennis team, under Coach Andrew LaBrosse. On the basketball court, she played for Coach Brian McKeown. She also showed her musical talent as a trombone player in the band, and when it came time for the annual musical of the senior class, Vi took the part of Mrs. Sowerberry in the play, "Oliver."

Vi admits while in high school, "struggling with" the

idea of becoming a teacher. She enrolled at Franklin Pierce College in Rindge, N.H., although admitting, "I always wanted to go to Smith College." As a freshman, "then had some idea of switching to the career of lawyer."

After a year at Pierce, her earlier ambition came true. She came to Smith in Northampton, Mass., after being named to the dean's list at Pierce. (1986-87). She continued her honors at Smith, from 1987 to her graduation in 1990, where she attained a BA in English (cum laude).

While at Smith, for a four-month period, she was in Washington, D.C., as she was selected to the American Studies Semester, sponsored by the famed Smithsonian Institute. Recalling that experience, "I loved the D.C. area, seeing all the historical sights of a great city."

Vi did not forget her interest and love for the game of

Volunteers Time

tennis. She took first place at the Smith College in mixed doubles and number two in singles, and at Pierce, number one in doubles.

After Smith, Vi traveled to Europe, saying, "It was a finishing touch to my education." She has continued her love for travel to many different parts of call and looking back said, "A person can appreciate America and home a lot better after traveling."

Likes Sports

When it comes to spectator sports, Vi follows the Red Sox, Celtics and the Bears in football. Tennis, her first love, follows the careers of three great players...Chris Evert, Martina Navratilova and Ivan Lendi. A highlight of her trip to Europe, was a stop in England to be on the sidelines at Wimbledon and watch those great players in action.

And on the trip to Europe, Vi also took quality time to visit the graves of her uncles, Francis and Edward Smalley, their final resting place in France at an American cemetery for servicemen who died in the battles of World War II. Her uncles were later honored by the local V.F.W. Post 6123, which is named after the Smalley brothers. She said, "The cemetery in France reminds one of Arlington in Washington, D.C."

These days, Vi still looks forward to more traveling, but to a point, might be just settled down, as a member of the Lions Ambulance Corps and is a certified emergency medi-

cal technician, as volunteer acquainting new residents in the "Neighbor to Neighbor" program and since Oct 1985, sales rep. for Tandy as a computer specialist.

This outgoing young lady has a simple philosophy, saying, "I try to be optimistic...is what you put into life...and it will come back to you."

Who does Vi admire? "My father," she said, matter of fact, and why?... "Ted Smalley, A WLHS grad, did not go to college, but made it (in life)." Adding, "My father is the most intelligent person I have ever met." And speaking of high school...Mr. Smalley is a 1941 grad.

Vi has a favorite saying... "Love is the adrenaline of life."

Epilog

Vi Smalley, scholar, traveler, volunteer, specialist...how do you count; the talents? A young lady who certainly knows where she is going.

Future plans...to attend law school this fall, saying, "Will specialize in medical law." Her volunteer duties today, began in 1987, when Vi was a tutor for Holyoke City High School students, teaching, would you believe...Latin, chemistry and algebra.

Versatile..."Capable of turning competently from one task, subject, or occupation to another..."That's Vi Smalley, who is carrying on her Dad's active life style...why, they even named a road after his family.

To Ambulance

Naturally High In Colorado

By Michael Redmond
Deshaies

Everything seemed to be against our arrival atop the continental divide. We had backpacks slung over our shoulders, each pack feeling like a bag of dense rocks, weighing us down with each grueling step. Awake since dawn, we felt weak, hungry, and tired. One of the girls in the group slowed us down with that awful pace of hers, but she soon became a vent for frustrated anger we accumulated throughout the day, as we yelled at her without remorse. As the group pushed on, I thought about the divide: what it will look like, how tall it will be, how steep it will be, but mostly...how much farther away it was.

It had been fairly hot most of the day, but with night upon us, it grew chillier every hour. After crossing a stream, a sure signal of the divide, I saw it, protruding majestically from the earth was a big, green, lush hill with switch backs (paths that diagonal upward to make hiking hills less steep and easier) carving up the side, making the hill look like a giant Christmas tree wrapped in garland. Our goal was within our grasp.

Looking back, I saw the sun setting.

I knew then that our reward was near, as the sun bid us farewell, filling the sky with deep reds, pale oranges, and profound purples. Seeing the divide ahead, and knowing



Michael Redmond
Deshaies

where we would be staying the night, we decided to hike the last leg of our trip at our own paces. As the others walked on, I stayed and watched one of the most beautiful spectacles of nature I have ever seen. The pointed peaks of the San Juan range were jewels, glowing from the colors that filled the sky. Warm breezes softly touched my face. I stood in awe of my surrounding, and told myself to remember what I had seen, and to appreciate every ounce of it.

I looked back at the divide...my break was over.

I began my ascent to the top of the hill. My legs were weak, my shoulders sore, my nose was running, and the rest of my body was tired and hungry. Everybody was split up at this point, probably as exhausted as I, and probably mumbling the same curses under their breaths. The

switchbacks proved to be easy, yet long, so I started to hike straight up, cutting across the numerous paths. Throughout the day I had already hiked for 13 hours, and gone up about 2,600 feet in elevation. Not resting once, I made it to the top of the hill, and stood 12,000 feet above sea level...on the continental divide.

Now the sun was completely gone...my hell was over.

I learned many things that day. I had hiked farther and longer than I thought possible: making me realize never to underestimate my physical ability or stamina. Also, instead of walking through life without taking the time to stop and smell the flowers, I made sure I stopped to watch the sunset. I would feel very shallow if I never took time to appreciate my life, and all the beautiful things around me.

When I had finally taken my backpack off my shoulders. I gazed in wonderment at the 360 degree panoramic view of the Rocky Mountains. I seemed to be "above the earth": one with the stars that speckled the sky. I then realized that sometime you have to go through hell to reach heaven.

Editor's Note: Mr. Deshaies is the grandson of Cabbages and Kings' columnist Jack Redmond. Mr. Deshaies' article reflects his experience with the Outward Bound program.

Bornas Family Is Active in Scouts, PTO and Lions

Volunteering, for many young couples, is a way of life in Windsor Locks. Another example of this unselfish attitude, we met and talked to recently, were Charles and Jo-Anne Bornas, den leaders in Cub Scouts, she is in PTO and he is a member of the Lions Club.

Before Charles (better known as Charlie) took on the role in scouts and the Lions, he was a student at night school, earning a degree, also earning a living during the day, and a parent, along with Jo-Anne, for a period of their young married life.

Charlie and Jo-Anne, both natives of Hartford, have lived in town since Oct. 23, 1976, the day of their wedding. They have two children, Jason 10, and little Lisa, just over 16 months.

Some background on Charles George Bornas, who grew up in the capital city, the son of George and Freida, from nearby Medford. They live in town, with George in retirement from J.T. Slocomb of Glastonbury since October 1990.

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Charlie has a brother, Nick, a veteran Air Force sergeant of 20 years service. According to Charlie, Sgt. Nick will retire this summer. Currently, he and his wife Nancy (Pintavalle) Bornas, who was from West Hartford, reside in Colorado Springs, Colo. where Nick is stationed, with their two children, Christopher and Stefanie.

In 1971, Charlie graduated from Hartford Public High School where he was on the swim team. A week after graduation, Charlie enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. His first stop for training was in Illinois. The rest of his service time was spent (three years) in Great Falls, Mont. Charlie's main duty was an important one, manning "Minute Man Missiles." Looking back at this, some would say tedious duty, he said, "I enjoyed the work ... yes, the winters in Montana were cold, but I had

time for fishing and hunting, and where I learned to ski."

High School Sweethearts
For the mother in the family ... Jo-Anne (Nai) Bornas, the daughter of the late Joseph and Frances (Bologna) Nai, was also a grad of Hartford Public, Class of 1970. Her father was from Hartford, and Mrs. Nai, a native of Windsor Locks. Jo-Anne has a sister, Elaine, who lives in East Granby.

Jo-Anne and Charlie were "high school sweethearts" who dated those early years, became engaged while Charlie was in the service. The mail had to be their only connection when he was in Montana.

After discharge from the Air Force in July 1975, Charlie combined work and school, with his first job at Gerber Scientific in South Windsor and night school at the University of Hartford, making

for a busy schedule. In 1980 he earned an associate degree in electronics. He stayed at Gerber for three years, followed by a little over a year at Rockbestos in East Granby. He then went into "field service" with Telex Computer Products in East Hartford. In 1984 he went to work at the Windsor Manufacturing and today is their maintenance supervisor.

Charlie and Jo-Anne have two children ... Jason 10, in the fourth grade at South. For Jason, it's baseball, football and bowling. However, at home, he is into the game of "Nintendo." When he is not playing his favorite game or on the sports scene, he's an active Cub Scout, Pack 261, where his father is den leader, his mother assistant leader, along with Steve Line and Jordan DeSousa.

Active in Lions

Charlie manages to find time for his hobbies ... bowling (KofC League), skiing up north and at home, working at his computer. He's a big New York Giant fan in season, and now will be rooting for the

Yankees. Charlie and his son Jason are also into collecting baseball and football cards.

For the past two years, Charlie has been active with the Lions Club, participating in the numerous projects of the "We Serve" local club.

Jo-Anne calls her husband "a very patient man." He does admit, "I try to enjoy every day (just) as it comes ... look on the bright side, life is too short." Charlie does have a favorite saying, which certainly goes along with his philosophy ... "It's a great day..." Apparently his fellow workers are greeted each day, with his optimistic outlook on life.

When it came time for admiration for others ... Char-

lie said, "My father ... a hard-working family man..."

EPILOG

Charlie and Jo-Anne Bornas, along with other volunteers, keep making the local town's scout program and PTO stepping stones for the youth. The scout program makes for proper preparedness, at an early age, while the Parents Teachers Organization is the next developing stage for students, under the guidance of teachers and parents ... people like Charlie and Jo-Anne.

NOTE: This C&K column marks the 16th year I have had the pleasure of writing and interviewing the people of Windsor Locks.

—Jack Redmond

Bernie Viera Stays Active in Local Organizations

Everyone connected with the two veteran organizations in town knows Bernie Viera. He's been a member of the American Legion for 48 years, the Veterans of Foreign Wars for 45 years and just to make sure of a busy schedule, he joined the Knights of Columbus 12 years ago.

The Provincetown Mass. native served in World War Two and the Korean War, with six years active duty, and another six as a member of the Naval Reserves.

Now retired, Bernie is an active golfer in the KofC League at Airways, and during the winter months, plays in the club's Setback League.

But before the Naval service, participating in club activities, and before becoming a father and grandfather and marrying "Winnie," his story begins out at the end of Cape Cod.

Looking back at those years, Bernie found Provincetown, "a beautiful place to grow up and where I played all the sports, went fishing and swimming," the good life for a boy growing up.

He was the son of the late John and Catherine (DeRiggs) Viera, who were from Provincetown. Bernie's grandparents came from the Azores (Portugese Islands, 900 miles west of Portugal).

Bernard Francis Viera

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graduated from Provincetown High School in 1942, where he played varsity basketball for three years, with his school becoming Cape champs for two years.

Military Background

He was included with the class of '42, because of his entry in the Naval Reserve in March of that troubled year. Bernie took his boot training in nearby Newport and until February, 1946, was engaged in many of the historic battles of the war. His first battle was the North African invasion, then traveled by way of the Panama Canal to the Pacific Theater. where he was in "every major battle from the Gilbert Island to the final surrender of Japan in Tokyo Bay." Bernie, as with thousands of other GI's were on their way to Japan, when the war ended.

Bernie was a gunner's mate on a heavy cruiser and he remembers "the good times (in the service) and meeting a lot of good guys." He was called back to active duty in the early 50s, assigned to a ship at Norfolk, but did not get to Korea, but was off to Europe, what he called "a good will tour." He stayed in the reserves until February, 1954.

Before going into Bernie's civilian working record, let's write about his better half... Winifred (Barba) Viera, better known as just Winnie. She was from Quincy and Scituate, Mass., the daughter of the late Michael Barba and mother, Tina Barba, who still resides in Scituate. Winnie has a brother, Michael and two sisters, Janet and Dolores.

Bernie and Winnie met at "his aunt's house" in Weymouth, Mass. He was on furlough at the time. They were married in July, 1948, and have lived in Provincetown, Scituate and in Connecticut at Broad Brook and came to Windsor Locks in 1961.

They have two children, John and Karen. John and his wife, Cindy (Hicks) Viera reside in Des Moines, Iowa, with their two children, Mason and Marin. John, a four-year naval veteran of the Vietnam War has lived in Iowa, the past ten years and is a computer programmer. His sister, Karen, lives in Enfield with her daughter, Melanie.

Bernie's working career began with the Provincetown Water Department. He then came to Windsor Locks for a job at Hamilton Standard, back to the bay state and a position with the Fall River Bethlehem Steel Shipyard, followed by his second job at Hamilton. He then went to work for Gab's Specialty Products in town, now known as Crouse-Hinds Navigation Aids. He retired from there in 1987, but with his busy schedule, who knows.

He has always looked to another golf season and has been hitting that little white ball since 1956. With golf, playing cards at the KofC, and veteran involvement, he said, "It keeps me busy," in a very matter-of-fact way, that is so Bernie Viera.

Bernie is a Whaler, Red Sox and Celtic rooster and when it comes to vacation for him and Winnie, she said, "To Des Moines."

Past Commander

As for the American Legion, Bernie is past commander and was voted "Commander of the Year, State of Connecticut," in 1969. In addition, he serves on the board of directors, Windsor

Locks War Veterans Memorial Hall and is a member of the town's Holiday Observer Committee. His explanation of the Legion... "I'm dedicated to the Legion and I believe in its constitution and for its community service and help to the veterans."

He also had praise for the Knights, saying, "I'm satisfied with its service and especially for the handicapped." Bernie serves on the Knights Building Association board of directors.

Epilog

Bernard Francis Viera is one of many dedicated veterans who continue their long association with other men who have served their country. In Bernie, you find a man who has given so many years to organizations and he summed it all up himself, when he said, "I wouldn't change a thing." That's Bernie Viera.



Bernie Viera

Quagliaroli Family Follows Traditions

Young Don and Lisa Quagliaroli, come from well-known local families. When you mention the names of Quagliaroli, MacDougald, Cutler or Ouellette, that's local and very Windsor Locks. Don and Lisa, can say, "We're part of those families."

If you check the telephone book, just the name of Quagliaroli, you'll find 29 listed, of course, some may live in Suffield, or across the river, somewhere along the way, they may be related, at least, can lay claim to be a "Quag."

When we decided to interview Donald Henry Quagliaroli, it was mainly because he was continuing the family tradition in the fire department, likewise for Lisa (MacDougald) Quagliaroli, both with strong department connections. Today, when the bells and whistles go off, there's bound to be a "Quag," or MacDougald, ready for duty.

For some background on Don...he grew up on Suffield Street, the son of Donald C. and Susan (Cutler) Quagliaroli, who were both natives of town. They have two other sons, Brian and Gary.

Donald C. was a subject of C&K back in March 1982. He is now retired from Connecticut Light & Power. Susan's

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late father, Henry L. Cutler Jr. was a fireman and operated a gas station on Main Street. Her grandfather, Henry L. Cutler, Sr. was also a fireman and a former First Selectman for the Town of Windsor Locks.

Speaking of prior interviews, the Quagliaroli family has filled this space with historical data... John L. in Sept. 1978 and that popular two-some, George and Ellen in March 1986. It's now Don and Lisa's turn to add to that history.

Local Schools

Don attended local schools, graduating from the high school class of 1980. He worked during those high school years in a "work/experience program." Actually his working career started much sooner, when he recalled, along with other neighborhood kids, worked in New Hampshire for Mr. A. J. McKenna at his cottage, during the summer months.

After high school his formal working career has in-

cluded a few positions, in addition to attending night school at Technical Careers Institute in Windsor, where he took up heating and air conditioning. Don's first job was with Target Industries in East Windsor where for four years, he was part of the business of converting vans for the handicapped. It was in his last year at Target, he attended night school. After a year at Environmental Systems in West Hartford Don joined Automatic Comfort (fuel oils) and has been there the past six years.

Lisa (MacDougald) Quagliaroli is also a native of town, and a grad of the high school—class of 1982. Lisa was a cheerleader and a member of the Color Guard at the school. She is the daughter of Edward MacDougald and Elaine (Ouellette) Mancino. Mr. MacDougald was originally from Providence R.I. coming to town attending high school. The past 20 years he's been a member of the Hartford Fire Department and 16 years as volunteer fireman in



Lisa, Don and Jessica Quagliaroli

town. Lisa's grandfather is the former fire chief of the town's fire department, Raymond Ouellette.

During Lisa's high school years, she was an exchange student traveling to Germany for three weeks, living "with a great family." Later two German students came to Windsor Locks to stay at Lisa's home. Last year, the parents of one of those students came to town, while visiting the states, and renewed acquaintances with Lisa.

Where did Don and Lisa

meet? Where else... "at the Fire House." they said in unison. The young couple were married on May 18, 1985. They have a very active pretty daughter, Jessica, who was two in March and according to her proud mother, "is Daddy's girl."

When Don was asked, what his hobbies were? ...he didn't hesitate. "The Fire Department." When he was 17 he joined the Civil Defense and at 18 became a member of the volunteer fire department. That was ten years ago, and

today, he is still active and has another role, as secretary of the "Social Service," of the department. He serves along with the president, Peter Coffey, and its treasurer, Jack Cannone. Don "enjoys his part as a volunteer and mostly, it keeps him involved," he said. You can call it a family affair as Lisa is vice president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the department.

When it comes to vacation time for this young family, it usually a trip to Rhode Island. Don is not much of a sport fan, but has followed the Whalers of Hartford on the ice.

Don said, he admires his father, who "was always good to him and his brothers, and a man who has worked hard all of his life." Don admits, "don't take things too seriously (try) to take one day at a time."

Lisa's assessment of her husband... "A very down to earth guy."

Epilog

Don and Lisa Quagliaroli two of the younger generations carrying the tradition of their families, in a most important role, as volunteers. And they are proud to say... "we're part of those families."

Whelan, a Former State Policeman, Has A Second Career

Mike Whelan always wanted to be a member of the State Police.

As his father, Francis J. Whelan, before him, young Mike got his wish, when he was appointed to the Connecticut State Police Academy as a trooper trainee in October 1963. He retired on January 1, 1987, after 23 years with 18 as executive officer for the Investigation and Enforcement Section, Bureau of State Fire Marshal and Safety Services.

The former state policeman and fire marshal was not ready for the rocking chair and retirement. He made a quick "career change," as safety and security manager and hospital fire marshal at Hartford's The Institute of Living.

The active and prominent career of this Hartford native, in both branches of the state police, was preceded by three years in the U.S. Marines, employment by the Greater Hartford Bridge Authority and State Highway Department (he said he was too young for the police at that time), followed by an appointment as a regular patrolman with the Wethersfield Police Department for more than three years. During that period Mike attended the Chiefs of Police Academy in Bethany, and graduated fourth in the class of 32 local officers.

However, before the Marines and police duty, some

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personal data on the father of three daughters, a grandfather and husband of Mary Ann (Cusick) Whelan, who was from Windsor. The Whelan family have been residents of Windsor Locks since 1967.

Mike was the son of the late Francis and Marie Whelan, both from the city of Naugatuck. Mr. Whelan had a distinguished career with the State Police and as inspector in the Fire Marshal's Office. The tradition continued for Mike's brother, Francis J. Whelan Jr., a retired state policeman and his son, Francis J. Whelan III, currently a member of the State Police. It can be rightfully recorded, the Whelan men have left their mark in the annals of the State Police, past and present.

Mike attended Weaver High School, class of 1955, where he played junior varsity baseball, saying he was "too small for basketball." He had played Little League in his younger days. At Weaver, Mike said, "It was the glory days of the Johnny Egan Era."

In November 1955 Mike joined the U.S. Marines, training at Parris Island, S.C., Florida and California before being shipped to Japan. He admitted, "wasn't sure I was going

to like the duty, but when it was time to leave, I hated to go." He attained the rank of sergeant and was discharged in November, 1958.

Mike and Mary Ann knew each other in high school, she at Windsor (class of 1958), he at the big school of Weaver. They renewed acquaintance in 1961 and were married on May 5, 1962. They lived in Wethersfield for five years, before moving to Windsor Locks. Mary Ann is the daughter of Gordon Cusick and the late Mary Cusick. Mr. Cusick is self-employed and resides in Windsor.

They have three daughters... Cheryl, Michele and Marie. Cheryl, WLHS 1983, is married to former football player, Jim Thompson. They have a son, Jim Thompson Jr. and reside in town. Cheryl graduated from Bay Path and attended Central State. Michele, WLHS 1988, is married to Gerry Stavas and they live in nearby Windsor. Marie is in her second year at the local high school and is a member of the field hockey team.

Schooling for this father of three daughters, has been an ongoing interesting part of his life, with the State Police. In



Grandson James Thompson, Cheryl Thompson, Mary Ann, Mike, Michele Staves and Marie Whelan.

addition, back in the 70s, Mike received an associate degree in law enforcement at Manchester Community College. He was certified as a Connecticut State fire marshall on November 1, 1978 and has attended numerous schools, all in pursuit of higher learning in this most specialized field: (to name a few) arson and fire investigation; explosives; factory insurance; supervisory training; Connecticut State Fire School; hazardous materials; fire protection and risk management courses.

Mike's affiliations with organizations: Police Association of Connecticut; International Brotherhood of Police

Officers; Connecticut Fire Marshal Association; International Association of Arson Investigation and International Association for Hospital Security.

When it came to hobbies for this most busy man, Mike said, "I enjoy fishing...skeet and trap shooting." In line with those spare time activities, Mike is a member of the Windsor Marksman Association and the Hartford Gun Club. When it came to spectator sports, there was only one team...the Boston Red Sox, a team he has rooted for since he was a kid. The Whelan family includes the Cape and Rhode Island as their vacation

spots.

As for Mike's "second career," his responsibilities at the Institute of Living were "a challenge (I) look forward to," he said, when he left the State Police. These responsibilities include... "The assignment and supervision of security activities...conduct safety and fire safety inspections of all hospital buildings and serve as fire marshal for the hospital."

Epilog

For Michael Bernard Whelan, the State Police was his life. He is now in a "career change..." and still doing what he likes and knows best.

Residents Play Active Role in Community

When looking for interesting interviewees, it's always enlightening to find individuals, who are more than what they were told (about them), concerning their local activities.

Case in point: Steve and Pat Linde. The parents of two active boys, they are both involved in the Cub Scout program. However, after meeting them, I found, they have teaching careers, and Steve has several duties at St. Mary's Church, which includes the role of Eucharistic minister.

This friendly young couple began their lives in different parts of Connecticut: Pat lived in Rockville for only a year, before her family moved to Windsor Locks (she calls herself a native) and Steve in Hamden, before his folks moved to West Hartford when he was eight years old.

Stephen Arthur Linde attended schools in Hamden for a few years and then in West Hartford, graduating from Hall High School in 1970. He said, "I participated in outside sports," as a young student, which included the game of golf. He is the son of the late Arthur and Adelaide Linde, both of Hartford. Mr. Linde was a teacher and Steve's mother a nurse. He has a sister, Beth Dunn, who lives in Torrington.

Looking back, after high school, he said, "I wanted to go to college and major in history," but art was his real talent. He picked Central and art, graduating in 1974 with a bachelor of arts.

After Steve earned his teaching certificate at Central, he was offered his first teaching position as a substitute of art classes in various schools in the area, which included Newington and West Hartford. With a year under his teaching belt, Steve became a regular art teacher at Chaffee Elementary School for a year, when he decided to change his

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teaching career...going to an "alternate program," as teacher of students, with "social/emotional difficulties." Steve has been at Newington High School the past nine years, with the following analysis... "This type of teaching requires patience and perseverance."

Patricia (O'Brien) Linde, has attended local schools, graduating from the Raider School in 1972. Pat is the daughter of Richard and Lorraine O'Brien of Windsor Locks. Mr. O'Brien was a supernumary policeman in town for many years. Pat has a brother, Ken, who lives in Texas and a sister, Nancy, of Windsor.

Pat has a bachelor of fine arts from UConn (1977) and is currently working on her master's at Storrs, and has recently completed the requirements for a teaching certificate. She said, "Hopefully, in the fall, I'll be able to get a regular teaching position." She has been a teaching substitute in town. Pat is a member of Beta Sigma-Pi Lambda Theta (National Honor and Professional Association in Education). Pat did work for the Hartford Courant, a few years back as an account executive.

