

1994 Table of Contents

LEVY, ANN "NANCY"	HOLIDAY, WALTER & DEE
IGNAZIO, GLENN	LISS FAMILY
LY, DARARITH	BRIGGS, HARRY JR
BANCROFT, ED & HARRIETT	SWEET FAMILY
HORAN, ROSE & MARK	PASCALE, SALLY
PARKER, DAVE	JANCO FAMILY
BRADLEY, REV. JOHN	CURTO, MIKE
MCCAULEY, CHERYL ANN	MIKALONIS FAMILY
CALIFORNIA EARTHQUAKE	SABINE, KENNY
MAITLAND, JAMES	MONTIGNY & GRECCO
ZOLCIAK, JOE	RUCKDESCHERL FAMILY
VOGE FAMILY	POMEROY, ANN
STARON, EDDIE	LEVINSKAS, CHERYL
IACOLINO, IKE	TORNADO (1979)
MICHAELSON, DR. PETER	OLIVEIRA FAMILY
FLANAGAN, SISTER JOAN	POWERS, MARY
LARUSSA, JESSICA	BRACKEN, MICHAEL
MICHAUD, HAROLD & BLANCHE	HARTFORD-ALLEY, JUNE
SENOFONTE, MARK	LOUGHRAN, JIM & THERESE
TAYLOR, PAULINE	MORRIS, STAN & SHEILA
FARR, ANTHONY	PEPIN FAMILY
GIRARD FAMILY	DUSTIN FAMILY
MOKRITSKI, CYNTHIA	CUTLER FAMILY
FLANAGAN & STONE	MAILMAN FAMILY
GREATER HARTFORD OPEN	WAWRUCK FAMILY

# Windsor Locks & Town

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AN IMPRINT NEWSPAPER

WINDSORLOCKS.CONNECTICUT

**Cabbages & Kings**  
WITH JACK REDMOND



## Ann 'Nancy' Levy —

"I really care about kids." That's Nancy Levy's comment on her role as the newest member of the Board of Education

Ann Grady Levy — or Nancy, to her parents, (who first called her that), her brother and sister, and all of her friends.

When it came time for Nancy to run for the board in the past election, all those friends and relatives voted her in as the newest member.

It was her first run for political office and she feels, "I wanted to give back something to the town that educated our children ... and I really care about kids."

Being a woman was not the reason she ran or won, but she's pleased the board will gain a female perspective.

She came to town at the age of 5 from Hartford, the daughter of the late Jack Grady, who owned and operated the Elm Press. Her mother, Dot (Broderick) Grady, lives in town. She and Jack were natives of Hartford.

Nancy has a brother, John, who lives in Schenectady, N.Y., and a sister, Kathy Blackburn, wife of Stuart Glenn Blackburn, a fellow member of the Board of Education. He was and featured in a Cabbages and Kings inter-

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### cabbages and kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

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view in March 1992.

South Elm and Green Manor was Nancy's home while attending local schools, and she graduated from the high school in 1967. Nancy was a cheerleader and served on the yearbook staff. During those high school years, she received her first taste of clerical work at Snow Motors on Route 75.

Looking back, Nancy said, "My ambition after high school was to marry and raise a family." But first, she received an associate degree from Bay Path. On Nov. 8, 1969, Nancy married her high school sweetheart, Brian Daniel Levy. They had met at a St. Robert Bellarmine CYO outing.

Brian's parents are Ray and Ellen (Saunders) Levy, both from Hartford. Ray is retired from Kaman, Ellen (a former co-worker of mine) from Combustion Engineering Inc. They are residents of town.

Brian is a WLHS grad, class of 1966. As a young boy he played in the town's Little League program. He has two brothers, Neil and Tom, and

two sisters, Anne and Rae-Ellen.

Brian has been connected with the trucking industry all of his adult life and today is director of the New England Tractor Trailer Training of Connecticut Inc. Nancy worked at Kaman after college for two years, stayed home after the birth of their first child, and for the past seven years has worked in the law offices of Blackburn & Sistare in Suffield.

Nancy and Brian have three children: Jennifer, Matthew and Kathryn. Jennifer "was born with a suitcase, always wanted to travel," according to her mother. And travel she has. First, Jen was a WLHS 1989 graduate. While in high school she played some softball and was in the cast of the musical "Carnival."

After high school, she worked at ITT in Hartford for a year and then it was off to the wild blue yonder of the U.S. Air Force.

She joined the Air Force in 1990, with training in Texas and Ohio. Come March of last year, she was off for duty in Turkey. The airman first class "loves it," according to her mother, and she will be in Turkey until June 1995. Jen works in a hospital unit.

## - Newest Member of the School Board

Matthew (WLHS 1992) was a soccer player in his freshman and junior years, indoor track in his second year. He was part of the musical "No No Nanette." Today he is at UConn taking up accounting.

Kathryn (WLHS 1993) is at Eastern Connecticut State University. At the high school she played softball and field hockey and was co-editor of the yearbook. She was also part of her class musical, "Oklahoma." At Eastern she is taking up social work and hopes to be a pediatrician.

Back to their parents. For Nancy, there is not much free time for any hobbies, but when it comes she will find needlework and reading her relaxation. According to Nancy, Brian is "all sports," a real Yankee fan and he too, enjoys reading. He's a former member of the Lions. They both enjoy the Connecticut shore at vacation time.

Nancy said, "Individually, and as a couple, we taught CCD and CYO for 10 years at St. Robert's and St. Mary's. We were active in Marriage Encounter, Girl Scouts, Little League and the library when our children were younger ... and for several years, eucharistic ministers at Hartford Hospital."

She spoke of her entry into the busy and time-consuming world of politics.

"I was asked to serve (she



**Ann 'Nancy' and Brian Levy.**

is a Democrat) and this role was the best way for me to give back something to the town, and the experience I gained with three children going through the system," she said. She looks upon the Board of Education as a group "who sets policies for how the edu-

cational system is run, but not to administer."

Does she have any new year's resolutions?

"Yes," she said, thinking for a minute, "not to lose the perspective (for what) is best for the students and parents in the coming period."

# Glenn Ignazio and His

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## cabbages and kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

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"Get your mindset; confidence will lead you on." That's Lt. Glenn Ignazio's favorite saying.

As a high school student, Glenn James Ignazio had a lot of confidence in his role as "Fagin" in the class musical of 1986, "Oliver!"

Today, as a young lieutenant in the Air Force, he is off to the wild blue yonder for additional pilot training. He has shown he hasn't lost that early confidence, with setting goals as his own philosophy.

Glenn, who has traveled from California to Alaska to Iceland, with many stops in between since August of 1986, was looking forward to his new agenda of training. We met before he and his bride of just over a year, Victoria, left for California.

He is a son of well-known residents Roger and Elaine Ignazio. They were featured in a Cabbages and Kings story