Pat and Steve were married on April 21, 1978. They met on a "blind date," arranged by good friends, she said. The

Linde couple first lived in New Britain for a year, followed by five years in Bristol, and then in January, 1985, moved to Windsor Locks.

Their two sons...Jared, 9, and Justin, 7. Jared is a busy young boy...4th grade at South, plays the saxophone, an altar boy at St. Mary's, into "Nintendo" and along with Justin, gymnastics enthusiasts. Justin, 2nd grade at North, is in the Cub Scouts, with Jared, where their parents are assistant leaders, Pack 261.

How about their father's hobbies...fishing, tennis, golf, artist, into music, plays the family piano, enjoying all types of music. Once a month, gets together with two pals...Steve on the piano, Gary Turrell and Paul Auner on guitar and play whatever they want. When it comes to

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Pat, Steve, Jared and Justin Linde

Autos and Planes To Be on Display This Sunday

By Julie Cotnoir
Editor

By taking a step back in history, area residents can see a piece of Americana, at the New England Air Museum this Sunday.

Antique cars from the early 1900s to classic cars from the 1960s are all set to be part of the New England Air Museum's fourth annual auto

show. "We have some gorgeous classic cars that are part of the show," said Michael P. Speciale, the director of the New England Air Museum.

Mr. Speciale said the show, this year scheduled for June 2, began at the original air museum's location many years ago. But when the tornado hit town in the 1980s, the museum had to hold off on hav-

ing the show, until they could find a new location for the museum and get situated.

The present show, co-sponsored by the Connecticut Council of Car Clubs, has been expanding for the last four years, according to the museum director. "It's been growing each year. This year we expect 250 show cars," said Mr. Speciale. "It's kind of neat

because of the mix of cars."

One of the cars that may be included in this year's show is a Stanley Steamer. The car, 1900s vintage, operates with steam engine boilers, said the director. The show will also include other antiques such as Model T Fords and classics such as Packards and Cadillacs from the 1930s.

The cars will be located outside, mixed in with many of the museum's planes, in the open display area of the museum. "It's one of the bigger auto shows in the state," said the director. "It's a pretty good value of a day." Mr. Speciale said although the event draws a crowd—approximately 2,500 people—it is not a problem because of the openness of the museum. "The nice part is there is a lot of room."

Admission for the day is \$5.50 for adults and \$2 for children age 6 to 11. Children under 6 are admitted free. The admission includes viewing the cars, as well as 75 aircraft, including racers, fighters, bombers and helicopters, two flight simulators, movies and an automobile flea market.

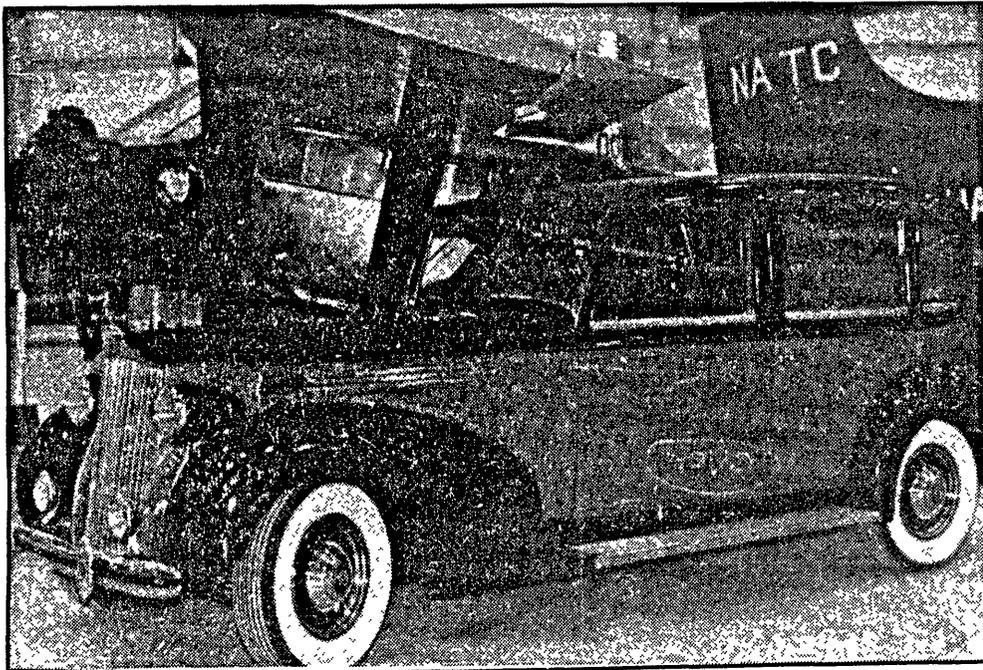
Hot dogs, hamburgers and soda will be on sale. The museum's souvenir/gift shop will also be open.

While at the show, visitors can tour the Air Museum's collection of 75 display aircraft. Vendors who participate in the automobile flea market will be dealing in car parts, literature, tools and memorabilia.

The auto show will run from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. However, the Museum will remain open until 5 p.m. Rainy weather

may limit the number of show cars but the Museum will be open to the public rain or shine according to Mr. Speciale.

The New England Air Museum is located at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, off Route 75. Additional information may be obtained by calling the Museum at 623-3305.



Visitors to the New England Air Museum Antique Auto Show will have an eyeful of each—more than 70 historic aircraft plus approximately 200 antique autos.

Cabbages

Continued From Page 13

vacation time, its usually up to Maine for the Linde family.

Steve is an active parishioner at St. Mary's...on the Parish Council, co-chairman of the Men's Retreat League (for St. Mary's) along with "Bud" Stratton, which is held each year at the Holy Family Retreat House in Farmington. This year, along with the men of St. Roberts, and other Enfield Chapter Churches, the week end of June 14-15-16 will be their time to relax and for personal reflection.

Steve's reason for church involvement..."Learning more about the church...I enjoy volunteering, have

taught catechism classes, the past five years," he said.

And who did he most admire?... "My mother, who had a lot of great qualities...patience and understanding, gave me her love for art," he was proud to relate. A personal philosophy..."I guess it would be to use the talents God has given to each of us."

Epilog

How do you count the ways...of volunteer work; scouting; teaching careers, in school and church...That's the busy life for Steve and Pat Linde and their two lads, Jared and Justin.

As teachers, Steve and Pat have probably learned the following to be so true..."A master can tell you what he or she expects of you. A teacher awakens your expectations."

Jack Foster

Jack's philosophy...
*"Enjoy what you
 got..."*

The life of Jack Foster started in England, but before settling down in Windsor Locks, his schooling, living and working made for interesting experiences in Canada, the western states of Washington and California, New Jersey and then to Bradley Field in the late '40s.

Now retired after many years in Connecticut industries, Jack was a veteran of World War II, serving the same time as his father, Bernard Foster, who saw duty in both World Wars. Jack is the father of two sons, has five grandchildren, and was married to the late Anne Reene Foster who passed away in June 1980.

Jack's story is one of travel at a young age, diversification in jobs, schooling in Canada, California and two years of college, studying mechanical engineering, and three years in the Army Air Force.

We must mention his full name... Bernard Rene Douglas Herbau Jack Foster. We'll stick with his well-known moniker in KofC and American Legion circles, as just plain "Jack," the man with the ready smile and a man filled with facts, which certainly were gained in his many stops from Thornton Heath, England (near London) to little old Windsor Locks.

Jack was the son of the late Bernard and Marie Rose Foster. Mr. Foster was born in England; Jack's mother in France. Jack had three broth-

ers and one sister. Roger, who made the Army his career, and Rose Marie have passed away. Johnny, an Army veteran, and Raymond, a Navy vet who saw action in the famed Battle of Midway, are both residents of California.

Jack was only two when the family left England for Canada. His father, who had been to Canada previously, brought his family there where he was to serve in the Royal Mountain Police. Mr. Foster, as mentioned, served in two wars, with the Royal Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Changes in Locations

Jack's young years were ones of changes in home locations and schooling. Homes were situated in places like North Battleford in Saskatchewan, Vancouver and Victoria, where he started school. The Fosters' first stateside residence was in Spokane, Wash. Jack recalls attending a Catholic school in Idaho. A move to Seattle was next, Jack's father was to work in the aviation industry. Jack's final secondary education was in Oakland, Calif. where he graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1936. He played baseball, was on the track team and participated in the Junior Olympics games in track, mostly in the 100-yard dash.

After high school, he went on to the City College of San Francisco, the year being 1940, where he spent two years

in the city across the bay from Oakland. In November 1942, he left college for service in the Army. He had received his citizenship papers that year.

In the Army Air Force for more than three years, he was to travel the country, training in California, Colorado, Mississippi, Ohio, and Texas. While in sunny Mississippi, he was a member of the Cadet Flying Corps.

Returned to Oakland

After discharge in December 1945, Jack returned to Oakland and for a few months relaxed and took advantage of the famous 52-20 club. (It's been so long, even for me, I forgot \$20 for 52 weeks, or the other way around.)

In March 1946 he joined an airline, mainly because he was interested in flying, and eventually went to work for Trans Ocean Air Lines. The airline was in an expansion move and it changed Jack's life. The move was to open an Atlantic-European Division in New Jersey. In early 1947, Jack moved east to help organize the new division.

The same year, Jack came to Bradley Field to work and live in Connecticut for the first time, as the airline was setting up in the buildings that are still located on Route 75.

Jack's first housing was in Hartford, where he met his future wife, Anne, who was originally from Easthampton, Mass. They were married in

cabbages and kings

JACK REDMOND



Jack and Anne Reene Foster

November 1948. Anne and Jack lived in Hartford, Easthampton, before moving to his current home in December 1953. Anne Foster was an active parishioner at St. Robert's in the Women's Club and as a teacher in the church program.

Anne and Jack had two sons, Brian and Timmy, both active in local sports, Little League, high school and are graduates of the Raider School. Brian, who now lives in Illinois, has a daughter, Carrie, 13, and a son, Patrick, 7. Pat is a soccer player, with his father as coach. Brian and Timmy played three sports in high school: basketball, baseball and soccer. Brian went on to UConn and played soccer. Today he is executive vice president of the Illinois Hospital Associates. Tim and his wife, Mary (McCabb)

Foster, she's a local girl, have three children ... Brian, 17, a former Little Leaguer, plays golf and soccer at Suffield High School. Erin, 14, is into track, and Lisa, 15, an art student. Tim graduated from Springfield College and now is a teacher at Windsor High School. Tim and Mary and their children reside in Suffield.

For the record, Jack is also known as Bernie or Bernard to his many friends in town. He retired in March of 1989, after being employed in several places since coming to Connecticut. For 15 years, he was with Flight Enterprises, a Division of Trans Ocean. He also spent time at Kaman and Lycoming in Bridgeport, and at Delta Airlines, and his final employment record shows a term at Emhart in Windsor,

mostly in the purchasing field.

Many Hobbies

When asked about hobbies, he said, "I got them all — fishing, golf (he's a member of the KofC League at Air-Ways), hunting, target shooting, and bowling." He follows the Red Sox and the football games in the winter. He still manages to travel, and thinking back over the years, as a young boy he saw the wonders of Yellowstone and Yosemite, the Red Woods (Muir) near San Francisco. He admits, matter of fact, "I've been everywhere you can think of..."

As for admiration, he went back a few years, saying, "I remember a friend of the family, an Air Force colonel, N.D. Jenkins, and why? Because he always gave me an encouraging word."

Jack is a life member of the KofC, and has more than 35 years with the American Legion. There is another activity, he is proud to say he's a member ... The Enfield Retreat League for more than 20 years. He plans to attend this weekend (June 14-16) at the Holy Family Retreat House. Why does Jack go? "Because it gives me a good feeling and a better understanding of my religion."

EPILOG

Jack Foster has seen many changes in his life of traveling, working, and his role as husband, father and grandfather.

Napoli Serves as GHO Media Relations Chairperson

The Canon Greater Hartford Open will have a very local flavor next month... Beth Ann Napoli, a Dexter employee, is this year's Media Relations chairperson.

Beth Ann has been busy the past few weeks handling regulations regarding the working press, who, as usual, bring to the Connecticut golf fans, the latest scores, stories and behind-the-scene action. This year, the 40th anniversary for the event, will take place at the new Tournament Players Club at River Highlands in Cromwell during the week of July 22-28.

Beth Ann is no stranger to responsible jobs at this yearly event. At last year's GHO, the Brooklyn and Long Island native was in charge of Player Relations. She said the new course, which has been under reconstruction since last year, "is beautiful and will be ready for play." That is great news to the golf public who are looking forward to watching some of the top players on the PGA Tour tee off, with familiar names like Paul Azinger, two-time winner of the GHO, last year's winner, Wayne Levi, Corey Pavin and local favorite Ken Green.

Born in Brooklyn

We met Beth Ann at the Dexter Corporate Offices on Elm Street last month, and wanted to find out what a Media Relation job was all about, and her career at Dexter, since she left Massapequa High School on Long Island.

Beth Ann is the daughter of

cabbages and kings

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Anthony and Elizabeth Napoli, both from Brooklyn and old time Dodger fans, who now make their home on Long Island. Beth Ann has three brothers, Antonio who resides in Norwalk, and Michael and James who live on Long Island.

She was born in Brooklyn; however, at age three the family moved to the island. She graduated from Massapequa High School in 1979, was active in the school's drama club, a member of the National Honor Society and even then had a flair for journalism as the high school reporter for the Massapequa Post. She had an early start on how reporters, columnists and the fourth estate operate.

When Beth Ann decided on college, "Special Ed" was to be her major, but changed her mind and went into accounting and business. She received her accounting degree from the University of Hartford in 1983, and later attained the status of Certified Public Accountant from the State of



Beth Ann Napoli

Staff Photo by Julie Cotnoir

Connecticut.

Her first position was with the firm of Arthur Andersen & Co., where she received her first role as an auditor, operated out of their Hartford office, with accounts in the insurance and manufacturing field. After four years,

she joined Dexter, in May of 1987.

Management Program

Beth Ann entered the Dexter's Management Development Program, traveling throughout the states and Europe. London was her home base for four months, working in the large cities of Europe as an auditor.

Today, Beth Ann is in the Treasurer's Department and holds the title of Corporate Cash Manager. She is a member of the Connecticut and National Certified Cash Managers Association.

Since coming to Connecticut, Beth Ann has lived in East Hartford, Manchester, and currently resides in Newington. When asked about hobbies, she said, "In the

winter, I follow the UConn Huskies and the rest of the year, on vacations, I love to travel, which has included Mexico, Aruba, the Bahamas and the states."

Beth Ann is a devotee of Bushnell musicals and ballet, with season tickets. And she is not alone... she is engaged to Stephen Holcomb of Housatonic, Mass. (near Great Barrington). She met the "Segment Controller" of ITT Hartford at a party. They became engaged in April. She does follow the Red Sox, enjoys jazz and country western music, reads a lot, but no TV, and her favorite food... pizza. Just a regular All-American girl.

In Jaycees

This active lady has been a working member of the Greater Hartford Jaycees since 1984, and finds the Jaycees "A great organization, where a person can develop management skills and make a lot of lasting friendships." At last year's GHO, as mentioned, she was in charge of Player Relations, which included the following... "of course, the players, caddies, transportation, hotel accommodations, taking care of the players' wives, and the Club House during the Tournament." Adding, "I had a lot of help... a great committee."

This year... Media Rela-

tions... which consists of "taking care of the working press, giving proper credentials and working in the media building at the River Highlands in Cromwell." Did she have a favorite player... "Yes, Paul Azinger, a friendly guy and winner of the 1987 and 1989 GHO."

On a more personal note, Beth Ann has a very simple philosophy... "To be grateful for what you have." As for admiration of others, she said, "My parents... my brothers and I had a great childhood, our parents were very generous... and I hope I can carry on the same values they taught us in my life."

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

JUNE 21, 1991

Leslie Roncari Works for the Family Business

Leslie Roncari ... how does one describe the many talents of this versatile young lady of "Script R Farms," in Windsor Locks.

If you include her love of horses, the years in the family business and operation of the farm, manager of well-known boxers, her many interests in local senior citizens, you might just come close to this native daughter of Raymond and Madeleine Roncari.

Wemet Leslie, actually best known to her many friends as "Les Ron," from the early days at St. Mary's, at the family farm on Center Street and it gave me not just an opportunity to meet this active girl, but find out about the horses on the farm, one that was called "Win Loc's Slew." And I was given a history lesson on the Sport of Kings... "Win Loc's Slew" is the son of the famous "Seattle Slew," Triple Crown Winner of 1977.

Leslie Raemonda Roncari is one of five daughters and one son of Mr. and Mrs. Roncari. This remarkable family has been in business and other associations, state and national, for over a half century.

We found Leslie to be friendly and enthusiastic in all of her endeavors she has undertaken since leaving high school in 1973. All the Roncari children are grads of the local high school. The children now all grown... Gregory

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and his wife, Marcia, live on the island of St. Croix (Virgin Islands), where he is involved in building Italian villas and the restaurant business; Dale is married to Todd Meck, residing in Darien, Conn., with their two children, Terrence (the diver in the family) is 13, and Blaire at 16, involved in EMT; Debbie is married to Paul Murdock and they live in town; Robin has two children, Jonathan 12, into Little League, plays the piano and his younger brother, Sean, 9, Leslie's godson, and a boy who plays Little League; Alicia, married to John Lampson, They live in Manchester, where John has a band, called "Society's Children." Leslie is now becoming involved in the band's promotion in addition to the promotion of the popular group "Savage Brothers Band." A society note: Robin is to marry David Griffin on August 2.

Back to Leslie ... she admits, "Those years (high school) were the crazy years of my life," spending most of her time learning about the horses. She gives a lot of credit to Johnny Quinlan, former farm manager, during her high school years. She found some time for softball and basket-

ball, and was involved in organizing the town's Women's Softball League.

Looking back, she said, "Our father wanted all of us to have horses ... I just knew that's what I was going to do ... have horses."

And in 1974, she began her education and what better place than Kentucky. She traveled to Plum Lane Farm in the heart of thoroughbred country for first hand experience. And Leslie received just that. She worked daily on this large breeding farm for a year, getting up at 5 a.m., working all day with 30 horses. Her day was spent giving everything the horses needed, all the "normal things," she said, even helping in the birth of a foal.

Family Business

On her return to Windsor Locks, Leslie switched to "learning the family business, Roncari Industries Inc. in East Granby. Leslie worked in "every department of the business," along with her sister, Debbie.

During that period of her life, in addition to the family business in East Granby, Leslie had added duty. She became involved in the City of Hartford, working with community groups on hous-



Leslie Roncari with Blue Buckaroo, an eight-year-old thoroughbred stakes winner.

ing, which she found, at times, frustrating, dealing with different agencies on a state and federal level. But, she admitted, "It was good experience." She also was a part of her father's hotel project at Bradley International Airport, and even found time to attend Post College in Waterbury, where she studied law and business.

However, after five years, Leslie returned to the farm, again to breed and raise horses, especially race horses. Today, she manages the horse farm, in addition to "Script R Farm." The family has another location in Suffield, where their horses are housed. One to know the thrill of horse racing, Leslie has taken an active role in another assignment: going once a month to various

tracks, all over the country (New York, New Hampshire, Florida, Illinois and Kentucky) where the family horses are racing, to find out how each horse is doing in races and the health of each horse. For the record, Leslie is a member of the following: Owner's & Breeders Association of Florida and New York, American Horse Council and the National Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association.

One of the highlights of Leslie's racing career of breeding and raising horses, was her part of the syndicate that bought into "Summer Squall," the horse that won the 1990 Preakness. She was one of 28 owners who have a piece of the horse, who "many still consider to be the finest in the nation."

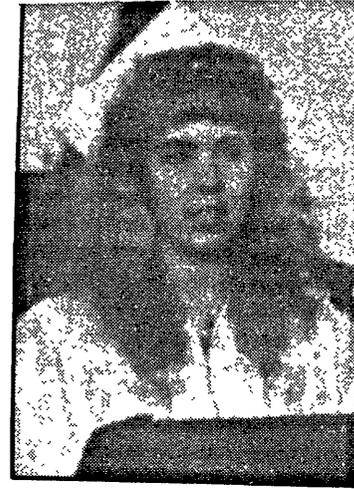
Boxing Background

With a smile, Leslie said, "My father gets me involved," and that's how we got into conversation of her role in the world of boxing. In 1981, she took on her first job as manager of Robert Folley, son of Zora Folley, who once fought Muhammed Ali for the world championship. Today, she has Tyrell Biggs, 1984 Olympic gold-medal super heavyweight under contract. As for the boxing world ... "it's a different world." She has attended weigh-ins and other management functions. Speaking of contacts ... Leslie has had conversations with famed boxing promoter Don King. She keeps up with the sport as a member of the United States Boxing Association and International Boxing Council.

Epilog

Leslie Roncari, a queen in the sport of kings, with her love of horses coming first, but always with an eye for other people and other ways to make life interesting.

Winston S. Churchill probably said it best ... "Human beings are divided into two classes: first, those whose work is work and whose pleasure is pleasure; and secondly, those whose work and pleasure are one ... fortune's favored children belong to the second class, their life is a natural harmony. That's Leslie Raemonda Roncari.



Valedictorian
Tiffany Geahigan
Staff Photo By Beth Williamson

Tiffany Geahigan is An Active Senior

Tiffany Ann Geahigan has never been afraid to work hard, and this philosophy of the young senior student has paid off, as she was chosen the Valedictorian of the Class of 1991, Windsor High School.

Having lived in town most of her life, except for a little over a year in Marlborough, Tiffany has attended local schools. It seemed to be her destiny and goal, to be named to this high honor. She said, "It was nice to hear it officially."

Tiffany is the daughter of Ann Smith Geahigan, of Windsor Locks, and Derrel Geahigan of Unionville. The family was indeed confident and happy when the announcement was made last month.

The honored student had taken college courses during her years at the Raider School, along with a full agenda of activities and earning numerous honors.

Does this active student have a nickname? Why sure... "Tiffany Woman," given by her fellow students. Going along with her name... Tiffany's mother, just called her a "real jewel," while her brother, Shaun, called his sister, "Genuine," and her mother adding, "Yes, a super kid."

Tiffany's list of activities include the following... some softball; was one of the "Dolls," in the class musical hit "Guys & Dolls"; she worked on the Year Book; the Math Team for four years; a

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member of the Student Council; a member of Girl's State and a member of the National Honor Society, also serving as president of the Windsor Locks High School Honor Society.

Tiffany's mother a Hartford native, and a "single-parent, since Tiffany was in kindergarten," has her own business, called ASG Custom Business Service Inc., which she says, "offers a wide range of computer-supported accounting and management programs."

Tiffany's brother, Shaun Geahigan, a 1989 graduate of the local high school, played football for the Raiders (the sport he learned on the midget program) is a college student. He recently studied at Johnson State in Vermont, however, in the fall will transfer to UMass to continue his "Environmental Studies."

With class work, and a job at the Windsor Court Hotel after school, (of course homework) Tiffany admits, "There's not much time for hobbies." She does enjoy reading, Rock & Roll music, "Beverly Hills, 90210" on television, "Stand By Me," her favorite movie and when it come to eating, she'll order at "Taco Bell."

Vacation time has been shared with Shaun and their father, Derrel Geahigan, when

the three get together for a week in the summer upstate New York, near the Canadian border.

Back to high school... the school, after naming Tiffany Valedictorian, also honored two students as Salutatorians... Mihir Patel and William Blais.

Tiffany admits, "My future plans are undecided as to a career," but the college plans are very complete. She is going to Boston College, located in Chestnut Hill, near Boston, and will take a Liberal Arts course.

She considers herself lucky to be among the five percent of the new students coming to Boston College, participating in the college's "Discovery Program." Tiffany and this privileged group of young college-bound students, from all over the country, were given three days of indoctrination, which also included a visit to Quincy Market, a Broadway play and during her stay she saw Dana Carvey, "Saturday Night Live," star, when he was on campus. Yes, Tiffany is all set for Boston College in the fall and said, "The college has given me a grant," and the family is quite pleased, to say the least.

As mentioned, Tiffany has received several honors and awards... which have

included... Rotary Club Sophomore Award; first place in the American Legion Voice of Democracy in her junior year; Brown University Book Award; Bausch & Lomb Scientific Award; and has attended the Hugh O'Brien Leadership Conference; Junior Science and Humanities Symposium at Yale; Pulp & Paper Seminar in Maine, sponsored by Dexter; and in her sophomore year participated in the Talcott Mountain Nova Science Program. Recently, she was awarded the Business & Professional Women's Club of Hartford honors. and the Ella T. Grasso Award from the General Federation of Womens' Club of Windsor Locks.

When it came to admiration for others, Tiffany said, "My mother, has raised my brother and me, always helped us in school work and has been for us." The young college-bound student had a very simple philosophy... "Work hard... don't be afraid to work, there are rewards from it."

Epilog

Tiffany Ann Geahigan has been honored by her school and certainly her personal "hard work," has its rewards. To Tiffany, Mihir, William and their classmates of the class of 1991, some famous words... "Now we must leave you, our friend. We are all a little older, a little wiser, a little stronger. It has been wonderful, Oh good friend, and We will carry your memory with us forever."

Julie Lynes Plans Trips for Senior Citizens

If you want to make one of the several Senior Citizen trips, you have to call Julia Lynes. Better known as just Julie, this Windsor Locks native daughter comes from one of the town's familiar families—the Taravellas.

Julie was one of 10 children of the late Andrew and Romilda Taravella, who came from their native Italy at a young age. They came from different towns in Italy, but both settled in town, and were married in St. Mary's Church. The same church where Julie and her husband, Loring Lynes, were wed on January 14, 1950.

St. Mary's School saw all the Taravella children go through those historic halls, and on to high school, working and raising their families. Julie attended the high school and went on to the Hartford Trade School on Washington Street, near the State Capitol. (It's now Prince Tech.)

However, after two years learning the fine art of dress-making, Julie decided to work for the telephone company. During World War II, as many did at the time, she switched to defense work at Pratt &

cabbages and kings

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Whitney. After the war, she returned to the telephone company.

Julie's husband, Loring, also known as "Larry or L," came from Groton, Mass. near Fort Devens. In August of 1941, Loring didn't have far to go ... he became a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps at Devens and began a training period that took him to Arkansas, Missouri and California, before shipping overseas to England. He served with the 8th Air Force, 751st Bomb Group, with the famed B-17s. He made several missions over Europe at the height of the war as Flight Engineer and gunner. He was discharged from the service in October 1945.

After the war, he attended school in Boston (near Logan Airport) studying the aircraft industry and has held many positions ... in Vermont, Kaman, and Pratt & Whitney, and in 1984 retired from Klock in Manchester with 14 years' service. Overall, Loring had

42 years in the aircraft industry.

While he was with Trans Ocean Airlines he met Julie at a party and two years later they were married. Loring and Julie have a daughter, Donna, who graduated from WLHS in 1976, attended Computer Processing Institute, and is currently employed at Klock. Loring is a member of the Masons, and has been treasurer the past 23 years for the local organization.

Large Family

At this point of the story of Julie, it is appropriate to mention her large family. Julie said, "We usually have a summer reunion," and admits "I may have lost count, but I have 27 nieces and nephews, and 35 greatnieces and nephews."

We will begin with Robert, who was our subject in C&K back in August of 1978. He still lives in town, while a brother, David, resides in sunny California. The third brother, Thomas, passed away.



Julia Taravella Lynes

Now for Julie's sisters: Mary Taravella, Loretta Pastormarolo, Mildred Bushnik, Rosemarie Zappulla and Agnes Peterson, all live in town. Betty Mayhugh lives in Arkansas, to complete the large family of Andrew and Romilda Taravella.

Julie and Loring said, "We really do not have time for hobbies." Their real hobby is the Senior Citizen Club. However, at home they both enjoy reading.

When it comes to the Senior Center, Julie calls her

husband "my assistant," referring to her position as tour coordinator. Julie has been working this important role in organizing trips ever since Evelyn Williams left to live in New Jersey. Julie was Mrs. Williams' assistant for six years.

What are some of the future trips being planned? Well, Julie had a full list of places ... July 17, Darien Theater; July 30, Red Sox baseball; in August, Rutland, Vt. (3 days); September, Atlantic City, where the seniors will be a part of the Miss America audience; October, a trip to Canada; and in December, (Reedy Ridge Conn (Christmas trip).

Julie finds her role at the center "interesting," and she and her husband usually make the trips. Looking back over

the years, what was her favorite trip ... "To Mackinac," she said. Mackinac, an island in Michigan, on the Lake Huron side of the Straits of Mackinac. Adding, "It's pretty country ... a nice trip."

Julie was asked who is most admired ... her response, "Good singers, especially in the field of opera." This native of Windsor Locks has a very simple philosophy ... "Take (life) as it comes."

EPILOG

Julia Taravella Lynes, trip coordinator extraordinary in her home town, with no time for hobbies, because her hobby is really making arrangements for her fellow seniors. She selects where to go, and when, be it the Cape, Atlantic City, or a trip up north. All they need ... have suitcase, be ready to travel, just call Julie.

Ann Marie & Neil Claffey

We have been trying to interview Ann Marie and Neil Claffey ever since the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Towns Little League team winning the World Championship back in 1965.

These two busy people played an important role in that celebration, especially Ann Marie, who was president of the Little League Auxiliary at the planning stage of that historic event.

Ann Marie and Neil have supported the Little League program back when their oldest son, Brian, began playing. Their second son, Sean, continues the tradition, while Dennis, who waits on the sidelines at the age of eight months, has already taken in the high school and middle school's soccer and basketball and now baseball, since he was two weeks old. At the Claffey home, they start at a young age. Definitely, it's another "Our Three Sons," with time and devotion to sports in Ann Marie's home town.

Last month we did manage to coordinate their busy schedule and came up with the following ... Ann Marie and Neil come from large families, and certainly fit the so-called All-American couple, concerned parents, with sons playing all the main sports, now at the high school level, with Sean entering his freshman year at the Raider School.

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High School Sweethearts

Ann Marie Fiocchetta was a native daughter of Windsor Locks, who went to St. Mary's and then to Northwest Catholic High School, graduating in 1974. Neil Claffey, a Bloomfield native, also was a student at Northwest and they were rightfully called "High School Sweethearts." Neil received his diploma the same year as Ann Marie, and in September of that year, the young couple were married. They lived in Bloomfield a few years, moving to town in 1976.

She is the daughter of Albert and Julie (Connor) Fiocchetta, who make their home in Windsor Locks. Mr. Fiocchetta is retired from Hamilton-Standard, after twenty years, and was a navy veteran of two decades, with service during World War II, mostly in the area of the Mediterranean Sea.

Ann Marie has a brother, William of Granby, three sisters: Lynne of Dennis, Mass., Patricia of Windsor Locks and Mary Lou of Glastonbury.

Neil is the son of Robert and the late Rita (Maloney) Claffey. Mr. Claffey is retired from the Metropolitan District Commission. Neil has four brothers: Robert of Ledyard,

Greg of Bloomfield, Kevin and Keith of Windsor Locks, and two sisters, both who reside in East Granby, Noreen and Karen.

That's the Fiocchetta and Claffey family ... now the three sons of Ann Marie and Neil, the grandsons of those families. Brian Neil Claffey is 16, will be a junior this fall, where he plays varsity basketball, soccer and recently joined the golf team. Brian is a former Little Leaguer, minors to seniors, and roots for the Red Sox, along with his father. Sean Patrick Claffey, 14, now a freshman, played soccer, baseball and basketball at the Middle School, is currently playing senior Little League. Sean is also into golf and is a New York Met fan. As mentioned, Dennis Connor Claffey is now only a spectator, but his time is coming.

Neil worked during his high school years at St. Francis Hospital, and continued working at the hospital and now has seventeen years of service. He is currently the buyer of pharmaceuticals for the hospital. Ann Marie was a hospital employee during her high school years as a secretary. She said, "Our mothers (Neil and mine) were hospital employees." Today Ann Marie works part-time for a nursing home in Bloomfield.

At one time, Neil was the only golfer in the family, but now Brian and Sean are at the sport, where Neil, "when he finds the time," will be out on

'Whatever the kids are involved in ...'

Ann Marie's main hobby

Support Little League



Brian, Neil, Sean, Ann Marie and Dennis Claffey

the links. When it comes to spectator sports, Neil and Ann Marie have always been at their sons sporting activities. Ann Marie said, "whatever the kids are involved in ..." that's her hobby. When it comes to vacation for the Claffey's ... the Cape and a lake in Connecticut are their spots for fun and relaxation.

Little League

The Little League Celebration: In May of last year, the 1965 Little League World Champs celebrated their 25th Anniversary with a dinner attended by a large group of parents, friends, relatives and just fans of those boys of summer that made history and will never be forgotten.

Ann Marie and her committee worked hard to make it a success. Just to top off the year's celebration, it was decided to play Stoney Creek of Ontario, Canada, their opponents in 1965, when Windsor

Locks won 3-1 at Williamsport. It was a big undertaking, with a large group of local people traveling to Stoney Creek in August, for another dinner, honors and another game (with Windsor Locks winning 5-1, for the record, Mike Roche again getting the victory). Those who went to Canada, enjoyed themselves (which included yours truly, Bob Creech is my son-in-law) mostly through the efforts of Jim Vlakov, who played for Stoney Creek and today, a fixture in that town, who operates a restaurant and bar called "The Attic."

To top off that weekend in Canada, which was called ... Night of Champions, August 17, 1990, "the following local Little League supporters and committee members were honored, with their own "Certificate of Acknowledgement,"... for their efforts in

the reunion.. Fran Aniello Sr., Dave Yellen, Al Wilcox, Wayne Chappie and Mrs. Ann Marie Claffey.

More on a personal side of Ann Marie ... when it came time to say who she most admired, ... she said, "My parents ... (I guess) I am the way I am because of them ... and what they taught me growing up..." She has a very simple and wise philosophy, especially in these days of changes ... "Live for today."

Epilogue

That's the story of Ann Marie and Neil Claffey and "our three sons." The family has been an important part of the Little League program over the years, and looking back to last year, played an equally important role in the celebration for the boys of summer ... 1965. They will not forget and neither will the players, parents and fans.

Cooper Received Gold Star for Time in Iwo Jima

William Henry Cooper has had two close calls during his life. The first came as a young 19-year-old U.S. Marine, when he participated in four of the major battles of the Pacific during World War II.

The second came last year when this congenial and friendly man, known better as just "Bill," came through a nine-hour operation and now plays a mean round of golf with his K of C buddies.

Yes, as Bill put in so eloquently, "God was looking over me," in his two battles, as a young Marine and the other as a senior citizen.

Bill Cooper was born and raised in Warehouse Point; however, with his wife Marge and their three now-grown children, Windsor Locks was called home for more than 27 years.

First, some history on young Bill, who graduated from Ellsworth High School in South Windsor, Class of 1942. Bill was into sports, playing soccer until he broke an ankle, before that experience, ran the middle distances in track and was student manager of the basketball team.

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Bill was the son of the late William and Hilda Cooper, who were both Connecticut natives. Hilda worked for years as a switchboard operator for the Roncari Co. Bill has a brother, Richard, and four sisters, Audrey, Barbara, Marion and Shirley.

After high school, Bill worked at Pratt & Whitney in the office, but in a few short months (November 1942) he was at Parris Island, S.C., in the uniform of the United States Marine Corps. Looking back, he said, "I was almost 19, in good shape, for what you would call rough training in boot camp."

Bill went on to Radio Operator's School at Camp Lejeune, N.C. before being shipped to Camp Pendleton, Calif. In January 1944, he was off to war in the Pacific and was part of four amphibious landings, that now have historic importance, when one tells the story of the Pacific war and the Marines' involve-

ment ... Kwajalein, Saipan, Tinian and Iwo Jima.

From early in 1944, until February of '45, Bill was part of the action. In between, his young fighting group would return to Maui for rest and replacements. Bill was a PFC in the 4th Division, 14th Regiment, "B" Battery. For his action in those battles, Bill received the Bronze Star in Saipan, and a Gold Star (in lieu of Bronze) for his time in Iwo Jima. When Bill remembers Iwo ... he said, "It was very bad ... toughest battle." He worked closely with the infantry as observer.

Entered Program

On his return to the states, in the summer of '45, Bill entered the Navy V-12 program but the war ended in September, and he was discharged.

He came back to Warehouse Point, and after a short recuperation went to work for the telephone company (SNET), working mostly in the Wind-



"I'd rather make a friend, than an enemy..."

Bill's favorite saying

many years was secretary for the Windsor Locks Board of Education.

Bill and Marge have grown children... Dr. Bryan Cooper, subject of C&K interview on July 19, 1979 (ironically, his dad made it 12 years later), practices his profession at Hartford Hospital. The doctor lives in Suffield with his wife Dawn (Nally) Cooper and their four sons; Brad Cooper is married to Loralyn (Pearce) Cooper and they reside in town with their two sons and two daughters; Nancy is married to Mark Small and live in West Suffield with their daughter.

Plays Golf

The grandfather of seven is a member of the K of C; the past 20 years, plays golf in the KofC League at Airways, was a bowler and now that he is retired, his real hobby is cooking and baking. Bill said, "They tell me I do quite a good job," when it comes to his real hobby. In addition to the K of C, Bill has held memberships in the American Legion and VFW, is a member of the 4th Division (Marines) of World War II and Survivors of Iwo Jima, Connecticut Chapter.

Bill met Marjorie Cagnulari, a native of Windsor Locks, at an American Legion dance. They were married, as Bill stated... "Four years to the day, I was discharged from the Marines on Sept. 17, 1945 and we were married on Sept. 17, 1949." Marge is now retired, started her working career in Child Welfare, and for

Quiet time for Bill means reading biographies of famous and interesting people. As a spectator, he follows the Red Sox, Celtics and New York Giants. Bill and Marge moved to East Windsor five years ago, after 27 years in town. Back in the middle '50s, Bill was the Tax Collector for the town of East Windsor.

When it came to admiration of others, Bill went back in history, a historic time of his life, saying... "I admired Franklin D. Roosevelt, our leader during World War II." Bill has had his share of life... and said, "I'm not going to feel sorry for myself..." He considers his family a success, and has a great love for all of them.

EPILOG

William Henry Cooper — one of the thousands of U.S. Marines who were part of history in battles in the Pacific as a young man. He came back, raised a family and worked many years for the telephone company. Today, he enjoys retirement, golf with his K of C buddies, reading and those seven grandchildren. Yes, Bill, you are a successful person.

Air Force Reservist

When they wrote about heroes of Desert Shield and Storm and the Persian Gulf War, generals and fighting men and women were deservedly receiving the headlines.

We in Windsor Locks were also honored to have several service personnel behind the scenes flying C-5A Galaxy, heavy-cargo transport, from Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts, to Germany, on to Saudi Arabia, carrying men and women, supplies and other related duties during and before the Persian Gulf War.

One of those local men was Tech Sgt. John James Duffy, member of the Air Force Reserve, local Windsor Locks Fire Department volunteer and lieutenant with the Westover Fire Department. His compatriots in

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this long and dangerous detail were... Tom Sr. and Tom Jr. Durkin, Dave McKemmie, Billy Rolocut and Robert Callery of Enfield.

For the past 11 months, John and his fellow airmen had to have "bags packed, around the clock, and ready to go," at a minute's notice. John, loadmaster of the giant C-5A

("largest plane in the free world") is a member of the 337th Military Airlift Squadron, part of the 439th Military Air Wing. John had many memories and stories of his "100 hours a month," since last Aug. 6, ferrying troops

and other duties connected with his 50 missions to Europe and the war zone.

Time in the Desert

The way John tells it, they would leave Westover at 4 a.m. for Germany, and after 12 hours' rest, off to Saudi Arabia, some time in the desert, a return trip to Germany and back to Westover. It also found John living in a tent, one day, in Saudi, barracks in Germany the next, and when it all began (winter months), it could be 10 above at Westover and 120 degrees in the desert. Jet lag, weather conditions, food and different eastern customs became common to this young man who, after the war was over, became one of the heroes to those service men and women returning to Westover and home from the war. John was a part of the probably most popular taxi squad and a most appreciated group.

John, also known as "Jay" or "Duff," was born in Hartford Hospital, was an active young man in this area, before he was traveling halfway around the world. He was the son of the late Francis Duffy. John has a sister, Delia Ray, of Willington, Conn., where she resides with her two boys, Tim and Nick.

John's dad, who passed away in 1983, had a distinguished career at Pratt & Whitney, with 32 years as jet engine inspector, veteran of the Army Air Corps, and 27 years as volunteer fireman (20 with Windsor and seven with North Thompsonville). The old cliché, son like father, certainly runs true with John and his dad. But actually, John only knew of his father's employment and firefighting duties, until he learned of his

'Around the clock... bags are packed... ready to go...'

John's itinerary the past 11 months

Shares Gulf Experiences



Air Force Reservist John Duffy

dad's involvement as a member of the Air Force C-47 crew that was stranded on Greenland in December of 1948. Life Magazine (which John has a copy, Jan. '49) gave wide coverage to the rescue attempts of several planes before the crew was picked up. It wasn't until years later that John learned of his father's part in one of the big stories of the late '40s.

John began school in Enfield, moving to Windsor Locks in 1967. Looking back, he said, "I've been on my own since I was 15." He graduated from WLHS in 1972. Back in 1968, he and one of his best friends, Eddie Malec, were student janitors at the high school, and needless to say, they didn't have much time for sports or other activities. But one activity they both became involved with was the Fire Department Junior Firefighters (1969-1972). John said, "There are still nine of us from the town that signed up in 1969."

Joined Reserves

In 1973, John joined the Connecticut Air National Guard. Eight years later he left the Connecticut Guard and joined the Air Force Reserves. His past experiences, in addition to the recent Persian Gulf War, included flying into the islands of St. Thomas and St.

Croix, after "Hurricane Hugo," with shipments of food and medicine for those stricken islands. John's first taste of war was the Panama Invasion, when Westover Reservists launched the first of their C-5A missions in support of "Operation Just Cause." In the March 1990 issue of "Citizen Airman," it tells of the 337th part in the invasion and mentioned John, as loadmaster, and saying, "It's our duty to bring them (troops) in, and I hope we'll bring them out soon."

When asked about the Persian Gulf area ... John mentioned the following countries ... (where he stopped off) Israel, Turkey (where he was part of the evacuation of women and children), Bahrein, Oman, Italy, and Egypt.

When you talk to John about his firefighting experiences, he says with pride, "I always wanted to be a fireman, since I was a kid." John got his wish as a junior, then regular, and in addition, April 1974 he became a civilian fireman at Westover and now holds the rank of lieutenant.

Enjoys Fishing

On a more personal note ... John enjoys fishing, and the art of cooking. According to John, "all firemen like to cook, it's part of being a fireman." He does have a boat, "a way to relax," he said. A few fireman duties for John are not chores

... he's an instructor at the State Fire School, been in charge of the annual local Firemen's Parade the past 15 years. John was an EMT for a decade as a member of the Lions Ambulance Corps. Yes, he's also a member of the local Polish Home and Italian-American Home.

John has been a football fan of the Denver Broncos since 1978, saying, "I liked the City of Denver ... been all over the 50 states, and just picked the Broncos, so for me it's football in the winter and fishing in the warm weather."

In addition to the annual parade of the fire department, John has been building small fire trucks which are on display and he feels "the kids enjoy them, everyone helps in the making at the firehouse and it's all part of Fire Prevention."

Looking back at his life ... John said, "There are so many people I could mention that had an influence on my life ... the upper administration of the Fire Department ... I'm grateful to them all and to the town, I wouldn't trade the town or its people for anything."

That's the story of John James Duffy, one of the airmen behind the scenes of war, or wherever they are called upon to do their duty. John also knows his duty as fireman, be it Westover or Windsor Locks. Yes, it is a story of son like father.

Towns People

Redmond Watches the Pros

An old pro once said... "The object of this game is to putt the ball into the hole, the rest is just a cross-country wild goose chase in search of a climax."

Well, the 1991 Canon Greater Hartford Open certainly had its climax. Young Billy Ray Brown sank a 25-foot birdie on the first playoff hole to win the 1991 GHO at the new Tournament Players Club at River Highlands. He beat out Corey Pavin and Rick Fehr.

It was a great week and I want to thank Beth Ann Napoli, of Dexter, the 1991 media chairperson and an old friend, John P. Giovannucci, 1991 sponsors chairman, and his wife Susan, for a great week that was...

Now for a day-to-day account of my findings at the revamped layout...

Monday, July 22

Opening Day ... hot and hot. In the 90s, but what else is new. But the Greater Hartford Open is on. The cutting of the ribbon by the 1991 Tournament chairman, Paul H. Ockert, along with Canon officers, Jaycee and Cromwell folks, plus Barbara Bailey Kennelly, Congresswoman from the First District. It figures, past years, Governor Bill O'Neil was always there, but this year the present Governor had other pressing work.

There was golf with the Tournament Players Pro-Am, led by 1990 winner Wayne Levi, who shot a respectable 71 (one over par).

We certainly had a local flavor ... with Jim Roberts playing with Pro Mark Hayes (and others), with his friend, Lou Ramirez, as caddy for

the 18 holes. Watching all the action were their wives, JoAnn Ramirez and Elaine Roberts, all from Windsor Locks. Jim represented the Amscot Printing Group Inc.

Tuesday, July 23

The busy day... Jaycee-Whaler Celebrity Long Drive Contest ... Junior Golf Clinic ... Canon-Jaycee Shootout ... all went well until the weather changed the Shootout to no golf. Threatening skies, thunder and a tornado watch combined to reduce the event to four holes. This writer knew something was wrong ... could feel it in the air ... I left and so glad, missed the rain. Charlie Bagley told me... "only rain in some towns." Well, Cromwell was one of those towns.

Some more local folks... Bill Elrick, local high school teacher and "voice of the Raiders" was on hand. So were three young boys who took in Dave Stockon's Junior Golf Clinic ... Brian Claffey (probably there to beat his dad, Neil Claffey), Paul Biedrzycki and Greg Pfaffenbichler.

Before all the action on Tuesday... a press conference was held to find out how it feels to win the British Open. Well, I found out and so did the media of Hartford and the State of Connecticut. Ian Baker-Finch won on Sunday in Southport, England, and was ready for the press Tuesday. It went something this ... Why did I play the GHO ... wanted to play after a major

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... now find it less of a pressure (now that I won) and do not have to prove himself (to any others, because of ... for example Greg Norman from Ian's native Australia). The man with the two names comes from Sanctuary Cove in the down-under country.

Wednesday, July 24

The GHO Celebrity Pro-Am Day at River Highlands. Usually a fun day, but this is after-Sammy Davis Jr. time. Celebrities ... only a few and it's a good thing the Hartford Whalers are so close ... Dean Evason, Kevin Dineen and the great one ... Mr. Hockey, Gordie Howe. Oh yes, a few stars ... Efrem Zimbalist Jr. (remember him?) ... local coach, Big Jim Calhoun of the UConn basketball huskies, and TV's Bob Goen of daytime's "Wheel of Fortune." Former major leaguer infielder Dick McAuliffe, a last-minute replacement for TV's Maury Povich. Another TV star of the past was there ... Chad Everett. Yes, the amount of stars seems to be diminishing every year.

But the players and other sponsor players played the 18 in fine fashion, with Chris Perry the low man for the day with a 64. Who did I see there ... on the 7th green ... Janet McDowell and her daughter, Patty Murphy, watching the action with Patty's husband, Michael, on his job as marshal.

Thursday, July 25

The morning paper said

"sunny and in the 80s." So much for them and Charlie Bagley. By 11 o'clock the rain came down hard, but it didn't stop the crowds or the players. They just kept hitting the ball and dodging the heavy rain.

Was there for the 8:10 a.m. starting time to catch the 1990 GHO winner, Mr. Wayne Levi, who was playing with Ted Schulz and John Huston. Mr. Levi and Mr. Huston ... there is a personal connection. A few years back I met Mrs. Levi and her children and on this Thursday our paths crossed again on the 12th hole ... even met her mother from upstate New York. Nice people, great golf family and I asked Judy Levi's mother... "are you folks here for the week?" Her obvious reply... "I hope so," with that mother-in-law smile that doesn't mind following her son-in-law the full 18 holes.

Oh yes, Mr. Huston ... he just happens to live two blocks from our daughter, Nancy DeShaies, in Palm Harbor, Fla. There is a connection.

Also ran into Coach Phil Devlin, formerly of town and a member of those 1965 LL World Champs. Another local couple, fighting the rain, was Police Commissioner Guido J. Montemerlo and his wife, Barbara, with a few friends from Enfield. You go to the GHO and you are bound to meet a few golf fans from town.

After the 155 golfers completed their rounds on this wet and first day of competition ... Jim Hallet of Yarmouth, Mass. was the leader shooting a 64 to lead leading-money golfer on the tour, Corey

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Redmond Watches the Pros All Week

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Pavin, and three others by one stroke. Now for three days more of golf and hopefully, no more rain.

Friday, July 26

The second round of the GHO began as a normal day ... but by the time nightfall ... it was rain and more rain. Play was suspended at 3:47 p.m. which meant postponing the completion of the second round until Saturday morning.

We had an early start (7:30 a.m.) at the 12th ... to catch some of Thursday's leaders ... Pavin, Mark Calcavecchia, Dave Barr and Billy Mayfair.

Large crowds followed Pavin and Calcavecchia and they completed their 18 holes,

but 72 of the 148 players were stranded on the course, and would have to wait for another day.

Oh yes, still found a Windsor Locks young man ... Mike Bednarz, a former Senior Little Leaguer from many years ago. Tomorrow morning will tell who makes the cut and it looked like Wayne Levi may not make it and return to upper New York State.

Saturday, July 27

Play began at 8 a.m. for the players who did not complete on Friday. Mr. Levi and John Huston missed the cut by a stroke so it's back to New York for the Levi family and Palm Harbor for John.

The heavy rain on Friday afternoon took its toll of people, especially ones who

had to fight the elements out of the parking lots. Saw Bill Elrick again and he said, "It took us three hours to make our way from the lot to Route 99 ... very frustrating." But Bill was back for more golf, along with his son, Jeff Elrick, and former Windsor Locks teacher Stephanie Levin:

Rick Fehr was the leader, after a round of 66 and a total for three days of 201. He was followed by Corey Pavin (202) and five golfers at 203. Sunday should be some shoot-out ... and a playoff looks like the ending to a strange and wet tournament. Oh yes, Mr. Fehr is from Redmond, in the state of Washington. I'll have to cheer for him ... right?

Sunday, July 28

Before a crowd, estimated

at 85,000, and a great day weather-wise, the 1991 GHO came to an end with a playoff at the 16th with Billy Ray Brown winning over Rick Fehr (my choice) and Cory Pavin.

A golf struggle all day, with any number of golfers with the lead and then losing it.

It was a great week ... only good comments on the new course. Yes, a few more locals were there for the action ... Mo Poissant, Harold Herbert, young Bill Sideravage, who was at the course as a member of "Channel 8" intern program, and who renewed an old acquaintance with Little League Coach Bob Creech.

Yes, a great week for me, the local folks we ran into, and a tribute to the Greater Hartford Jaycees ... people like Beth Ann and John.

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Mike Sanzaro

Michael Vincent Sanzaro has been wearing the uniform of the Connecticut Air National Guard since 1953, and recently became a member of St. Robert's involvement in the Church's Synod program.

He wears both hats proudly, with his wife, Frances, probably summing it all up best, when she said, "Mike is a very giving person."

More on this native of Hartford, who grew up in the south end of the capital city, graduating from Buckley High School in 1953, where he excelled on the track team (shot put) and on the football field. In those days, players played both ways. . . Mike was an offensive tackle and defensive guard.

Mike's parents, Luigi and Sophie Sanzaro who have passed away, came from the

same town in Sicily, Italy, meeting in America and marrying. They had three other children. . . Louis, now of Wethersfield, Virginia of East Hartford and the late Jessie Sanzaro.

Mike's wife, Frances (Randazzo) Sanzaro, who also came from Hartford, is a grad of Buckley, Class of 1956. She was the daughter of the late Antonio Randazzo. Her mother, Concetta Randazzo, now resides in Windsor Locks. Both of Frances' parents, were from Sicily. Frances has two brothers: Paul of Newington and Nunzio of Hartford.

Mike's employment actually began working with his

father in the landscaping business for five years. Then Mike delivered oil for the next four years for American Oil.

Air National Guard

After joining the Connecticut Air National Guard in March of 1953, Mike turned to that organization as a full time airman in 1962 and today, is in ordinance as Mechanic Foreman. Mike did try college for a short time at the then New Britain Teacher's College.

He is currently a Senior Master Sergeant and has traveled the past 38 years to Hawaii, Florida, Wisconsin, England and Germany on three trips, all part of his training.

On his personal side. . . Mike met Frances at one of her cousin's weddings and they had their own wedding in December of 1956. They lived

in Hartford for 13 years, before moving to Windsor Locks in 1969. Mike and Frances have two daughters: Cori (WLHS 1976) and Lisa (WLHS 1980). Cori lives in Enfield with her two sons, Michael 9, and Casey 8, who are students at St. Adalbert's School in Enfield. Lisa, resides in Enfield with her husband, Al Iacolino.

For the record. . . Frances has also had a diversified working career, working at Colt's for five years, and a veteran of 21 years with Eastern Airlines, working at Bradley until the airline went out of business.

On the local sport scene, drawing from his football days at Buckley, Mike was a coach for three seasons in the local Midget Football Program. He has played some softball for the guard, follows the Red Sox, Cleveland Browns in football and the Celtics on the court. He's an avid reader of historic information, mostly

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on the Civil War and World War Two. Mike and Frances enjoy traveling. Even with Mike's extensive tours with the guard, he and Frances have managed to visit Europe, Rio and have made several trips to their parents' native towns in Sicily and have renewed friendships with relatives.

Synod Involvement

When it came to joining, Mike was a member of the Windsor Locks Jaycees and the K of C in East Hartford, and that's going back a few years. He and Frances also found the time to be catechism teachers at St. Robert's at the high school level. Now Mike is very involved in the Archdiocese Synod Program at St. Robert's. He is known as Facilitator, with fellow parishioners, Joseph Fiore as Delegate and Facilitator and Glynn Crapo, the Parish Hearing Coordinator. The Synod, as best described is as follows. . . "To improve the spiritual

works of the diocese (by its members) and present the goals and priorities for the immediate future."

When asked for this personal philosophy, Mike said, rather-matter-of-fact. . . "Live life to the fullest," and when it was time for admiration for others, he choose two individuals. His eight-grade English teacher, a Miss Grey, who encouraged Mike to be interested in reading, the other was a well-known figure in the Catholic Church and to the television viewers (in the early days) Bishop Fulton J. Sheen. Mike saying, "I enjoyed the way the Bishop spoke, he was a giving person and have read his many books."

Epilog

I'm sure Mike Sanzaro has drawn a lot of good reading history books, in addition to Bishop Sheen, especially in his writings. . . "Way to Happiness and Way to Inner Peace." In Miss Grey and Bishop Sheen he had two good teachers.

Mike Sanzaro

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

Serves in Air National Guard

Carol Welch Leads Local Girl Scouts

If it takes spirit, lots of energy, hard work, plus some genuine enthusiasm to be a Girl Scout leader or Girl Scout Service Unit manager.

Carol Welch is that lady, with all those attributes.

Carol has been a leader for five years and the past year has headed up the Girl Scout activities in town, as the woman with that long title of Girl Scout Service Unit manager.

Before going into her involvement with her new job, some facts on Carol, her husband Joe and their two cute daughters.

Carol (Grills) Welch, who was born in Westerly, R.I., growing up in a section of that city, called "Bradford," proudly admits "I'm 100 percent Italian." She is the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Fusaro) Grills, who still reside in Rhode Island. Mr. Grills is a retired carpenter. Carol has two brothers... Joseph Jr. (Stamford) and Stephen (New London), and two sisters, JoAnn (Ashaway, R.I.) and Marie (Groton).

In 1974, Carol graduated from Westerly High School.

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Carol chose Bryant College in Smithfield, R.I. for her higher education, receiving a bachelor of science degree in business education, where she met her future husband, Joe, and they were certainly "college sweethearts."

More on Joe... he's a grad of Windsor High School, Class of 1974, and the son of John and Ruth (Thulen) Welch. Joe has a brother, Thomas (Philadelphia), two sisters, Judy (North Carolina) and Margaret (Manchester). His father, a retired State of Connecticut auditor, served as Mayor of the Town of Windsor, and had the honor of having Welch Park in Poquonock, a section of Windsor, named after him.

Carol and Joe were married in November of 1979, living in Philadelphia (site of his first job and hers) for two years, then moving back to Connecticut for two more years in Windsor, and in 1983 came to Windsor Locks.

Their two daughters... Maureen, 10, will attend South

School next month as a fifth-grader. Maureen plays the piano, has taken dance lessons since she was 2, and is a Junior Girl Scout, Troop 551. Paula, 5, enters kindergarten at North next month, is also into dancing and at the first level of Girls Scouts, as a Daisy.

Their father, a 1978 grad of Bryant with a degree in business administration, took his first job (a week after their honeymoon) with Aetna Insurance for two years in the City of Brotherly Love. While there, Carol, who had her teaching degree, worked at the Philadelphia School for Office Training. However, "both of us were homesick for New England," she said. Joe went to work in Hartford for the next eight years, at the Great American Insurance Co. The past year, he has been with Connecticut Union Insurance of East Hartford, an underwriter manager. Carol has worked at the Morse Business School for four years, and recently took up word processing at the Asnuntuck Community College.

Joe has continued his run-

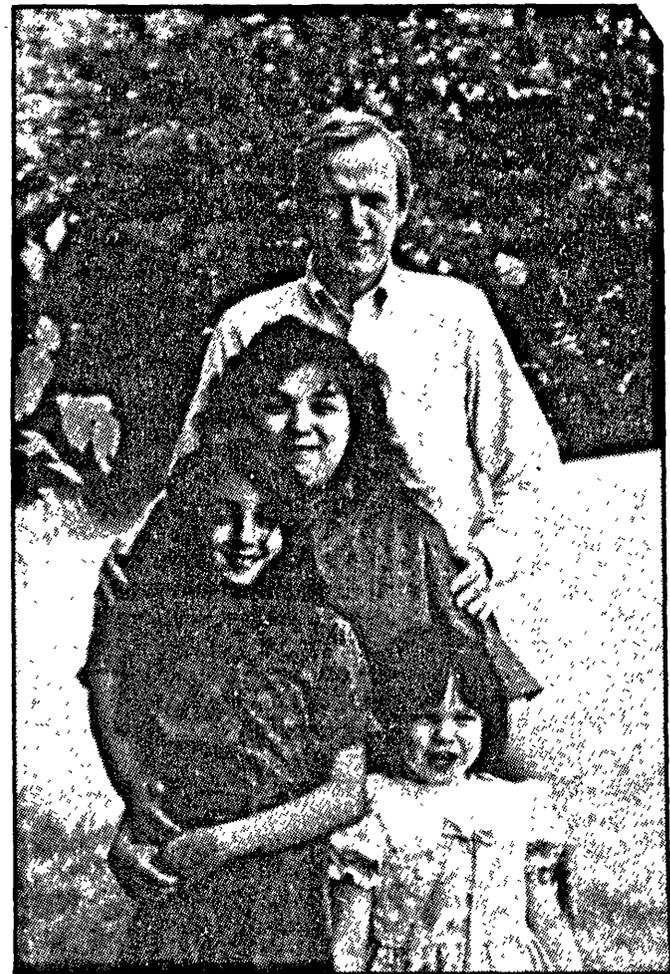
ning (recreational) and plays basketball in the Enfield Adult League. Carol admits, "Right now I'm into computers," with reading novels in any spare time she can find. Joe is a Boston fan... Sox and Celtics. The family has made several trips around New England and one to Washington D.C.

Scouting

When it comes to scouting, Joe said, "Carol's involvement has been the best thing, especially for all the friends she has made." Adding to this, Carol said, "I enjoy meeting people, it's a chance to organize with those people, and I can call them my friends." For the record, Carol keeps tabs on 204 girls that make up 20 troops... three Daisy, nine Brownies, five Juniors, two Cadet and one Senior troop in town. And one very important ingredient, she said, "There are 40 women who assist in the program."

EPILOG

Carol and Joe Welch have found Windsor Locks to be a town with a lot of spirit. They take their responsibilities in family matters, work habits and the scouting program very seriously.



The Welch Family-Joe, Carol, Maureen and Paula.

'We live in a town with a lot of spirit...'

Carol and Joe Welch's comment on Windsor Locks

McNamara is

Young Dan McNamara, restaurateur, salesman, nightclub manager, house builder, hotel manager and currently insurance adjuster, plus local coach, you name it, he has tried and been successful. He now has probably found his niche.

We say young Dan, although, today he is married, father of two children, to distinguish young Dan from his well-known parents, Dan McNamara Jr. and Estelle (Ducharme) McNamara.

Now that we have straightened that out, Dan III was born in Hartford, as were his parents (north end, father went to Weaver) but at an early age the family moved to Windsor Locks. Dan began school here and is a grad of WLHS, Class of 1972.

Before high school, Dan, a catcher, played Little League and American Legion baseball. He was a member of the 1966 All-Star Team that went on to win the state title, just a year after the town were World Champs.

In high school he was an active athlete, playing soccer and baseball under Coach Dan Sullivan. In Dan's senior year, he added the game of basketball to his schedule, with the role of manager.

Back to the family... Dan has a brother, James (Enfield), and three sisters, Danielle and Mary (Windsor Locks) and Darlene (East Hartford).

Dan, looking back, after his high school days, he said, "I wasn't planning to go to college" the summer of '72, but when fall came Dan entered Franklin Pierce College in Rindge, N.H. He went up north

cabbages and kings

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to school for three years, but admitted, "I was probably more interested in working." In 1975 he returned to town and worked as a real estate salesman for John Carniglia.

After a year of selling, he went into a much different field, at the "Bridges," a nightclub across the river in East Windsor. Three years later, young Dan went west to Colorado, spending a year building houses, and yes, skiing and even held a waiter's job. Back east, Dan came to work for the hockey Whalers at the West Springfield Coliseum as concession manager.

Careers

From hockey, back to the "Bridges" for a while, before moving to a new position with the Marriott Hotel in Newton, Mass. as their beverage manager.

At this point of Dan's story ... and a very diversified career, while at "Bridges," Dan met Alyson Orgera, who was a waitress at the time. She was originally from Stamford, Conn. and the daughter of Anthony Orgera, who now resides in Myrtle Beach, S.C., and the late Bette Orgera. Known as Aly, she has a brother "Bo" at the golf capital at Myrtle Beach and two sisters, Kimberly (Norwalk) and Toni (Stamford).

Aly had different ideas (as did Dan) when it came to careers, saying, "I wanted to be an interior decorator." Adding, "But was interested in health and science." Aly at-



Daniel Francis
McNamara III

tended the University of South Carolina and Southern Connecticut, receiving a degree in 1979 in Health Education. Today, Aly is the Town of Windsor Locks Schools nursing supervisor.

She continued her education at the Greater Hartford School of Nursing receiving her Registered Nurse title. Aly and Dan were married in October, 1983, first living in Natick, Mass., for a year before moving south to Lyman, S.C. for a six-year period.

In the sunny state of South Carolina, Dan worked in the building trades, was involved as manager at a country club and large hotel chain. After six years, Dan and Aly returned to Windsor Locks and today Dan is a senior claims adjuster at Aetna.

The children of Dan and Aly... Andrew Tyler McNamara, a few months over six, is in the first grade at North, into sports, reading, enjoys cooking like his father, and loves animals. His sister, Ashton Sara McNamara, over four, also enjoys animals and

New Soccer Coach

drawing.

Hobbies

What about Dan's main hobby... he said, "cooking and someday, restaurant owner, just maybe in my long-range plans." He does read a lot, especially books on the Civil War period. Always a Yankee fan, Dan is a member of the Soccer Officials Association. As the new WLHS Girls Varsity Soccer coach, he said, "I want to turn around the girls team and put them back in the limelight." Adding, "It's great to be back in the school system, in my town, and want to say ... Coach Dan Sullivan has had a great influence on me, I respect him for his convictions and glad I played for him and now consider Coach Sullivan a friend."

On the local sports scene, Dan has two nieces and one nephew, the Hamleys, who have left their mark on town sport just this year and certainly in the future. Gianna, a senior, has starred in soccer, basketball and softball, while Jessica, in her sophomore year, is a soccer player to watch. Jay Hamley, a three-sports star for Coach Sullivan, and this summer one of the star American Legion baseball players for Coach Bob Murray. Jay plans to attend Xavier of Ohio

this fall.

Along with their uncle's busy schedule, Dan wants to complete courses for his college degree (probably Central). One of his goals is coaching full time. When asked about the students who now play sports today, vs. yesterday, when he played... he had this to say ... "Playing in the '70s meant all the time for sports, no need to work, you could devote full time, but now a lot of kids have to work and commitment to sports is not always there."

Who does Dan admire? "Growing up, I would say John F. Kennedy, he was the best (thing) at the time ... now (certainly in a more serious vein) I'd have to say the Lord ... you have to live by His laws." Dan's personal philosophy... "Treat people the way you want to be treated ... be honest and be a strong friend."

EPILOG

You might say this about Dan III... he has come home, contrary to the words of writer Thomas Wolfe ... "you can't go home again."

It's been a new beginning for Dan, Aly and their children, and Dan is determined to follow in the footsteps of his mentor, Coach Dan Sullivan.

The LPGA Attracts Fans from All Over

By JONATHAN POTTER
Journal Reporter

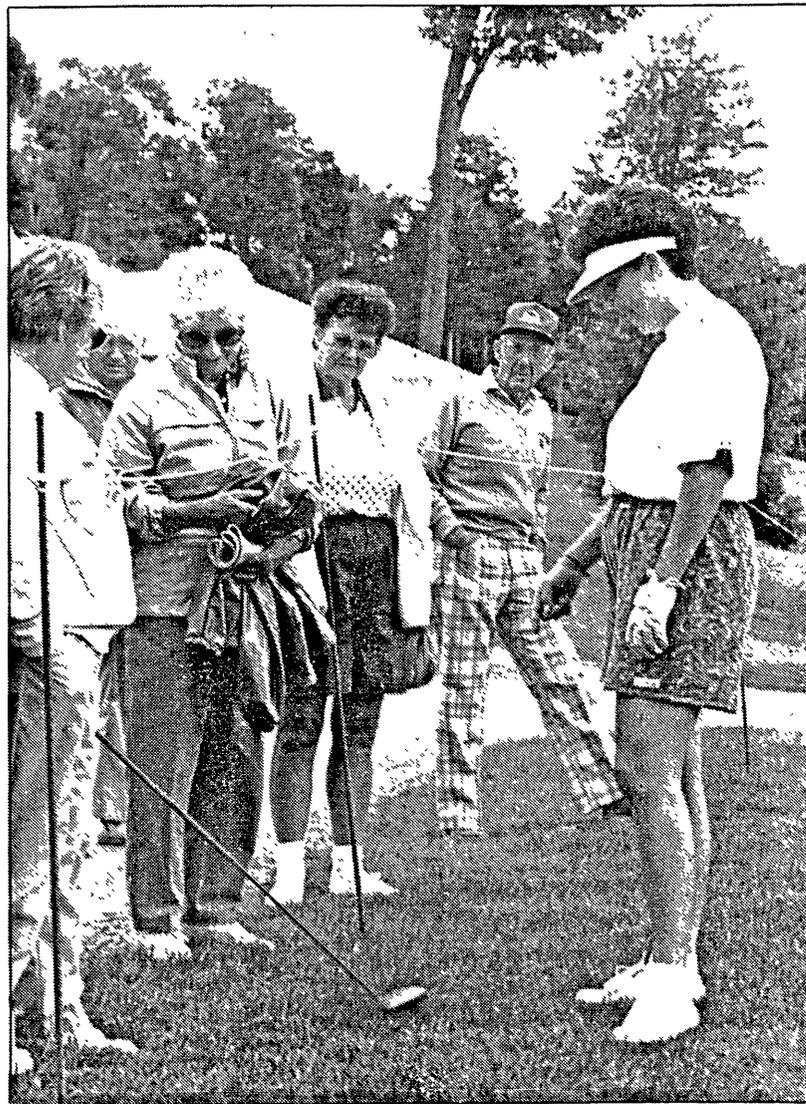
An orchestra tuning up is cacophony, a baseball team warming up can be comedy of errors, but a pro golfer practicing is still poetry in motion.

That's what the nearly 200 or so people who turned out Monday to watch the first day of the week-long

"We come for the personal contact. We always leave feeling we've gotten to know at least one of two of them."

stop of the LPGA tour at Stratton Mountain found out. The first of the nation's top women golfers teed off Monday morning, in preparation for the tournament play which begins Thursday, many gaining their first exposure to Stratton's challenging contours and greens.

See LPGA, page 2



JONATHAN POTTER

LPGA pro Kerri Clark lets one die-hard fan try her driver during a lighter moment as she warmed up for the Stratton Mountain Classic on Monday.

Early Birds Catch Some LPGA Fun

LPGA, From page 1

Along with those golfers came a steady stream of spectators, an advance party for the more than 40,000 people expected to take in at least some of the action while the LPGA is at Stratton.

Some of these fans are curiosity seekers, others are lifelong golf fanatics. Some stopped in just for a day, others are here for the whole week. Some came from as far away as Pennsylvania, others live right in Stratton. Whatever convinced these fans to brave the autumn-like temperatures and the threatening skies, they all came away with the same favorable impressions about the grace and power of women's golf and natural beauty of the Stratton course.

By the time Sunday rolls around, Stratton will be the scene of razor's-edge excitement as players like defending champion Cathy Gerring, Hall-of-Famer Kathy Whitworth or top-money winner Pat Bradley, join 125 other golfers vying for top honors.

Monday, however, was more laid back, offering spectators a chance to talk with some of the golfers and watch how the pros go about preparing for a tournament.

At one tee, Kerri Clark let a fan try out her driver, trading golf jokes with other spectators. On the practice putting green, pro Linda Hunt took time out to remark to fans, "I've always wanted to spend some time in Vermont." On the 18th green, golf legend and Hall-of-Famer Kathy Whitworth calmly sinks a long put in between friendly remarks to other fans.

All the spectators agree, seeing

their heroes up close, is the one of the best things about watching practice.

"We come for the personal contact. We always leave feeling we've gotten to know at least one of two of them," explained Bondville resident Rose Viscidi, a Stratton Country Club member, who worked last year as a volunteer, but is there this year for the sheer joy of watching the action.

"The ladies are very pleasant. They go to the trouble speak with you," agreed Ethel Dalton, who is up visiting from Pennsylvania with family and friends. She said she and her traveling companions ventured to Stratton out of curiosity after hearing about Monday's practice session from friends in the area.

Other spectators enjoyed taking pictures of the golfers (something that's forbidden during the actual tournament) and having a chance to ask for autographs.

Ethel and her husband Ross said they're casual fans, who only watch golf occasionally on television. Although they couldn't stay for the whole tournament, the Daltons recommended it for people who can spare the time and enjoyed chatting with some of the golfers as they play the course.

The preliminary practice sessions also attracted die-hard golf fans, who cast a more-trained eye on the LPGA members, sizing up their practice techniques.

"I noticed one of the girls, she had a pad and was marking down notes as they played. They kept track of every green they played. That's the beauty part," said Jack Redmond, a veteran golf fan, who has been associated with the Greater Hartford Open (GHO) in Connect-

icut and has traveled with his wife to numerous men's and senior tournaments, including the Master's.

Stratton is the first women's tourney the Redmonds have attended, and they traveled up here specifically to see it.

"We've been to men's, we've seen the GHO. I said, 'Come on, let's go see the ladies'" explained Rita Redmond. A few hours later they were in Stratton, watching the great Kathy Whitworth practice putting.

A chance to watch the ladies play also attracted Tom Quigley and Hubie Waldron from New Hampshire, who both agreed that as far as technique is concerned, the women are superior to men.

"We love to watch the girls, especially their swings. The swings are just beautiful. They really focus on timing more than men," Waldron said. As if on cue, regional favorite Dottie Mochrie from Saratoga executed a textbook swing.

Although they originally weren't going to stay for the whole tourney, now Waldron said he thought he and Quigley would stay for the week.

While Monday's mood was casual and the pace slow, it was still apparent that the golfers were there to work as well.

"They're all business, they're not here to fool around," Redmond said.

All in all, somewhere between 150 and 200 spectators turned out for Monday's practice round, with an estimated 300 more expected Tuesday, according to Stratton's publicity director Myra Foster. By week's end tournament officials estimate 40,000 people will take in at least part of the action, up from 25,000 during last year's tourney.

Ken Mattia Managed

Ken Mattia and his wife, Denise, agree ... "We are doing what our boys want to do." And that means Little League baseball and swimming competition.

The night we met for this interview was probably one of their first nights this summer Ken and Denise could relax and think back about baseball, swimming and what is next on the busy family agenda. With sons Jeffrey, 15, and Kevin, 12, there was always games, practices in two sports, and next, the preparation for school. Jeffrey will be a sophomore at the high school, while Kevin will be an eighth-grader at the Middle School.

Some background... Ken is the son of Cliff (retired from the Post Office) and Ann (Stamaton) Mattia, who reside in Old Lyme. Ken is a Hartford native (south end) and a grad of Bulkeley High School, Class of 1965. He was a member of the Track Team in

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his senior year. He has a brother, Al, of Granby, and a sister, Carole, who lives in Middletown.

Ken's active working career has been with several area companies. While working nights, after high school, at Pratt & Whitney, he was attending Porter School of Engineering Design during the day, over a two-year period.

After leaving the aircraft industry, Ken was employed by Raymond Engineering, Terry Turbine, Power Control, Jacobs Manufacturing, and for the past three years at Forkardt as designing engineer.

Now for his partner and best sports fan of her husband and sons, Denise (Twitchell) Mattia. Denise is one of eight children of Norman and Arlene (Wentworth) Twitchell.

Mr. Twitchell and his family were a subject of C&K in November 1986, noting he was deserving of the title of "Father of the Year." Norman and Arlene still live in town. He's a former teacher and now semi-retired from his business of heating and air-conditioning. They have raised eight children ... Doug, Randy, Steven, Michael, David, Carol, Lorie and Denise. All graduated from the local high school.

Ken and Denise met in Newington, by way of introduction by mutual friends. They were married in September, 1970. They have lived in Warehouse Point, Windsor Locks, Newington and then returned to Windsor Locks.

Little League

Their two sons... Jeffrey played Little League and was

a Senior All-Star this year as a catcher. He's a Red Sox fan and former paper boy for the JI, now a school janitor, swims for the high school (former Water Jet) and very enthusiastic when it comes to skiing. Kevin has continued the paper boy route for the JI, is a Met fan, one of the "top swimmers in the state," was on the Water Jets, and now a member of the Charter Oak Club, and US Swim, a national organization. Kevin played baseball for the Middle School and was the star pitcher for this year's Little League All-Stars.

Their dad, in addition to the Little League, is a "Stroke Judge" for the US Swim League. Ken was active in the church ... Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, in Enfield.

When asked about hobbies... he said, "Sports." However, he is the "builder around the house" and the gardener. Also he was always interested in photography. But

Mattia page 11



The Windsor Locks Little League...1991 All-Stars are back row, Ken Mattia, Manager, Kevin Mattia, Gary Fairwood, Tim Kirchof, Mike Wrabel, and Coach Bruce Faulkner. Middle row, Jason Hamilton, Joe Gasparino, Brian Bednarz, Eric Nodwell, Jim Pierce and Brandon Smith. Front row, Steve Stegman, Mike Szwed, Gerof Faulkner and Dan Pequita.

'(My) Big reward ... the player's attitude ... they played their hearts out.'

Ken Mattia on the 1991 LL All-Stars

Continued from page 10

for the past five years, Ken, like Kevin is a Met fan, and has devoted his time to baseball and swimming. With Ken and Denise, it's "what the boys want to do."

Vacation time has been to Myrtle Beach, S.C., Florida, Mexico, Jamaica, Bermuda, Virgin Islands and a few cruises to the Caribbean for the Mattia family.

As for the Little League program... Ken has been active for five years, as coach and manager. Actually, he

said, "I helped out before taking on the role of coach." He was this year's All-Star manager, assisted by Coach Bruce Faulkner. For Ken, "Little League is great for the kids ... where they learn to compete, also learn the rules of sportsmanship." This year's team won two and lost two. Needless to say, Ken was proud of the kids. He was very emphatic... "the parent became involved, helped in the practice sessions, fully cooperated, had no trouble, and we had a great bunch of kids, they worked hard, no trouble, the

kids had the ability, however, ran into some hard luck."

As to his future plans in baseball... "I'm looking forward to playing with the Senior division next year." And "I must say... Bruce is a great guy, been with him for two years, and never had any disagreement."

EPILOG

Ken Mattia, a most serious man, in sports or in his religious life. When it came to admiration... he said, "Martin Luther ... I have studied his life ... with its doubts, his pains, a man who did great

things, and reform in the church." Ken's personal philosophy, "To do God's will ... and try to live by the Golden Rule." Denise said her husband is a "kind and compassionate man."

For Ken, an interview was not an easy task. You can be sure, he did it for the kids of Little League and always gave credit to his wife, their sons, his coach and most of all the boys of the summer of 1991. They and men like Ken and Bruce are a credit to the program in the town where the kids come first.

1991 Little League All-Stars

All-Stars Run in Nodwell Family

Eric Nodwell hasn't far to go in playing his favorite sport of baseball. The Nodwells ... Bruce, Nancy, Kevin and Eric live on Grove Street, just a home run away or a goodeight-iron shot to Pesci Park.

The sons of Bruce and Nancy are All-Stars in the town's Little League Program, along with their dad as coach and mother, their number one fan, along with proud grandpa, Bob Nodwell. With Nancy noting all the grandparents are fans of Little League and their grandsons.

Their father, Bruce Robert Nodwell, is a former baseball player in his own right, when he played for East Windsor High School, which also included basketball and soccer. His sons are certainly following in his basepaths.

Bruce, son of Bob and Patricia (Fields) Nodwell, was born in Key West, Fla., when his dad was in the U.S. Navy. Upon his father's discharge, the family moved north to Enfield and then to East Windsor. Bob was from Suffield, and Patricia, a Windsor Locks native. They now reside in East Windsor along with another son, Neil. A third son, Paul Nodwell, lives in Jacksonville, Fla. Bob is retired from Dexter and a member of the KofC Golf League that plays at Airways in Suffield.

Back to the former baseball player: Bruce played several positions on the diamond and

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made All-Conference at the East Windsor school. In addition, Bruce met his future bride, Nancy Arnold, and they were appropriately called "High School Sweethearts." When Bruce was on the court shooting baskets, Nancy was the school's mascot ... "The Black Panther."

Bruce was a 1971 grad, and Nancy 1972. She is the daughter of retiree Bill and Gerry (Marthers) Arnold, who live in Broad Brook in the same house where Nancy grew up. Bill spent his youth in East Windsor, while Gerry is a Middletown native. They have another daughter, Andrea, who resides in Maine, and a son, Craig, who lives in East Windsor. Nancy attended the A.I. Prince and St. Francis Hospital in the Licensed Practical Nurse program, and her specialty has been the caring of the elderly over an eight-year period.

Bruce and Nancy were married in September 1974 and have lived in Ellington, Enfield and in Windsor Locks since 1986. Bruce attended Central Connecticut for two years with Physical Ed and Computer Programming as his main subjects. However, in 1973, following in his father's career, Bruce went to work at

Dexter, and today holds the position of maintenance mechanic.

Their two sons ... Kevin, the older at 15, a sophomore at the Raider School, plays basketball (his favorite) and soccer. He was an All-Star in Little League, and has played in the senior division. Kevin's positions have been first and third base and off the sports scene, he's been active in the school's chorus, and was recently accepted into the well-known "Vocal Motion." A few years back, Kevin was a part of the Northern Region Junior High Musical Festival. Like his brother and father, he's a true-blue Yankee fan.

Eric, 12 an 8th grader at the Middle School, is also a singer in the school's chorus. He played soccer and baseball and has achieved All-Star status the past two years in the Little League. His specialty was pitching and first base for this year's team under Manager Ken Mattia. His proud dad also mentioned that Eric hit two home runs. He may be a Yankee fan, but when it came to listing his favorite player... Jose Canseco of the Oakland team tops the list.

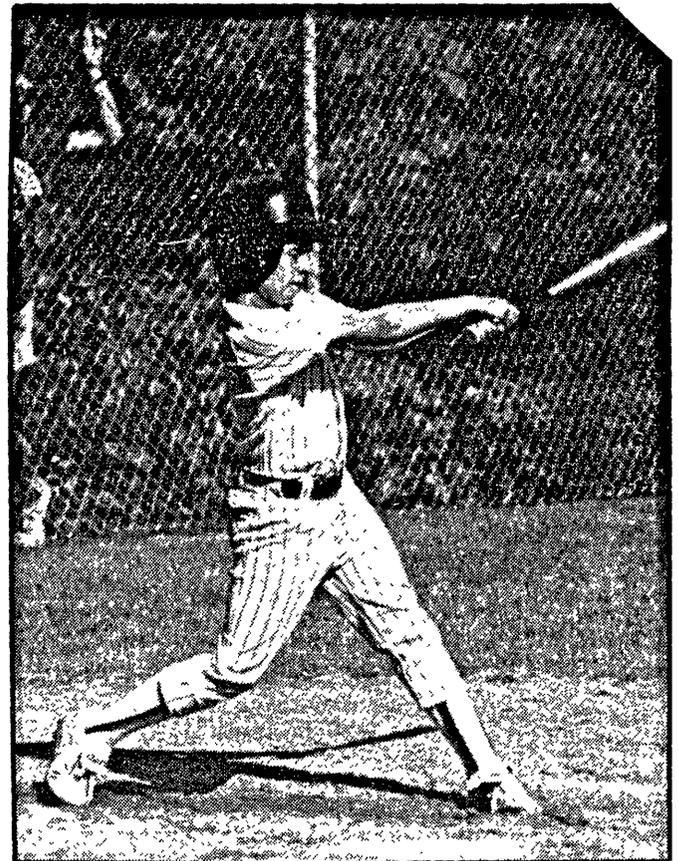
Eric is not only active on the diamond, but is a "good

golfer," says his dad, and the gardener in the family. His mother compliments the garden by tending to her flowers around the house. Eric's future plans... what about "professional golf or baseball." He will join the senior division next spring. In addition, Eric is an honor student and member of the Student Council.

The father of these two active boys has coached in the Little League for the past three years, along with Manager Pete Maltese. Bruce feels "Little League is great for the kids, but they should have the proper instructions, and know that winning and losing are part of the game."

As Nancy said, "We do have a lot of interests," and Bruce agreed, adding, his playing in the East Windsor Slow-Pitch Softball League, going bowling with his sons, and golf in the Dexter League and Cedar Knob League. The Nodwell family were campers to Lake George and Hampton Beach. Bruce is a member of the Broad Brook Angles Club, and locally, the Polish Home and the German Club.

He is a man who believes in "To each his own," and Nancy adding, "Bruce is a good person and caring individual." As



Eric Nodwell was an All-Star for two years.

for admiration, Bruce went back to his own Babe Ruth Baseball days, saying his coach, Wes Wadsworth, "was a man who told us the accomplishments were there by hard work and we should have the willingness to work hard."

Epilog

Bruce and Nancy Nodwell have cheered for Kevin and Eric in their Little League participation and truly, like so many of the Little League parents, they are All-Stars as their sons were and currently ... yes, All-Stars run in the Nodwell family.

Rizzo Had Multi-Talented

Nicholas Rizzo is a quiet man and affectionately called by his wife, Julia, "very dependable." However, this man called Nick has had a far cry from quiet working career, when he made a living mixing cameras, insurance, building homes and men's clothing into a very diversified employment record.

During World War II, Lt. Nick Rizzo was a bombardier and navigator with the 15th Air Force, stationed in Italy, with 43 missions over southern Europe, and certainly the deeds of his crew on the famed B-24, was never on the quiet side. Today, the only noise he makes is hitting a golf ball off the tee at Airways, as member of the KofC Golf League.

Now retired, Nick also is busy being a proud grandpa of six, four of their daughter, Barbara Ann, and two from their late son, Mark Rizzo.

Nick was born in Brooklyn. Grew up as a Dodger fan, the son of the late Dominic and Mary Rizzo, who were from Italy, met in the states and were married. Nick has a brother, Joseph, who resides on Long Island.

Looking back, Nick remembers the Bay Ridge section of the famous New York City borough, where he grew up with its many nationalities, and all getting along. He graduated from New Utrecht High School in 1942. He began his golfing career as a caddy and player, right on a course in the heart of Brooklyn.

Air Force

In January 1943, Nick joined the Aviation Cadet Program of the U.S. Army Air Force. His training included time at the University of Syracuse and Preflight in Houston, Texas. In May 1944, as a 2nd Lieutenant, Nick was transferred to nearby Westover Field as part of a newly formed B-24 crew.

After three months of training at Westover, the plane took off for Europe and just never made it (at least not in that plane). Nick said, with a slight smile, "we crashed after leaving Maine in Newfoundland." The crew eventually were together again, arriving at a base in Italy, with a new plane and ready for action.

The war record of Lt. Nick Rizzo mentions 43 missions,

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whose main targets were in Czechoslovakia, Austria, Romania, Yugoslavia, and northern Italy. How did this 19-year-old react (as to the start of their missions)? "Nothing is going to happen ... then as time went on (some doubts) after each next mission ... are we going to make it to 50 missions?" (requirement for return to states).

Nick and the crew mad ... with VE Day ... he was sent back to the states by way of the Azores, Newfoundland (no crash this time), Maine and then ... to Bradley Field. Nick recalls sleeping at what is now known as Camp Hartell. In 1945 it was also used as a German POW camp.

His next stop, Fort Dix, N.J., and a 30-day leave, after which he was "grounded" and shipped to Texas, now a 1st Lieutenant, Nick was given the honor of being a mess officer.

Finally, in October 1945, Nick was on his way back to Fort Dix and discharge. He returned to Brooklyn and "took off the next year as a member of the 52/20 club." He did mention receiving the Purple Heart with one cluster and several medals and a Unit Citation for the 43 missions.

Now a civilian ... Nick had to go to work.

Work he did ... until his retirement in 1989, after 40 years in a mixture of jobs. However, Nick had a very simple explanation ... saying, he didn't want to stay in one place too long or on one job; in other words, he became restless for a new challenge.

After a year's sabbatical from the time in the service, Nick went to work for a Brooklyn sewing machine company. After a time he was transferred to Hartford, as his company was to lease space at a Main Street store (Wise

Smith).

That's where Nick met Julia, but first, Nick's numerous jobs. They shuffled off to Buffalo, N.Y., he quit his job and returned to Hartford. Then he went into the insurance game, working six years for Prudential and made staff manager. Time to open his own business ... and had an insurance agency in East Granby, for another six years. Then tried real estate and building homes, that lasted two years. Big switch ... opened up his own camera store in Middletown, Conn. and really stayed for the longer time ... 13 years. Sold the business in 1979, became a men's clothing salesman in a Rockville store until he decided he had it ... and retired.

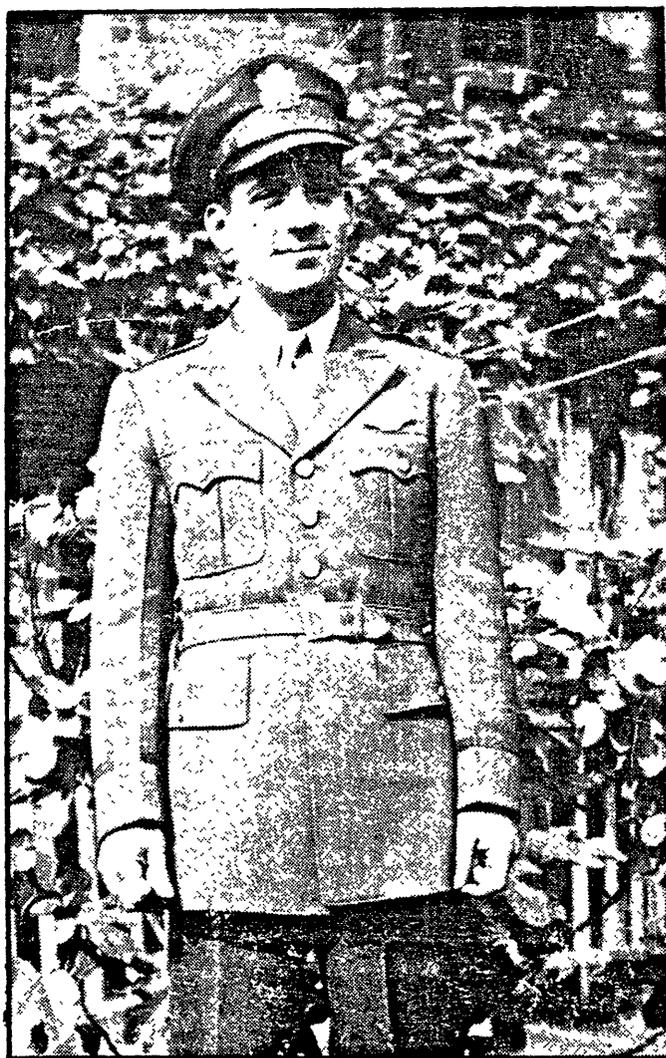
Met and Married

Back to his better half ... Julia Grasso met Nick Rizzo in Hartford, as we mentioned, and they were married in September 1951. Lived in Buffalo for only nine months, lived in Hartford for two years, before setting up a home in Windsor Locks in 1954. Julia was from the Fair Haven section of New Haven, the daughter of Ernest and Edna (Mail-hot) Grasso. Mr. Grasso came from New Haven, and Edna from New Hampshire. They now reside in Manchester, Conn.

Nick and Julia have a daughter, Barbara Ann Rizzo Glogowski. She was a WLHS grad, Class of 1974. She and her husband, Joseph, have four children and live in Hartford.

Back to her retired father ... as for hobbies of this grandpa of six, Nick has three

Working Career



Lt. Nick Rizzo, World War II

different pastimes ... cameras, water coloring and a mean game of golf. He's not one to watch a lot of sports, only to say, when the golf tournaments are on the tube, he will watch the pros and how they make those great shots.

Looking back to his full life as a family man, the war and his wide range of working

positions ... Nick said ... "I was proud that I enlisted in the air corps, very proud serving (my country) and I never looked back (at the war)," only to add, "I did my duty."

Nick Rizzo enjoys life now ... did live the full life and had a good story to tell. I'm glad I met this quiet man and could tell his story.

Conversations with Patti and Chris

A funny thing happened on my way to interview Patti Stanhope. I got two interviews ... one with Patti and the other with fellow officers of the Windsor Locks Taxpayers Association ... Chris Sawyer.

To say the least, it made for interesting and different interviews with two outspoken, honest, involved in civic affairs and admitting, "We are only watching (our tax dollars) and how spent ... wisely? ... (only) looking for accountability."

Their stories could end there, but I wanted to find out what made Patti Stanhope tick, and also find out what made Chris Sawyer tick.

Some background on Patricia (Emard) Stanhope, who came from Holyoke, a 1973 grad of the town's high school, where she was active in drama, Art and French Clubs, and Glee Club. She is the daughter of Florida residents Normand and Barbara (Kelly) Emard, who were also natives of Holyoke.

Patricia is better known as just Patti, and a girl with four sisters ... Donna of South Hadley, Theresa of Holyoke, with Holly and Carey living in Florida.

Looking back, Patti said,

"After high school, I wanted to get married and have children, and I did." Today, Patti has two sons ... John and Jason. John will be 17 next month, a senior at the local high school. His concerned mother said "John had a serious accident (right hand injury) and has switched to writing with his left hand." Adding, "John is into books, baseball cards and the Red Sox ... and I have been helping him to paint with oils."

Jason, 12, who is in the seventh grade at the Middle School, is "interested in anything outdoors," his mother said, which includes fishing, camping, and Jason has played Little League in town.

Patti has worked the past 13 years at Hamilton-Standard, gathering information for the company's technical publications. When not keeping her eyes and ears tuned to town affairs, Patti is also into oils, and not much television, unless "Major Dad, Equal Justice, or LA Law are on the tube."

As a mother of two boys, Patti has also been active in the PTO at South and North schools, and now the Middle

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School. She has lived in Windsor Locks since 1978, after a short time in Vernon and East Hartford.

Attends Meetings

On her watchdog observance of local affairs, Patti attends as many meetings as she can of the following boards ... Finance, Selectmen, Education, and Planning & Zoning, and of course, town meetings.

Her compatriot, in this watchdog tendency, Chris Sawyer, a man with a story all his own. Chris was born in Gorham, Maine, moving to East Hartford at a young age, graduating from the George J. Penney High School in 1966. He was quite an athlete, as star quarterback and middle linebacker on the football field, second baseman on the baseball diamond and member of the track and field ... was into throwing the discus and javelin.

Chris went on to attend Yale University for a short time, and graduated from Central Connecticut (BA in Classical



Patti Stanhope with her niece Jacqueline Gay.

History) and presently working on a master's in Communications at the University of Hartford. Chris has a son, Christian, 15, now in his second year at the Raider School, and like his dad, a football player.

Chris was one of nine children, and admits to being "politically involved" all of his life. His background has been one of variety ... with ancestry going back to the "Mayflower." A man of many talents ... and stories of famous folks, he has met over the years. Chris served in Vietnam as a member of the famed "Green Berets." Was an honor guard at the Robert Kennedy funeral ... met and served in the Ted Kennedy

campaigns, discussed political tales with President Jimmy Carter at the White House. Admits he too was a writer/editor and now uses that skill at Hamilton-Standard, in the same department as Patti, where they met.

Photographer

He had a few experiences as a photographer at the GHO, working for the Jaycees and corporate sponsors a few years back, with stories about Sammy Davis Jr. and the former president, Gerry Ford.

Both Patti and Chris agree... "We have no personal political plans for the future." They just wanted to get involved and the way they tell it ... former chairman of the Finance Board, Hugh Donagher, issues a challenge ... "citizens should get involved in the (budget) process..." So Chris and Patti did just that. Their goals of the Windsor Locks Taxpayers Association ... is simply ... "Watch our (tax) dollars, how they are spent and wisely ... need an accountability."

EPILOG

An interview with Patti Stanhope and Chris Sawyer was interesting, never lacking for conversation of great, near great or just ordinary folks,

they have met and tangled with, or agreed on political issues and involvement in town affairs, with opinions on everyone and everything. Yes, very enlightening.

Patti did have one person, she admired, growing up... her grandfather, Charles Kelly, of Holyoke ... a "man who could not find anything wrong with people ... there was nothing he didn't like ... be it food or people," she said. Her mother was the same way ... a happy free spirit ... and adding, "I hope I can be like them."

Was not certain the wise words to fit these concerned, liberal, and to some, complex individuals ... but a famous Republican (no less) Wendell L. Willkie put it this way ... "Freedom means that if you are a professor, you don't have to alter science or history as a bureaucrat prescribes; if you own a newspaper, you don't limit your editorial opinions to what an official censor approves; if you think your taxes are too high, you can vote against those officials you think responsible. And there is no limitation upon your inherent American right to criticize anybody, anywhere, at any time."

Thom Culcasi To Tour with 'The Buddy Holly Story'

For the next 12 months a local young man will be touring with "The Buddy Holly Story" in its first national tour.

Local theater followers of the great high school musicals will know the name... Thom Culcasi. He is a 1984 WLHS grad who, as a young boy, had the desire and aim "for the musical theater." He now has that opportunity, as part of the cast, with a musical and singing role.

Thomas Peter Culcasi, son of Peter and Barbara Culcasi, grew up and was educated in his home town, and was active in all phases of the high school musical program.

Since leaving high school, Thom has paid his dues, as a student at Hart School of Music, four years at the Boston Conservatory, summer stock, many auditions for Broadway shows and now can see the beginning of his personal rainbow in this major production of the rock 'n' roller, Buddy Holly. Fans of the popular and late singer will surely remember how his career was cut short in a tragic

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plane crash in 1959.

Some background on Thom's family ... his father, Peter, was from Natick, Mass., served in the U.S. Army Reserves, veteran employee of Pratt & Whitney, and for the past 20 years has been associated with the Air National Guard at Bradley. Barbara (Napilitano) Culcasi is a New Haven native who met Peter on a summer trip to Oklahoma, where he was serving on a tour of duty.

They were married on April 4, 1964, and have lived in Natick, Mass., East Hartford, Hartford and in 1968 moved to their present home in Windsor Locks.

They have two other grads of the high school, Robert, 1985, and Susan, 1988. Robert is a pilot in the Air Force, stationed in Texas, a graduate of Embry-Riddle University in Daytona Beach, Fla., with a degree in Aeronautical Sciences. Susan, a grad of Post

College in Waterbury, is an employee of Travelers.

Barbara has also been employed at Travelers for the past 16 years, with the title of claims coordinator. She came from the "Hill" section of the Elm City, a 1959 grad of Hillhouse High School, the daughter of the late Carman and Doris Napolitano.

Musical Talents

Thom's mother said, "Our son received his musical talents from his father's side, and my family has always loved music." This talent was nurtured at the high school, where he played piano with the Jazz Band, the trombone for the Concert and Marching Bands. Thom was affiliated with the well-known Pine Meadows Players for four years, with parts in "Arsenic & Old Lace" and, of course, theater-goers will remember Thom in the class musical of '84... "Anything Goes."

Off the stage he was active, as editor-in-chief of the 1984 Herald, a member of the town's Youth Commission for three years, and earned a varsity letter in tennis. He attended the Center for Creative Youth at Wesleyan University.

Thom's steps to the Bushnell (where "Holly" opened last month) was mixed with many side trips along the way, but all contributing to his future with, what he said, was "a lot of work, performing and directing." He received a bachelor of fine arts from the Boston Conservatory, and just knew, "I wanted to be a work-



ing actor," and what better place than New York City, to live and work, where "live theater was ready for him."

By May 1990, Thom was sharing an apartment with fellow actors in Brooklyn. That summer he left the city for Block Island, where he was in "My Fair Lady," with the lead role of Professor Henry Higgins. He also performed in "Sweet Charity." Back to New York... received his "Actor's Equity card," more auditions, but did get a job ... the next three months traveling from New York to Georgia in chil-

dren's musicals ... a good experience.

Out of work for six months ... managed to do some off-Broadway and "an open call," for "Holly." Thom, actor, singer, piano and trombone ... ready and will travel. The rest, as they say, is history ... Opening Night at the Bushnell (the family was there) and you couldn't get much closer to Windsor Locks than the Bushnell, if he tried.

The national tour began in Hartford, on to Cleveland, Iowa, Texas, the South, Florida, California and next Sep-

tember, Toronto. To say the least, Thom was looking forward to all this ... he had played the east coast and now he would work and see the rest of America, and do what he likes best.

As for his future? "Broadway tour ... will certainly help ... will have agency talking ... hope for more shows ... to work in New York City (but I must say) people in this business do help ... a great network of people." He does like the "live stage." How about his favorite musical ... Richard Rodgers' "Carousel."

Admires Kaye

Who does he admire in the world of show business: Danny Kaye... "who had all that energy and charisma," and another famous name, "Stephen Sondheim," composer of "A Little Nigh Music and Sweeney Todd," to name a few.

His mother calls Thom: "energetic," and he admits... "Making the theater true, as in life" is probably his personal philosophy.

EPILOG

Thom Culcasi, local boy, makes the big time, his opportunity to do what he enjoys, now it's "Anything Goes."

We'll be watching you, Thom... and because he believes in the theater and truth ... the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson seem to fit right here... "Talent for talent's sake is a bauble and a show. Talent working with joy in the cause of universal truth lifts the possessor to new power as a benefactor."

Felber's Hobbies are Coaching

Francis John Felber Jr. grew up in the Broad Brook section of East Windsor, was a star performer on the high school basketball court, decided to live in Windsor Locks, but still works over the river daily, as a sergeant on the South Windsor police force.

His wife, Laurie, Warehouse Point native, has followed the same path (across the river) as kindergarten teacher in Broad Brook.

However, when it comes to their daughter, Alaina, and son, Sean, it's all Windsor Locks activity, with Alaina playing softball and Sean, a Little Leaguer. Both children are active in "anything athletic," according to their proud and concerned parents.

Fran was the son of the late Francis J. Felber Sr. and Mary (Maguire) Felber. The older Fran was from Broad Brook and Mary was a native of Manchester. Fran Jr. has a sister, Judy, who resides in Broad Brook.

Fran graduated from East Windsor High School in 1969, played some freshman baseball, and starred on the court for four years, making All-Conference. He remembers the glory days of Coach Dan Sullivan and playing against Tom Koren, Vinny Colapietro, Fran Aniello Jr. and Tom Guglielmone, just to name a few of the Raider players.

During his high school years, Fran's first job was in Windsor Locks, in Friendly's at the Dexter Plaza. After school, Fran wasn't sure what career path to follow but his number was up in the draft. He joined the Army Reserves, for a six-year tour of duty, with basic training in Kentucky, serving from March of 1970 to 1976. He worked at Railroad Stores for a time and attended Manchester Commu-

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Sgt. Fran Felber

nity College for a year, taking up accounting, but admitted, "I couldn't see myself sitting at a desk all day."

Fran always had in the back of his mind, to be a policeman, but his dad was against it. But his son won out, when he joined the South Windsor Police Department in February 1973. From that date until 1979, Frank was a patrolman, then elevated to the rank of detective until 1987, and today, it's Sgt. Fran Felber, in charge of the Detective Bureau. He has over the years attended the State Police Academy and the FBI National Academy in the nation's capital.

Future Bride

Going back to the high school days, Fran met his future bride, Laurie Dowkins, who also graduated in 1969. Yes, they were "high school sweethearts." When Laurie

wasn't watching Fran on the sports scene, she was a member of the school's field hockey team.

Laurie is the daughter of William and Elaine (Martin) Dowkins, who came from Hartford and were Weaver grads. Laurie has two sisters, Dianne of Farmington and Cheryl of Granby. Laurie went on to St. Joseph's College (BA in Child Study and Special Education) and earned her master's (Early Childhood Education) at Central Connecticut State University. She has held positions in East Hartford and East Windsor (Kindergarten, 1st and 5th grades) and currently, teaching Kindergarten in Broad Brook.

Fran and Laurie were married in December 1972, lived in Warehouse Point for two years, before moving to their

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and Working with Children

Continued from page 10

present home in September 1974.

More on their two children... Alaina, 12, seventh-grader at the Middle School, is into "anything athletic," played soccer and softball, was a member of the All-Stars, and was presented with a trophy and District 8 Championship pin and T-shirt, along with other local girls. Off the sports scene, Alaina is active in the Student Council, member of TAG, the choir and plays the flute in the school band. Her brother Sean, 10, fourth-grader at South, also is into "anything athletic," Little Leaguer, played soccer and ice hockey in the North Central League.

Works with Children

Fran and Laurie are part-time golfers, with Fran admitting, "My main hobby is work-

ing with the kids." When it is vacation time, the Cape is the place for the Felbers. He roots for the Yankees and they are season ticket holders at the Whaler games.

Back to Fran's sporting activities ... he is VP of the Windsor Locks Softball League, and has been active the past four years, "when Alaina first started to play," he said. Fran has been both coach and manager. His favorite role is coaching the kids. In addition, he is now coordinator of the Parks soccer program—the 9 to 10 Boys and Girls division. According to Fran, "there are over 300 girls and boys in the town's soccer program."

When asked about admiration for others, he said... "When I was only seven, my mother died, and my father and sister raised me." Look-

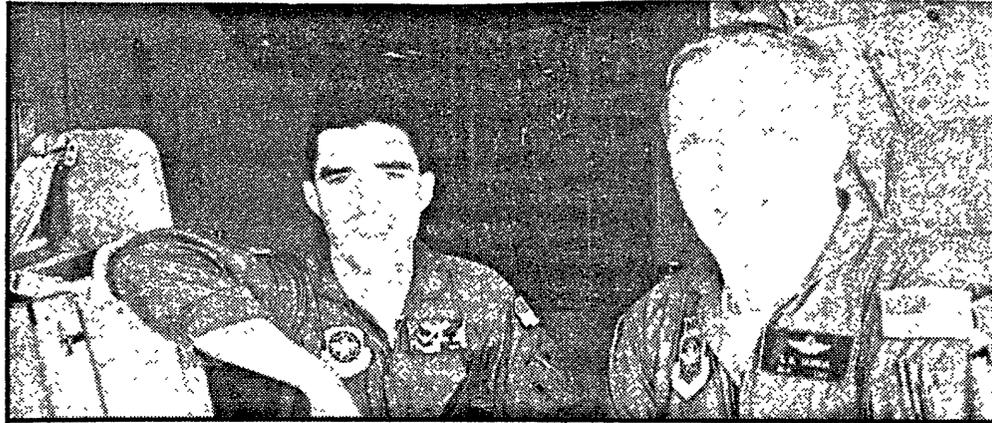
ing back at those years, Fran said his dad and sister were always there for him. His dad was a 40-year veteran at Hamilton-Standard. Fran believes in "making the most of each day."

EPILOG

Francis John Felber Jr., veteran of the South Windsor Police Department, knows he must have variety in his life, and certainly "coaching and working with the kids," not only is different than his police work, but to him, satisfying.

I asked Fran about his future plans ... he wasn't sure, "making the most of each day" was his philosophy, he may agree with the following... "Where will I be five years from now? I delight in not knowing. That's one of the greatest things about life ... it's wonderful surprises."

Air Force Reservists



Father and son team SSgt. Tom Durkin, Jr. and MSgt. Tom Durkin, Sr.

Tom Durkin Sr. has been involved in two wars, missing a third by three months. The quiet-mannered veteran with over 30 years experience with the rank of Master Sergeant is in the 337th Military Airlift Squadron (MAS), part of the 439th Military Air Wing, as an engineer.

Tom Durkin Jr., a four-year Air Force Reservist, as his father, is Staff Sgt. with the 337th MAS, with the role of loadmaster. They are both headquartered at Westover Air Force Base, Mass.

However, there is a great deal more to the story of these two highly trained and dedicated airmen, after name, rank, unit and location.

During the recent Persian Gulf War, both Tom Sr. and Tom Jr. made several trips from Westover to the war zone. And back home, in Windsor Locks, was Joan

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Durkin, wife and mother, "concerned and worried" about her two men, and knowing (in most cases) they would be part of those often and possible dangerous trips, separately.

I had the pleasure of meeting Joan and her two service oriented airmen at their comfortable home where the American flag was flying in their honor and for all those who served.

But first, some background on Thomas Gerald Durkin Sr., born and raised in New York City, the Bronx, Riverdale, just four blocks from Yankee Stadium. This one young boy, growing up in the shadow of the "house that Ruth built" however was not a fan of the famed Bronx Bombers. Young Tom preferred the team, across the East River, the equally famed Brooklyn Dodgers.

Irish Roots

Tom was the son of the late James H. and Gertrude Durkin. Mr. Durkin came from Ireland, met his future bride, married and was a banker on Wall Street. He and Mrs. Durkin raised four sons and two daughters. Growing up, the boys of the Durkin family were all baseball fans ... as

mentioned, Tom was a big Dodger fan, as with his brother Donald, who now lives in Delaware. James in New Jersey and Francis, on Long Island, were New York Giant fans. Tom said his cheering for the Dodgers was probably due to his friendship and as classmates, with the O'Mally boys, and it was their family that operated the famous Dodger organization.

Tom's two sisters ... Dorothy has passed away, while the sixth member of the family is Sister Leo Marie, a Franciscan nun, with over 20 years service in Brazil.

Tom graduated from "All-Hallows" High School in 1953, where he played basketball for one year. Soon after leaving high school, Tom went on active duty with the U.S. Marines, where he just missed involvement in the Korean War by three months, but a decade or more later, flew missions from Westover to Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War.

Looking back to his boot camp training at Parris Island, S.C., he said, "You go in as a boy, and come out as a man ... you grow up and (something) you never forget." He served

are Father and Son Team

at Cherry Point, N.C. for a year and the remaining time of his four-year tour of duty was on security detail on the USS Leyte (aircraft carrier), mostly in the Mediterranean.

Met and Married

In January 1957, Tom married Joan Legge of Boston (Dorchester), a grad of the Cardinal Cushing High School, Class of 1953. They had met at a party on board ship, while Tom's carrier was in the Boston harbor, and Joan, a telephone worker, were a part of the invited guests.

Joan was the daughter of the late Gordon and Agnes Legge, both of Boston. She said, "My family was strictly Navy ... and Tom was a Marine ... and I was a Red Sox fan." After Tom was discharged from the Marines,

they lived in Winsted, Conn. for two years, Uxbridge, Mass., and in 1968 came to Windsor Locks.

Joan and Tom also have two daughters ... Theresa Ann Pilecki, who is married to Robert Pilecki and they reside in town with son Dan and daughter Michelle. Theresa is a 1976 grad of WLHS while her sister, Donna, a 1980 grad, who also lives in town with her son, Sean.

Worked at Pratt

Tom Sr. employment record ... worked three years at Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, and in 1960 going to a different line of work, with "Durkee," in the food business. In 1981, Tom went into Civil Service at Westover as a flight engineer. Tom had joined the Air Force Reserves

in November 1959 (337th MAS) at Bradley, but in 1966 was transferred to Westover.

Tom Jr., the hockey player in the family, was in the midget program at Loomis in Windsor, and then switched to the town's indoor hockey league. On July 8, 1979, a month after graduation from high school, Tom joined the U.S. Air Force with training at Lackland AFB in Texas and in Illinois where he took up firefighting training. He then had "some hard training," duty at Hickman Field in Hawaii (his parents made the trip to sunny Hawaii), followed by eight months in Missouri and discharge in 1983. Today, Tom Jr. is a Civil Service firefighter at Westover, and had his initial training in New London at

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the Navy Underwater System Center. Today, he's a full-time firefighter at Westover. In 1986, Tom joined the Air Force Reserves and is a member of the 337th MAS, as loadmaster.

Trips from Westover

During the recent Persian Gulf War, both of Joan's men played an important role making several trips from Westover, via Germany or Spain, and on to Saudi Arabia. Between August 1990 and June 1991, they traveled to the war zone and also made stops to Turkey, Egypt and Israel.

One of Tom Sr.'s highlights of his career was on June 3, 1991 which "marked a rare career accomplishment amassing 10,000 hours of flying time." The flight included Tom Jr. as part of the crew, and the major hour occurred "34,000 feet above the Atlantic Ocean," with a

celebration by the crew when they landed home at Westover." Tom Sr.'s future plans are "to finish my career and am looking forward to retirement." And adding, "To make a trip around the world."

Another celebration was on Sept. 21 when Tom Jr. married Terry Kimmitt of Suffield. He said, "After the wedding I'll still be a part of the 337th." He was also a part of a group of the same 337th that was inducted into the Smalley Brothers VFW in town on Sept. 11. He was proudly inducted by his father, who is a lifetime member of the VFW.

When these airmen are not flying or serving in their other jobs, they enjoy the game of golf. Tom Sr. is now a Red Sox fan, but young Tom is, would you believe, a Yankee fan.

When asked who he admired ... Tom Sr. said his

parents ... "They led me in the right direction." Tom Jr. said, "Flying with my father (I soon found out) he was well respected by the members of the crew and someday (I hope) I can be like my dad."

EPILOG

The members of the 337th MAS, with the Durkin men and several local reservists, certainly made their wings many times over during the recent war and for years before that, always ready to serve their country. Tom Sr. and Jr., the father and son combination, and the others were put into the proper perspective with these words by Tom Durkin Sr. ... "The hectic flying schedule of the past several months has been tiring, but I was proud to be a part of Desert Storm ... I feel our airlift was contributing to the freedom of the United States. That's what we're in the business for..."

Five Local Residents are Town's Newest Recruits

By Jack Redmond

Do you now what Guy Henry, Donna Kupernik, Paul Sciarretta, Matthew Patient and Diane Kaplan all have in common?

On Sept. 25, these five diverse citizens of Windsor Locks became volunteer firefighters. They took an oath "To serve the people of this community voluntarily, with (their) time and effort."

The night the oath was given was a unique time for them, individually, as they were welcomed to the world of firefighters by Fire Chief Joseph H. LaPierre Jr. and chairman of the Fire Commission Russell Gabrielson, and

members of the Commission, relatives, friends and members of the Fire Department.

While other communities are advertising for new members, the Windsor Locks Fire Department has had a waiting list and can be considered fortunate that there are local people who want to serve their town in this special volunteer manner.

Three of the new members have relatives already in the department. Donna Kupernik is the wife of Deputy Chief Bill Kupernik and mother of firefighters William and John Kupernik. Diane Kaplan is the daughter of Fire Lt. Fred Kaplan. Matthew Patient is the

son of firefighter, Lenny Patient.

Before the swearing-in ceremonies, the five new recruits met members of the Fire Commission and were asked why they wanted to be firefighters? They agreed, it was something they always wanted to be involved in for a long time.

Some of their comments on "Why I want to be a firefighter ..."

Donna Kupernik: "Always wanted to serve in my hometown," and with her sons and husband in the department, can teach her the right moves.

Diane Kaplan: "Wanted to be a firefighter since I was a



Five local residents have been named the town's newest firefighters. The residents, with Fire Chief Joseph H. LaPierre, Jr., far right, are Guy Henry, Paul Sciarretta, Matthew Patient, Donna Kupernik and Diane Kaplan.

little girl," and having her dad a veteran fireman, will certainly be an asset.

(This brings the number of women in the Fire Department to three, the other being Linda Donahue.)

Matthew Patient: "One of my reasons for joining would be for the knowledge to be gained. I'm studying environmental technology at Springfield Tech and of course my father has given me the interest in being a fireman. In addition, I have attended courses at the Bloomfield Fire

School and taking Firefighter No. 1 training." (A requirement for all new firefighters.)

Guy Henry: Guy is not a new recruit, being a veteran of 10 years service, with experience at Bradley and Warehouse Point. Guy is a Fire Instructor One. He said, "I want to help my friends and neighbors in Windsor Locks."

Paul Sciarretta: "Have an interest in this town, want to help and be a part of the community."

The five new members have

different goals and various reasons for joining, but they were volunteers and should receive satisfaction out of this new endeavor.

Words by essayist, Charles Dudley Warner, said more than a century ago still hold true: "It is one of the beautiful compensations of this life that none can sincerely try to help another without helping themselves."

Welcome to the new members of the Windsor Locks Fire Department.

Antonacci Is More Than A 'Fixture' In His Hometown



Aviation Machinist First Class Ray Antonacci

If you want to meet and converse with Ray Antonacci, the best and most convenient place is his "garage, shop, office, where I spend most of my time." The building out back from the home of Ray and Lois on Elm Street. This building is where he says "I have to be doing something," and has been doing something all his life, in this special place.

Their home is located next to the house where Ray was born, the son of the late Anthony and Maria Antonacci. The Antonaccis raised Ray, his three brothers, and five sisters, on what was, years ago, the family farm where tobacco was grown for half a century, according to proud Ray when he talks of his life and heritage.

Ray's father was a farmer who came from Italy, met his future bride, Maria, married and settled in Windsor Locks, raising a large family and a farm in the Elm and Woodland sections of Windsor Locks. The farm, "Where the kids helped with the tobacco crop," Ray said. They had horses, cows, pigs and adding, "We always ate well."

The Antonacci family ... Ray has two surviving brothers, Frank of Warehouse Point and Sy who resides on Woodland. Another brother, Joseph, has passed away. Four of Ray's sisters live in Suffield

cabbages and kings

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... Anna, Angie, "Tony" and Margaret. Rose is south in West Virginia. All the children of Anthony and Maria attended local schools.

Ray graduated from the local high school in 1939, but said, "Didn't take part in sports, had to come home and help around the farm." He remembers some of his classmates ... Ralph McComb, Ed Malec, Isabella DeBella, Bernie Seaha, Irene Remmy and the Christian girls, to name a few.

After graduation, Ray worked for a year with a local plumber, some time in construction, then with the F.S. Bidwell Co. on Main Street. In February, 1942, before being drafted, Ray joined the U.S. Navy, serving until December, 1945. He took boot camp training at Newport, then on to schooling in Florida, where he was trained as an "Aviation Machinist Mate."

The next 18 months found Ray up north in the Aleutians, a part of Alaska. He served on "patrol of the waters, looking for subs." Commenting on the weather ... "It was not that cold, due to the warm Japanese currents."

After discharge, Ray decided to try "raising tobacco

with his brother Sy." After a year (1946) a hail storm destroyed the entire crop.

Back to Bidwell for Ray, until the company was liquidated in 1969. With his brothers, Sy and Joe, they purchased the Bidwell equipment and went into business for a year. Another liquidation, and this time, Ray went into the water pump repair business (pumps and wells) on his own. In 1985, Ray became semi-retired "As for retirement ... as long as I'm healthy, I'll keep going."

And now for a very important partnership in Ray's life ... he met Lois Lacky on a blind date. They were married in St. Mary's Church in town, on Sept. 9, 1950. Lois was the daughter of the late Edward and Jennie Lacky, who were from Connecticut. Lois grew up in Plainville, graduating from the town's high school in 1941. She had two brothers, Donald who lives in Plainville, and her late brother, Fred. Lois served many years as a dietitian in the Litchfield County Hospital. On a local level, Lois was active in the PTA, when their children were younger. They have a daughter, Jeanne, who is employed by the State of Connecticut in the Controller's Division. Their son, David, resides in Enfield and is the father of their grandchildren, Adam and

Amerly.

Ray has found the time over the years to pursue a few hobbies, like hunting in Vermont, rooting for the Red Sox, only because they are so close, working (he considers that a hobby of sorts), and at one time, operating his own airplane. He and Lois did make one memorable trip ... flying to West Virginia to visit his sister, Rose. After two years, he said, "The novelty wore off and I sold the plane."

When asked, who he most admired, Ray went back to his Bidwell days, saying, "I guess I would have to name two men I worked with and admired, and were Fire Chiefs ... "Pappy" Reeves (C&K, June 1977) and Earl Deming."

As for a personal philosophy, he was reluctant, however, Lois filled in the pages with ... "Ray has always been good with people, he did honest work, and (treated) his customers well."

EPILOG

Raymond Francis Antonacci certainly is a "fixture" in his town, after so many years in the business of pumps, wells and whenever he could help a friend, neighbor or old customer. He is a man from the old school, and probably, to paraphrase Robert Browning, you may find this about Ray ... "Open my heart, and you will see engraved upon it, Windsor Locks."

Softball Keeps Squires Active in Community

We first met 21 years ago, when little Brian Squires (now a 6-footer) was one of the Senior Little Leaguers on the Villa Rose Team.

Since then, Brian has had several different jobs, went to college nights, active in scouting, softball player, and recently the Tournament chairman of the Robert Santamaria Scholarship

Invitational Softball encounter with 14 teams participating, and with great hopes for this to be an annual local event.

Brian, who said he wouldn't live anywhere else but Windsor Locks, is the son of Bill and Barbara (Flint) Squires. Bill is retired from Suburban Propane, with 28 years of service, and now they make their home in New Hampshire. Bill was originally from Clinton; Barbara is a Windsor native.

They have three other sons and two daughters. Dan, a Windsor Locks policeman, resides in town; Tim, a nurse on the Life Star helicopter, lives in Southington; Mark is a Hartford resident, while Deb lives in Terryville and Susan in town.

Brian grew up in Middletown, with the family moving to Windsor Locks in 1964,

when he was a fourth-grader. He graduated from WLHS in 1974 (his brothers and sisters all attended the high school) where he played freshman soccer. However, he gave up sports in high school. After graduation, for the next 15 years, he played an active role in the town's scouting program. He was assistant scout-

master (Troop 155) and served with the man "I call my mentor ... Scoutmaster Joseph Avore, who taught me so much." Brian and his brother, Mark, achieved the highest rank as Eagle Scouts.

Career

As soon as Brian was out of high school, he began his working career, in addition to attending Central State nights, for three years, taking a business course. His first job, Reddington Counters in Windsor, starting as receiving clerk and after seven years was in production control. Next seven years, Capewell Manufacturing in Hartford, where they made saw blades and horse-shoe nails. He worked mostly in production until his final two years, when he went outside in the sales field, covering most of New England.

Brownell Electro in Rocky Hill was his stopping off next job for more than two years, again as a salesman. In August 1990, Brian went to work at his present job, with Ameri-

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can Saw in East Longmeadow, Mass. as their technical service rep. Part of Brian's work assignments was involvement in the area's United Way Campaign. Among the many workers he met was Steve Grogan, formerly of the New England Patriots. Brian said... "Steve was a great guy to discuss football and a very good speaker." However, Brian didn't switch rooting for the Dallas Cowboys, for the Patriots. In other sports, he is all Boston Red Sox and the Whalers.

As mentioned, I met Brian when he was a Senior League player (in Little League he played for the VFW) as member of the Villa Rose team, while I served as coach with George Hall and the late Bob Dion. Brian was a little fellow then, and made up the difference with cooperation and teamwork.

Local Softball

In 1980, Brian became involved in local softball, and presently plays with the Merrigan & LeFebvre team. When the Bob Santamaria tournament was discussed with Brian, the name of Merrigan & LeFebvre had a lot to do with the success of the invitational, supplying food and drink, during a weekend in August, when 29 games were played. The real estate firm

also maintained the fields at Southwest and served as umpires during the series of games. Fourteen teams participated, with four local teams ... Jo-Pat, Case Oil, Rouleau Forestry, and Clay Hill Package.

The Oak Hill School of Bloomfield was the winning team. Their pitcher, Tony Dixon, was chosen for MVP honors. Brian hopes to make the tourney an annual event. He said, "There was \$1,454 raised, thanks to the teams and people involved ... and the committee is working with the new high school principal, Stephen C. Cullinan, on details toward a scholarship award."

When Brian is not at his job or playing softball, he has his own landscaping business on the side. He's also into golf and over the years has traveled to Hawaii, Florida, Bermuda and up to Maine.

EPILOG

Brian Squires has lived in Windsor Locks all of his life. It's the town he calls home and has always found the people to be "fantastic." Adding, "When I have a family I hope I can bring them up in Windsor Locks." As mentioned, Mr. Avore was one individual Brian admired,



Brian Squires with Carolyn Kamay

especially in the world of scouting. He taught Brian to "give a little more than you get," and Brian has tried to do just that in his personal relationship in day-to-day life, be

it work or play. Yes, the Little Leaguer has come a long way ... from baseball to softball and a successful worthy tournament named in honor of Bob Santamaria.

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WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

Meet the New Jaycee President

Jill Stine Osborn is a mother of two small children, Kevin and Erin, and in addition is president of the Windsor Locks Jaycees, making for a well-rounded schedule and lifestyle.

The Osborns, Jill, her native born husband, Tom Osborn, their two children, live in Enfield. Why Enfield and not Windsor Locks? That was easy, they said, "We both have a lot of ties in Windsor Locks — we grew up there, but we couldn't find a house. Nobody was moving, so we live in Enfield."

But remembering those ties, they helped organize the Jaycees (which celebrated their first anniversary last April) and are active, with Tom being employed at Hamilton-Standard, for another local touch.

Jill's life began in Houlton, Maine, the daughter of Marie (Conlogue) Stine, who was from the Maine town and now resides in Windsor Locks. Jill has two sisters ... Judi of Windsor Locks, Becky Betterton of Windsor, and two brothers ... Marty who resides in Enfield and Scott of Cromwell. They are all grads of the Raider School.

The children of Marie Stine may have had its start in Maine but when Jill was 6, the family moved to Merced, Calif., just south of San Francisco.

In 1973, Mrs. Stine and her five children returned to the East Coast and, because of relatives, settled for Windsor Locks. Marie Stine is a registered nurse, who raised her five children and worked 10 years as industrial nurse at Hi-G, and currently at Aetna, the past five years.

Local Graduate

Jill graduated from the local high school in 1980, where

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she was an active student, working the the yearbook, a cheerleader, and played varsity soccer. She attended Edicott College in Beverly, Mass., earning an associate degree in secretarial sciences. Her first job was with Travelers, moving on to several law offices in the Hartford area, and her last employment was at Dexter's, until the first child of Jill and Tom arrived.

Her native husband, Thomas Henry Osborn, born and raised here, the son of Henry and Charlotte (Henning) Osborn. Henry was from East Windsor; Charlotte, a native of Long Island City, N.Y. They also have a daughter, Elizabeth.

Tom and Jill met through mutual friends, dated for five years, and were married on Oct. 13, 1984. The first three years of their marriage, was in Windsor Locks, moving to Enfield in 1987, for reasons already given.

Tom graduated from high school in 1977, was not active in sports but did play ice hockey for the town of Somers. After leaving high school, Tom became a busy college student, with two years at UConn, then the U of Hartford, where he received a bachelor of science in electrical engineering. He returned to UConn a few years later to earn his master's in business. Tom's first job, that lasted a year, was with Bell Labs in New Jersey. In 1983 he returned to Connecticut and joined Hamilton-Standard and today he's in the business development engineering part of the local company.

Two Children

The two children of Tom and Jill ... Kevin, 5, is in Kindergarten and a boy "who loves swimming and wrestling," and according to his parents "is all boy." Little Erin, 3-1/2, is in nursery school, "enjoys school," into tap dancing and along with Kevin, both take gymnastics.

They joined the Jaycees for reasons already expressed by Tom and Jill. Actually, the Jaycees had its second start in town, back in April 1990. Jill is now president and the club meets once a month on the first Wednesday of each month at the Public Library's Community Room. The age for membership is 21 up to 39.

In the next month or so, the Jaycees have the following projects: On Nov. 2 they will have their own Halloween Party at the Windsor Court Hotel in Windsor Locks. On Nov. 16 at the East Windsor Ramada Inn, a "Karaoke Sing-A-Long," judged by the Jay-

cees, which benefits the "Healthy Baby Campaign" for the March of Dimes.

When Jill was asked who she most admired ... there were two women who played an important role in her life ... her mother and grandmother, Mary Conlogue. She said of her mother, "I look back and marvel on what my mother accomplished raising five children." As for Mrs. Conlogue, who is 96 years old, she said, "I have always admired her great attitude in life." Jill believes strongly in the family and tries to live by the Golden Rule. Tom's one word to describe Jill ... "Energetic."

EPILOG

Jill and Tom Osborn are residents of nearby Enfield, but they haven't lost their fondness for his home town and her adopted town. They can surely be called movers, when it came to reorganization of Windsor Locks' Jaycees.



Jill, Tom, Erin and Kevin Osborn.

Burnham Has Had Active Life as

The most suitable place to interview Red Burnham was at his office at Bradley Bowl, a place

he has been associated with since 1968.

At Bradley, scene of national bowling tournaments, the Plainville native, and New Britain raised, Red is surrounded by numerous awards, plaques, memorabilia, he has earned for his many years in Connecticut and national bowling circles.

With Red, life has been a busy one, and a man "who enjoys life and has fun," as father, grandfather, reporter, photographer, manager of bowling lanes, as caddy in his youth, and association with some of the great in the sporting world. Men like the great Arnold Palmer, famed announcer Vince Scully, who he surely resembles, and the big man, Wilt Chamberlain, to name only a few. Red has interesting stories from his reporting days at the Hartford Times, attending golf tournaments, All-Star games at Yankee Stadium and picture taking of the great and near-great in the sporting world.

Clinton George Burnham, better known as just Red ... was born in Plainville, the son of Clinton A. Burnham and Stacia Burnham. Mr. Burnham was from Bridgeport; Mrs. Burnham a New Britain native. They have another son, Bob, who resides in Enfield and was involved in local bowling circles for many years.

Red attended Newington High School, Class of 1947.

After high school, he got his first break (fall of '47) when he went to work at the old Hartford Times. He started at the bottom, so to speak, in

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the mail room, and in a few years someone realized the potential of this young eager man, and he was to become a "copy boy." Among the many workers at the Times, Red recalled the famed sports writer, Art McGinley.

In the '50s, Red realized his ambition, when he was given the assignment of writing about local sports, in addition to a training period of learning the fine art of photography. He then went on to high school and college activities as reporter/photographer. He entered the big time, reporting the U.S. Open golf tournament and the All-Star game at Yankee Stadium.

His first try at bowling manager was at the Simsbury Lanes for a year, but the life of reporting sports drew him back to the Times (which closed in 1976). The Times chose him for the Simsbury Bureau on the night desk, and in addition, writing a bowling column, which began in 1954. He even tried commercial photography, and wrote for the Farmington Valley Herald.

In 1968, Red came to the Bradley Bowling Lanes and today his title is General Manager at Bradley and the Vernon Lanes. For the record, Red was a member of the National Guard for eight years (in the '50s) with the 103rd Headquarters in West Hartford and attained the rank of Master Sergeant.

Also in the '50s, Red met his future bride at a restaurant. Dottie (Stavinsky) Burnham was from New Britain, the

daughter of the late Joseph and Mary Stavinsky. Dottie has a brother, Bob, and a sister, Margie. Dottie is a grad of New Britain High School, Class of 1950.

Red and Dottie were married on Nov. 10, 1951 and have lived in Newington and New Britain before moving to their present home in Tariffville. They have three children ... Clint, Donna and a son, Bret, who has passed away. Donna Bailey and her husband, Bob, reside in Granby with Red and Dottie's grandchildren ... Meghan and Sarah. Clint, a captain in the Air Force, is stationed in Denver, and has been in the service for 17 years. During that time he has traveled all over the world. He was a grad of Simsbury High School, where he was on the wrestling team and managed the football squad. He attended RPI and has a degree from Texas A&M.

Red has many great memories of his late son, Bret. He called him a "great, happy kid" who played Little League and midget football. He was a bowler as a young lad and

Reporter and Columnist



Red Burnham types another one of his bowling columns.

Staff Photo by Julie Cotnoir

took up the guitar. Red said his son was named after James Garner's character, "Bret Maverick."

Favorite Sport

Red has covered many sporting events over the years, with baseball one of his favorites, and favorite team ... the Yankees, with Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle, his heroes. The great DiMaggio was the "best," according to Red. On one occasion, Red met the famed baseball and golf announcer, Vince Scully, and it's amazing, the remarkable resemblance between Red and

Mr. Scully.

Bowling has been an important part of Red's life. Not only being connected with the game as manager, he has written a bowling column for the *Journal Inquirer* since 1976 and it's called "Knock on Wood." He and Dottie are bowling partners these days, and over the years he has had his share of big games. Ever bowl 300, Red? "No, but I did hit 299 and 298, but not the big 300," he said.

National Coverage

The Bradley Bowl has been the scene of national television coverage since August of 1974, Red said. Did Red have a favorite bowler among the many professional bowling association members? "Yes," he said, "Dick Weber, a perfect bowler and great person." On the local scene, I had interviewed Pete Couture and Sonja Macierowski and this is what he had to say, on these two fine bowlers... "Pete is a very knowledgeable bowler, the persistence type and with Sonja, if you wanted a job done, she was the one, and always with good results."

Red has been active on the local civic scene as the only two-year president of the

Windsor Locks Rotary Club.

On the national front, Red is a member of the Bowling Writers Association of America and past president of the New York Metropolitan Writers Association. As mentioned, in his Bradley Bowl office, there are many awards and tributes to Red's outstanding career. Among those are the selection of Red to the Connecticut State Bowlers Association Hall of Fame, and the Joe Richards (New York writer) Memorial Award.

When asked, who he most admired, among the many great and near great his path has crossed over the years, he said, "Arnold Palmer and another golfer, and actor, James Garner." He met both at the GHO.

EPILOG

Red Burnham, well-known Bradley Bowl manager and equally known in this area as bowling columnist. He's a man who enjoys writing and life, and admitted, someday "to write a book." It would prove interesting reminiscing on his varied experiences, in the world of newspapers, photography and bowling because we have only told the highlights.

Harris is Town's Finance Director

Before Mary Ann Harris was appointed to her current position in January 1990 as the town's Finance Director/Deputy Town Treasurer,

she had worked in Ohio, Hartford and Enfield, in three diversified jobs, which included federal and state assignments.

Mary Ann was born in Springfield; however, her family moved to Enfield when she was only 6 months old, and today she considers herself a Connecticut and Enfield native. She is the daughter of Edward and Katherine (Brown) Harris, who make their home in Enfield. Mrs. Harris came from Ludlow, while Mr. Harris was from Springfield and is now retired from Pratt & Whitney after 35 years of service. Mary Ann's mother has worked for the town of Enfield the past 12 years in the "Dial-A-Ride" program. Mary Ann has two brothers ... James and Edward, both residents of Enfield.

She graduated from Enfield High School, Class of 1976, where she was a member of the school's Theatre Group. She went on to UConn and in 1980 received a bachelor of

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arts degree in Political Sciences. She is currently a part-time graduate student at UConn, working on her master's in Public Affairs.

First Job

Mary Ann left Connecticut to take her first job in Columbus, Ohio, that lasted for three years. The first year, with the federal government in the VISTA program (Volunteers In Service To America). She said it was the "American version of the Peace Corps." The program was cut and Mary Ann had to look for other employment. She stayed in the Midwest and the next two years held various jobs. In addition, she did graduate work at Ohio State University. Looking back, she enjoyed the life style in the Ohio area, but the economy was becoming "tough" as to job opportunities, so she returned to Connecticut.

She then joined the Hartford Electric Supply for a three-year period. She secured a job with the State of Con-

necticut with the Motor Vehicle Department in Enfield. Another three years for Mary Ann, with the title of Motor Vehicle

Registration Examiner, which she said, a better title would be as "bookkeeper."

In January 1990, Mary Ann was appointed to her current position with the Town of Windsor Locks. Admitting, "I love to work with numbers ... (it can be) fascinating." And numbers she works with, saying, "I oversee the payroll and accounting functions of the town ... implement the budget that the town has approved for the fiscal year." Yes, she added, "Committees and commissions do ask for assistance with their budget figures."

Enjoys Photography

When she isn't working with numbers, Mary Ann enjoys photography, a lot of walking, crocheting, and reading biographies of famous people. She also enjoys "easy listening music" and comedies when it comes to the movie screen. She does a lot of traveling, and has seen the land of her great-grandparents, Ireland, in addition to parts of

Europe, and in the states: New England, Florida and California.

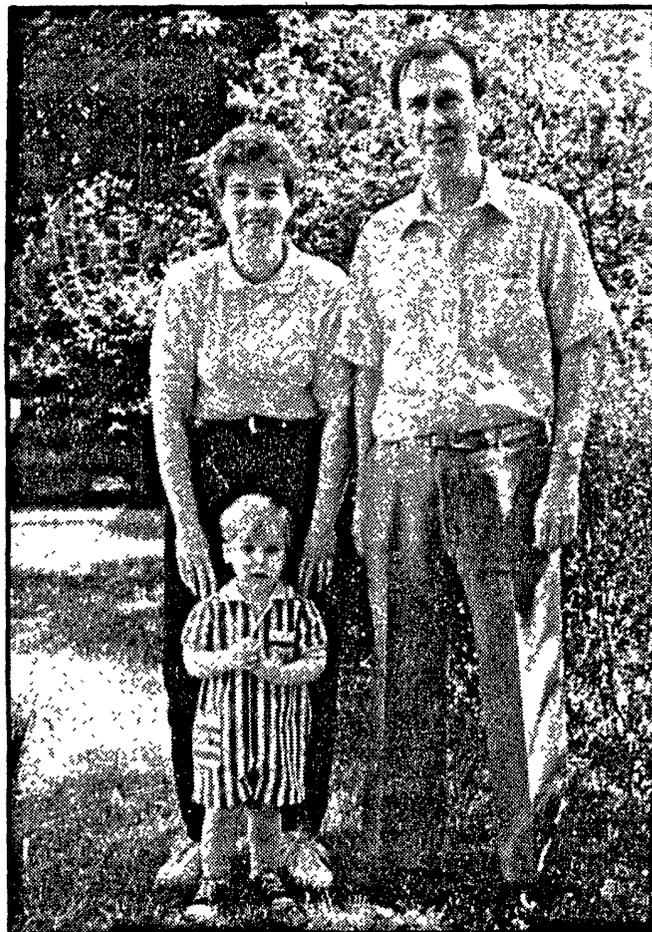
Mary Ann's newest involvement has been the Windsor Locks Jaycees, in its recent reorganization. She is a charter member and one of its vice presidents. Saying, "It's a good young organization," her reason for joining.

Mary Ann was asked who she most admired. For this talented, traveling young lady, she quickly responded... "My parents ... who gave me the freedom of choice ... they stayed behind me when I made my decisions." Her personal philosophy... "We never stop learning, we (must) continue to grow, and (always) strive to do our best."

EPILOG

Mary Ann Harris, keeper of the town's numbers, as to the approved budgets by authority of the citizenry, who have showed their concern for those numbers, in the yearly process.

She, like Jill and Tom Osborn, lives in Enfield, but hold memberships in the Windsor Locks Jaycees, the organization that is on the look for projects beneficial to the town.



Mary Ann Harris, her father Edward and her nephew.

Alex Zenzick Is President of the Class of '92

There's an old saying, "You got to be a football hero to get along with the beautiful girls." In Alex Zenzick's case, he's not only a football player for Coach Pat Scelza's WLHS team, but he's also the president of the Class of 1992.

So this quiet, obviously popular senior has an active schedule playing football, keeping up with the duties of president and holding his own as member of the National Honor Society, to list a few of his activities.

Alexander Jon Zenzick, but better known around the halls of the Raider School as just Alex or the shorter version, "AJ," may be his full name, but we'll stick to the Alex for his story.

He began his life in Windsor Locks, however, at the age of 5, moved to Enfield with the family and attended kindergarten to grade 8. He played Little League and received his first football training as part of that town's midget football program.

Alex comes from a large



Alex Zenzick

family, five brothers and six sisters, with three of his brothers at their Windsor Locks home ... the home of Charles J. Zenzick Jr. and his wife, Karren (Johnson) Zenzick. The brothers ... Charles J. Zenzick III, Sterling Chapman and Mark Chapman II. Mark was a Little Leaguer and played varsity baseball.

A few words on Alex's father and family members ... Charles is a 1970 WLHS grad, has worked at Hamilton-Standard the past eight years in the Production Control Depart-

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ment, a member of the Jaycees a few years back. He is the son of the late Charles Sr. and Jennie (Saruta) Zenzick. He has four sisters ... Joyce Wojtas, Janet Merlo, Jackie Russo, and a sister that has passed away, JoAnn.

Charles' wife, Karren, is originally from West Virginia, the daughter of the late Sterling Johnson and Vera Johnson, of Windsor Locks. Karren also comes from a large family, with five brothers and a sister. She has been a "hairdresser all my life," she said, and in addition is now employed by Caterari" at Bradley, serving American and Northwest Airlines. Charles and Karren were married "at an outdoor wedding" on Oct. 25, 1986 in her native state of West Virginia where they met.

Tried Golf

Back to the high school office holder and football player

... Alex did try the game of golf in his second year of high school, turning to the football field the past two years as offensive and defensive tackle for Coach Scelza, who Alex says "knows how to press (the players) in trying to do their very best.)

The winter months may find Alex skiing in Massachusetts or Vermont, and he is also into tennis and bowling, cheering for the football Buffalo Bills, and the Red Sox. When it comes to favorites ... food would be pizza, classical to rock in the field of music, on television "Full House," and for movies, any features with action or adventure.

During Alex's school years, he's been active in many areas, the Talcott Mountain Science Center, Boys' State, Harvard Book Award, State-wide Chemistry Exam and the Yearbook Committee.

He was also not one to waste time, as he combined school work with a job as janitor at the Middle School and is currently on the job on Sundays at the local McDonald's as crew chief manager.

As for activities of president and the Class of '92, Alex said, "The class was busy with the magazine drive, now will work on the Senior Ball, Class Night, Senior Class Outing and the Patron Drive for the annual musical or play (which at this writing has not been announced). Their class adviser is Amy Leinbach, gym teacher and cross-country coach. For class officers, Alex can call upon his vice president, Steve Drapeau, Greg Pfaffenbicher as secretary and Todd Annis, the treasurer of the class.

Naval Academy

An honor student with a 3.6 mark in studies, Alex has high hopes (third in his class) in attending the Naval Academy. He is interested in science and math, and someday his title may be Doctor. He has taken the initial steps, submitted letters of intention to Senators

Dodd and Lieberman, and U.S. Rep. Nancy Johnson.

Was there anyone in his young life he admires? Yes, he said "My biology teacher at school, Mr. Randolph Widner, who has a unique way of handling students and situations." Alex's personal philosophy ... "You can't let life pass you by ... when opportunity comes, you have to take it." Any comment from his dad ... We never had to ask AJ if he did his homework."

EPILOG

Alex Zenzick and the Class of 1992 are now building up memories that will be remembered for years to come. He has his own personal high sights ... good luck to Alex and his classmates.

Alex comes from a large family, and his father probably knows too well the following words by astronaut Walter Schirra Sr. ... "You don't raise heroes; you raise sons. And if you treat them like sons, they'll turn out to be heroes, even if it's in your own eyes."

Magleora's Major Involvement Is Fire Department

Nelson Peter Magleora Jr. is Windsor Locks born and raised, and said even as

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a kid "I always wanted to be a fireman." Nelson became that volunteer firefighter and, today, one of the youngest lieutenants ever named to the officer role in over 100 years of the town's Volunteer Fire Department.

The young father of a year-old son, grew up on North Main Street, the son of Windsor Locks native Nelson P. Magleora Sr., a carpenter with Roncari for more than 20 years, and Pauline (Wagner) Magleora who came from Enfield. They have a daughter, Susan, a WLHS grad, and Central Connecticut State with a degree in Psychology, and currently with the Community Base Services who provide "supported employment."

Nelson is a grad of the local high school, Class of 1981. He had no time for sports, he said, actually was too interested in working and becoming a fireman. In his sophomore year, Nelson, along with one of his best friends, "Chip" Staiger, joined part of the fire department, in those days, connected with the Civil Defense Program, now the Junior Firemen Program. Nelson was only 16 at the time and recalls "going to fires (close

to his home) on his bike, I didn't have a car," he said. He remembers the old fire station on Oak Street, and talking to the late Fire Chief Bill Reilly and firefighter Herman True about becoming a fireman.

During his high school years, Nelson actually began his working career, as a part-time employee at Montgomery on Main Street. Another well-known fireman, former fire chief, Ray Ouellette, a foreman at Montgomery, at the time, took Nelson "under his wings," working in the factory, and exposed Nelson to the many specialties of electrical work. Nelson was very interested and decided to attend Prince Tech nights to learn more about his new found trade. He managed to take 16 courses, passing and earning the title of Journeyman Electrician (State of Connecticut).

Worked at Montgomery

Nelson stayed at Montgomery for seven years, until the time the company made plans to move to New Hampshire. Nelson said, "I could have moved but wanted to stay here. I did go North to help set up some machines." He then

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Magleora's Major Involvement Is Fire Department

Continued from page 8

joined Emhart in Windsor and for the past three years Nelson is working at his trade, as Industrial Electrician.

An important part of Nelson's life is his family, wife Joan and their son, Robert Nelson Magleora, who celebrated his first birthday on Oct. 19. Joan (Pitek) Magleora was from Bloomfield, the daughter of Martin and Lila Pitek. Joan has a brother, Martin. She graduated from Northwest Catholic High School in 1980. She went on to UConn, grad of the Class of 1985, with a bachelor of science degree in Family Studies. Currently, Joan is studying for her master's at St. Joseph College in West Hartford, in Early Childhood/Special Education. Joan, over the years, has worked in the "childcare field."

Joan recalled that Nelson and her had an unforgettable first meeting, certainly notifying his blind date and future bride of things to come. The way she tells it ... it was a snowy night in January, 1987. Maria and "Chip" Staigner had set up a blind date at a Poquonock restaurant between Joan

and Nelson. Everything went fine, until the two dedicated volunteer firemen were alerted that a fire was in progress in Windsor Locks, and off to their duty, with the girls sitting, never to see those boys that night. (Joan never said who paid the bill.) Joan was a bit upset, he hadn't asked for her number, or when he would see her again. But Nelson did call and did manage to set things straight ... and the young couple were married on June 3, 1989. They have lived in their present home since the wedding day. Obviously, Joan and Nelson will always remember their first date.

Hobbies

Nelson, a busy industrial electrician, does manage to have a few hobbies ... like the car races at Riverside, carpentry work around the house (his father helped him with a newly installed dormer), watching the races at Saratoga, and his main hobby (after the Fire Department) is fishing in Vermont. To explain further, he said, "I'll always remember the good times I had with my father on the opening days of fishing."



Nelson Magleora

Vacations for this young couple has been to New York State and Vermont, with Joan introducing Nelson to the beauty of Cape Cod. When it comes to spectator sports, Nelson follows the Giants, Yankees and Whalers and viewing the television show

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"Rescue 911."

Any future plans for Nelson?... "Well, someday, to be an electrical contractor," he said. And when it comes to Nelson's involvement with the Fire Department... Joan said "I'm very proud of his involvement." When asked for one word to describe her husband, she said "Fireman."

Nelson has a rather simple

but profound philosophy ... "To be successful (in life) and never go without." As for admiration for others, Nelson chose his father, saying, "His thoughtfulness and generosity over the years and just being himself."

EPILOG

Lt. Nelson Peter Magleora handles the "communications" as his main role among the officers of the Windsor Locks Fire Department. A job

he takes very seriously.

Nelson also knows how to enjoy the family and will always treasure the time spent with his father at the old fishing hole. Probably in a new time of life, young Robert Nelson will go fishing with his dad and grandfather, and someday become another volunteer fireman. In Windsor Locks, it's been a family affair for years to many of the town's firefighters.

Meet The New Pastor Of St. Mary's

At the end of July, the Reverend William James Hilliard took over the pastoral duties at St. Mary's Church. The Hartford native comes to St. Mary's after serving 18 years at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in West Hartford.

Some background on the church's new pastor ... the Reverend Hilliard grew up in the capital city, the son of William J. Hilliard Sr. and Elizabeth (Malloy) Hilliard, who was from New Britain. Mr. Hilliard, who passed away, was from Hartford. He had a distinguished career of many years as state Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The Reverend Hilliard said his father was reappointed by Governors of both parties.

Rev. Hilliard has four brothers and a sister ... with Robert, a deacon in West Hartford, Gerard, a school teacher in Suffield, Joseph of Hartford is employed by the Department of Transportation, and a brother, John, who has passed away, and was an engineer with IBM. Their sister, Marie, resides in Canton and is a nurse by profession.

The future priest in the family attended grammar school in Hartford, where he played basketball and softball, going on to St. Thomas Seminary. He was ordained in 1962. His first "summer fill-in," as he described the position, was

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as temporary assistant at St. Boniface Church in New Haven. The Reverend Hilliard spent the next 12 years on the faculty of St. Thomas Seminary, as teacher of English Literature and Music.

More on the career of the Reverend Hilliard, previous to his pastor's role at St. Mary's... since 1967 he has been on the archdiocesan Commission for Sacred Liturgy and Music, which included some time as chairman of the panel.

In 1974, the Reverend Hilliard became co-pastor at St. Thomas the Apostle in West Hartford, and in June 1989 was named pastor.

On the local scene, the Reverend Hilliard has assumed the position of Chaplain of the Windsor Locks Volunteer Fire Department, a role he took over when the Reverend Robert M. Grace left the parish for another assignment.

A man of music, that he is, the Reverend Hilliard said his hobby was the piano and or-

gan. He does enjoy all types of music, and when it comes to TV, the specials and Public Television are his viewing habits. As for food, he said "Anything I don't have to cook." He likes the fall season

best, and the Connecticut shore for vacations. As for reading, two of his favorite authors are John Steinbeck and William Faulkner.

Did he have a favorite saying or sayings? "Yes," the Reverend Hilliard had two in mind... one by President John F. Kennedy... "The tragedy is not that things are broken. The tragedy is that they are not mended again." And from the Bible... "Not the one to say... Lord, Lord... Who enters my kingdom, but the one who does the will of my father."

From the St. Mary's Parish News and the Pastor's Desk... (the Reverend Hilliard's assessment on his new surroundings)... "I do know that here I find all the ingredients for happiness; a newly renovated church with beautiful worship

space, a modern parish and a CCD center, comfortable living quarters, a well-organized parish and programs to meet many and varied needs, a capable and pleasant staff and most especially, parishioners who are friendly, cooperative and loyal."

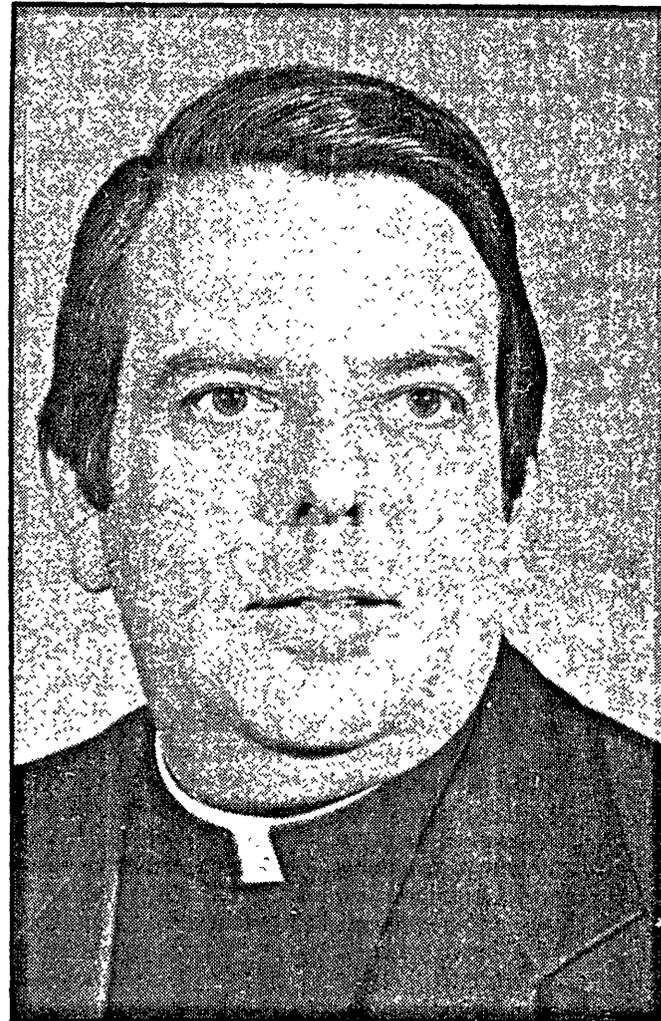
More church news... There was a recent addition to the Reverend Hilliard's staff ... the Reverend Dennis Gingras, who was ordained on Jan. 13, 1990. The Reverend Dennis will assist the Reverend Hilliard with the pastoral ministries of the parish. The Reverend Dennis' first assignment was at St. Francis Xavier in New Milford.

The Reverend Hilliard was asked, who he most admired and his personal philosophy ... he said, "My father, he was so steady, predictable, a real people person." As for philosophy ... "To me, (in life) try to recognize and reach your potential and achieve what you are doing (to your) full capacity ... there should be no half way ... give everything you have ..."

EPILOG

The Reverend William James Hilliard has the position of Pastor of St. Mary's ... an old and true parish, established in 1852, and the largest in town. He replaced the Reverends Timothy Meehan and Robert Grace.

It is written... (words by the late Archbishop John F.



The Reverend William J. Hilliard

Whealon) ... "Father Hilliard has a love of music and that he is sure that St. Mary's will remain a musical parish." Adding, "May it be a parish in harmony as well." The Rever-

end Hilliard said ... "Every day I become more and more convinced that I made the right choice." And he is certainly finding that harmony is present at St. Mary's.

Sporting awards

It's that time of the year again, when members of the Newhallville-Shelton Ends Association gather for their annual sports banquet to honor distinguished athletes of old.

The event will be held on Nov. 14 at the Laurel View Country Club in Hamden and honorees include Herbie Angell, Augie DeGenaro, Jack Redmond and the Rev. John Crawford.

Willie Werth and Ed Erickson are co-chairmen of the dinner and a record crowd is expected, according to John Conlon, president.

Herb Angell played varsity football and basketball at Hillhouse High School. He was a member of the 1931-32 state champion basketball team.

Popular gentleman retired from Pratt & Whitney, where he was employed before and after Army service in World War II. He holds a degree from the Hartford Institute of Accounting, two engineering degrees from the University of Hartford and a degree in general studies from Manchester Community College.

Augie DeGenaro operates the DeGenaro Insurance Agency in Hamden. He played varsity baseball and football at Hillhouse and starred on the gridiron for such area teams as the Beaver Blues and the Newhallvilles.

Augie was awarded the Purple Heart and Distinguished Service Cross as a fighter pilot in the Army Air Forces during World War II. Married to the former Margaret Zemke, he is the father of two sons, Greg and Mark.

Jack Redmond played left wing on the Commercial High School hockey team and in 1942 played the outfield for Garvbey's Restaurant, city-wide softball champions.

Retired from Combustion Engineering, Jack writes a weekly column for the Windsor Locks Journal "Cabbages and Kings." He is married to the former Rita Bethke and has two daughters and five grandchildren.

Father Crawford, who recently celebrated his 50th anniversary as a priest, attended St. Thomas Seminary, St. Sulpice Issy, France, and St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore.

WARD RECIPIENTS



AUGIE DeGENARO

Augie moved to Newhallville in 1927. He attended school at Lincoln, Bassett and Hillhouse before enrolling at the University of Connecticut. He played baseball for the Silver Stars and Hillhouse Varsity. During the football season, he was kept busy playing for the Beaver Blues, Newhallvilles and the Hillhouse P.M. Squad.

From 1942 to 1946 he spent as a fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force, where he was awarded the Purple Heart and Distinguished Service Cross. After being shot down during a mission, Augie crashed into the English Channel where he was fished out by a patrol boat. Still groggy, he asked where he was and was stunned when he was told, New Haven. Not Connecticut but England.

Married to the former Margaret Zemke and the father of two sons, Greg and Mark, Augie still heads the DeGenaro Insurance Agency in Hamden.



JACK REDMOND

Jack was born on West Ivy Street and attended school at Lincoln, Bassett and Commercial High before attaining an Accounting Degree from New Haven College.

While at Commercial, he played left wing for the hockey team. In 1942, he was an outfielder for Garvey's Restaurant, the City Wide Softball Champs. As a member of the U.S. Army, Jack spent three years in the Pacific Theater and at the time of his discharge, reached the rank of First Sergeant.

Retired from Combustion Engineers, Jack writes a weekly column for the Windsor Locks Journal, entitled, Cabbages and Kings. He has covered the G.H.O. and in the process has interviewed Jim Rice, Sammy Davis, Jr. and other prominent entries.

Married to the former Rita Bethke, they have two daughters and five grandchildren. Today, Jack spends as much time as possible on the golf course.

He served two tours of duty as an Army chaplain in World War II under Gen. George Patton and in the Korean War. He is pastor of the Church of the Incarnation in Wethersfield.

Coming to America

Ruth Maria Balck lived through the horrors of war as a young girl in Germany, during World War II. She came to America in 1956 with her husband, Karl Heinz and their twin daughters, with a "I love to work" attitude, and goodness of heart, making for a very successful life.

Now the mother of four grown children, Ruth's life has touched many of the folks in Windsor Locks. She has said, "My customers are my friends." This talented seamstress may have started with alterations and housework; however, her work habits and personality have brought Ruth many years of specialty work for Kaman and work with the U.S. Navy.

This has been truly an American dream come true for Ruth, Karl Heinz, the engineer (who also knew the horrors of war), their four children, now with four grandchildren. A story that begins for Ruth Maria Brune in cen-

cabbages and kings

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tral Germany, 200 miles from Berlin in the town of Soest, in the state of Westfalen.

Ruth was the daughter of Heinrich and Maria Bruen, both of whom have passed away. Her mother came to America with Ruth and her family, passing away in 1971.

Nightly Bombing

The story of Ruth, born in the '20s, raised in Germany during the hectic years of the '30s, and only with her mother, living through the nightly bombing from 1939 to 1941. At the time they were living in Essen, then they moved to Duesseldorf, where the bombing continued, and she recalled "We lost our belongings three times, but not our lives."

In 1942, along with the shortage of food, clothing and housing, Ruth and her mother made another move, this time

to Weimar. One fact she will always remember about Weimar, they lived a little over a mile from the infamous Buchenwald, the concentration camp.

Ruth had met Karl Heinz O. Balck, who was from Schwerin, Germany, a German officer, on leave after D-Day. They were married on July 15, 1944. But he was returned to duty with his panzer division and the young couple never saw each other, until they were reunited on May 1, 1945. During that period, no mail ... and Ruth did not know if he was alive or dead. Karl was a veteran of fighting in Poland, Russia and France. When his unit was pushed back by the Allies into Germany from France, he was released and after a five-day bike ride to Schwerin and Ruth

were together again.

The next decade found Ruth and Karl living a new and more peaceful, but eventful lifestyle in Dusseldorf. They became proud parents of twin daughters ... Asrid and Renate, born in March of 1947. As time went on, Ruth managed to work as secretary/accountant, to help Karl attend school in Essen. He completed his

courses and received a degree in engineering/survey. By now, Ruth was pursuing her hobby of sewing and knitting. She made the hobby her "trademark" and achieved the title of "Strickermeisterin." She opened her own store in 1954, life had certainly changed for the better.

But, Ruth was not satisfied, she had "always wanted to go to America." Her mother had visited the states (Montana) back in the '20s, and knew folks would be their sponsors, if the time ever came.

After two years, arrangements were made, and on Nov. 17, 1956, Ruth, Karl and the twin girls arrived at Idlewild Airport (now JFK) in New York City. Ruth's mother had come to the States a few months before them.

Even today, Ruth could not thank the good people who were responsible for the wonderful welcome they received in their new country. After leaving New York City, next stop Windsor Locks. Ruth said the Presbyterian Church in Warehouse Point (their sponsors) provided a place to live for a genuine new start in America.

And that location, their new home, was on Pleasant Street where they lived until 1960. Before moving to their present home on John Street, the Balck family lived on Lynn Lane for five years.

Family Background

Let's provide the information on Ruth and Karl's children ... the twins ... Asrid lives in Virginia with her husband, Richard Rogala, who is in the Air Force, and their two children, Brian and Lisa. As part of his duty, they spent six years in Germany. Renate resides in Syracuse, N.Y. with her husband, Lawrence Foisy, who is into computers. They have two children ... Michelle and Alisha.

The other children of Ruth and Karl, Ingrid and Dieter, were born in the USA. Ingrid is married to David O'Donnell and they reside in Killingworth, Conn. Dieter lives at home, a grad of the University of Hartford and is currently employed at the Hartford Hospital as respiratory therapist and on the local scene, an EMT with the Lions Ambulance Corps. All the children of Ruth and Karl were grads of WLHS.

Coming/page 12



The Balck Family, Dieter, Karl Heinz, Ruth, Ingrid, Renate and Asrid.

Coming to America Is a Success Story

Continued from page 10

Employment in the States for Ruth and Karl ... Ruth began working for local doctors as house cleaner, and her talents in sewing came to light and she went into the alteration business, and today, still has several of her original customers. In 1968, Ruth said she began her valued association with Kaman in Bloomfield, in what she called "commercial sewing." Today, work for the Kaman company consists of "covering interior panels of helicopters with a special fiberglass material. In

addition, Ruth also does specialty work for the Navy.

Karl also started small, receiving his first job from Ray Roncari, working in the construction business. However, in 1958, Karl's engineering talents took over and he found work in Newington survey projects. In 1977, he went to work for the Town of Glastonbury and today Karl is in their Public Works Engineering Department.

It should be noted, when Karl came to the States, he could speak "a little English," according to Ruth, who at the time could not speak any English. How did she learn English? "I just picked it up ... watched a lot of television and that helped a lot," she said, with one of her big smiles.

Any special hobby for this talented lady? "Yes," she said, "Cooking, and painting pictures, but not much time." And no time for vacations, she added, but she did manage two trips back to Germany when her daughter, Asrid, was with her husband for a tour of duty in Ruth's and Asrid's native country.

Ruth and Karl both enjoy classical music. Much television? "Yes, when I'm working, the set is on and I may watch some of the soap operas," she said. Adding, "We are working people," and it sums up her life and Karl's.

Did she have a favorite saying? One by General Douglas MacArthur... "It's so easy to die; and so hard to live."

With Christmas coming up ... how were the holidays, she remembered, as a young girl? "Christmas was a good meal, the gathering of families." But today, "Everything is material ... but I still enjoy cooking for the family."

Ruth was asked to name one person she admired. "Mother Teresa, who gave of herself and works with the poor," she said. Ruth's personal philosophy, the entire interview was sprinkled with her kind words and thoughts, but when it came time for one decision, she said, "Always try to do your best and never say no."

EPILOG

Ruth Maria Balck ... her talents overwhelm you. We just had to add two of her hobbies, and what she has done at the proper time ... making gingerbread houses and a wedding gown, and we did mention she never says ... "No," to family or friends.

To Ruth, "America is the land (in which) if you want to work, you can make it." She, too, is a person who has a book to write ... we have only touched the surface of this grand lady.

DECEMBER 13, 1991

Is a Success Story

Schwab Family Is Waiting for Santa's Visit

The Schwab family of Leslie Street have a full, warm and active home ... with Steve, Mary, Heidi, Paul, little Maxx, a "great room," a dog, a cat, a boat in the garage, and a bridge on the front lawn.

Their pleasant and friendly personalities reflect their active lifestyle, with children doing just about everything... Cub and Girl Scouts, piano and dance lessons, on the Water Jets, Little League, you name it, the Schwabs' schedule, maybe at times hectic but no one is complaining. A most happy family, and eagerly waiting for Santa's visit in five days. Oh yes, for the record, Steve works at Hoods; Mary is a nurse.

I caught them all home, one night, just after the nightly (yes, nightly) practice sessions of the local Water Jets, with Heidi and Paul, the future Janet Evans and Mark Spitz.

Family History

Some information on their parents... Stephen Charles Schwab, a former basketball player (he's 6'4") and graduate of Prince Tech in Hartford, as first-class carpenter. Steve was born and raised in Stafford, the son of Charles and Kathleen Schwab, who came from Fitchburg, Mass. Steve

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has three brothers, Tim, Tom and Trevor, and three sisters, Karen, Denyse and Tammy.

Steve began school in Stafford, the family moving to Enfield when he was 13, and on to Prince, where he graduated in 1970.

Mary Kellarson Schwab is the daughter of Earl Kellarson and the late Catherine Kellarson. Mr. Kellarson was from Sweden, came to Boston, met his future bride, was married and they moved to Connecticut. He, too, worked at Hoods, with well over three decades in the dairy business. Mary has a brother, Randy, and a sister, Patty. Mary was born in Warehouse Point, graduated from the East Windsor High School, Class of 1971. Soon after, she took up nursing in the Licensed Practical Nursing Program at Hartford Hospital. She has been in the nursing profession and raising a family the past 19 years, becoming a registered nurse in 1981.

Steve said he began his working career at McDonald's

and Hoods during his high school years, and decided Hood was his place to work, and started in April of 1969, with the dairy folks of Suffolk. Steve said, "I'm a working supervisor in the freezer," as he calls it.

How did they meet? At Hoods (but not in the freezer, I'm sure) in 1969 and '70, Mary took a summer job and that's where she met Steve, they were married on March 10, 1973. They lived in Enfield and Hartford before moving to Windsor Locks in 1975, first to Whiton Street and then to their present home on Leslie.

Three Children

Their three children ... Heidi, 10, fifth grader at South, takes piano and dance lessons, enjoys horseback riding, in Girls Scouts for five years, with camping those years, past four seasons on the Water Jets (freestyle), math may be her favorite subject, also plays the clarinet, and just to balance her school work, has another job after school, delivering the



The Schwab Family

JI past three years, but does read C&K. Paul, 7, second grade at North, two years in Water Jets (butterfly), Cub Scouts, into soccer, T-Ball and basketball. And then Maxx, just one year old, but watching with wide open eyes his brother and sister.

Hobbies of Steve and Mary ... she's into crafts, Steve into camping with the family, Den Leader, with first year of experience, was a Cub Scout when he was young, water skiing, his big sport, with time at Windsor's Rainbow Reservoir. Steve is active in keeping stats for the Water Jets, with nightly practices. He also firmly believes the computer in their home is for learning ... the "Nintendo" is for

games. Is a big Red Sox, Celtic and Patriot fan. Vacation time for the family has been to Florida, Canada, West Virginia and especially the action at Hampton Beach, N.H. The kids' favorite TV program ... "Full House."

One big event for Steve and Heidi has been the Girl Scout camp in Tolland, Mass. for the annual "get-together of fathers/daughters" on a weekend. Both had high praise for the time spent at "Timber Trails."

Christmas Wishes

Now for the holiday coming up ... what Heidi, Paul and maybe Maxx want (and/or will receive) from Santa in five days ... Heidi has high hopes for her own horse and

saddle. Will probably settle for a "horse barn," clothes and computer games. Paul ... pool table, GI Joe and "Nintendo" games (also played with Dad), Maxx went to sleep before he could tell us what he wanted. According to Mary, Steve has some Christmas wishes ... and "they are all for his boat." Mary's lasting impression of her Christmas as a child ... "Believing in Santa and the mystical time." Steve remembers "lots of snow in Stafford and exchanging gifts on Christmas Eve."

Steve did mention someone he most admired ... a teacher at Prince Tech, "Mr. Stephen Scibek ... was always fair with students and also taught them a lot about life." Steve's personal philosophy, "Don't take yourself too seriously, and don't forget to laugh at yourself."

EPILOG

The Schwab family, their house all decked out for Christmas, now just waiting for Santa Claus. I'm sure they just might agree with these sage words ... "May we not 'spend' Christmas, or 'observe' Christmas, but rather 'keep' it." A very Merry Christmas from the Schwab family.

Bill Hamel Has a Diversified Life

We had the pleasure of interviewing Bill Hamel's mother, Catherine Hamel, in June of 1985.

cabbages and kings

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This month, we talked to Bill, his wife, Maureen, in their condo. The couple was married this past February.

As with his late parents, Catherine and Ralph Hamel, Bill has led an interesting and diversified life, beginning with his schooling in Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts and Rome, and an employment record that has included insurance, senior citizen bus coordinator, working at the new local Teletheater, civic appointments and now the recently elected Town Clerk. Which he said, rather candidly, "I always wanted the position of Town Clerk. "Bill has come a long way from the above varied paths of endeavor, and now looks forward with energetic "anticipation," to his new role, replacing Marie Dengenis, a veteran of 14 years as the Windsor Locks Town Clerk. The books have been passed to a new generation, and he admits, "There, of course, will be will be changes in terms of style." Bill, who began life in Farmington, home of his mother, started school at the Windsor Locks St. Mary's School, then moving on to LaSalette Seminary High School in Cheshire, LaSalette Junior College in Altamont, N.Y., (associate's degree), Merrimack College, North Andover for two years,

(B.A.) and spending the next three years at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Italy.

Looking back to those years in the Vatican City ... "I liked Rome; however, school was tough." Bill had taken his first vows for the priesthood in 1968, and decided (in Rome) not to choose the life of a priest, and returned to the states.

Family Background

Before his career made many turns, a little background on Bill's parents, his brother and two sisters.

Ralph Hamel, a Hartford native, was active in his adopted town of Windsor Locks, in community affairs, be it politics, Little League, or the V.F.W., American Legion and Knights of Columbus. He served on the Democratic Town Committee, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Police Commission. Bill told of his mother, Catherine (Keeley) Hamel, beginning her political career as a young member of the Farmington Democratic Town Committee. And Bill has completed the family participation as a member of the local DTC the past 18 years and was proud to say, "I took Ella Grasso's seat on the committee."

His brother, Ralph — better known as "Skip," — is a



Maureen and Bill Hamel

former U.S. Marine and Little Leaguer, who resides in town with his wife Kristine. Bill has two sisters. Elaine is married to Bill Steinbach and they reside in Newington. Marcia and Michael Hickey make their home in Suffield.

On his return from Rome, Bill had several jobs (Grant's Warehouse, substitute teacher in Windsor Locks and Suffield and for a time selling clothes at Roger Peet) before joining the Hartford Insurance Group, that lasted 16 years, mostly involved in administration management.

Locally, Bill worked as the senior citizen bus coordinator for 10 months, saying, "The

seniors, I loved them, very thoughtful and appreciated." This year, for several months, he worked at the Teletheater, with the following comment: "It was interesting, to say the least, you certainly come in contact with different kinds of people."

That series of jobs brought Bill to the nomination for Town Clerk, in the November election, against Sue Strong.

Newlywed

Bill saw many changes in 1991... and to share this new life has been his new bride, Maureen (Mulvihill) Hamel, a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., in the Prospect Park section. She's a graduate of Pope John

XXIII High School, where she was on the drill and track teams. Maureen is the daughter of the late Michael Mulvihill, who came from Ireland and married another native of the Emerald Isle, Mary Ann (Guiney) Mulvihill, who now resides in Glassboro, N.J. Maureen has a brother, Michael, who lives in Richmond, Va.

Maureen attended the College of St. Elizabeth in New Jersey, and Trenton State, where she earned a B.A. degree in history. She said, "After college, 1975 was not a good year for jobs," but finally in October, 1977, she joined the Aetna, where she is currently employed.

They were married on Feb. 22, 1991, meeting, they agreed, "We lived in the same condo (where they reside now)," with Bill adding, "You might say I married the girl next door."

What about this young couple on their off hours? "My hobby," Bill said, "is mostly politics, but do enjoy reading and collecting cut glass." Maureen said, "Gardening is my main hobby and I call it big time." They both loved Phoenix, where they spent their honeymoon and also on Cape Cod. For the record, he's a big Red Sox fan, and she said, "I'm not a Sox fan," probably that Brooklyn and New York background. They enjoy Irish music, classical and "New Age," and when time permits television shows that holds their interest, "LA Law",

"Wings" and "I'll Fly Away." Bill holds membership in the Irish-American Society in Glastonbury.

Community Activities

Bill has been community-involved for a long time ... as a member of the Water Pollution Control Authority, Board of Finance (Alternate), Justice of the Peace, and former delegate to state and local political conventions, and active in local campaigns.

Bill is looking forward to his new position as Town Clerk in January, and (spoken as a true politician), "To be re-elected in two years." This past campaign found Bill going house-to-house, he said, to "1,700 homes in town." Any New Year's resolutions? "Yes," he said, with his big Irish smile ... "To find where Marie put everything."

When admiration was asked, he said, "Thomas Jefferson ... a fascinating person in our history, complex, patriot and a man I'd would have loved to have dinner with ..." Maureen was asked, for one word to describe Bill ... she said ... "Loyal."

Did Bill have a favorite saying or words of wisdom. He sure did and they came from Mahatma Gandhi ... he once wrote ... "That there are seven sins in the world: wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, knowledge without character, commerce without morality, science without humanity, worship without sacrifice, and politics without principle."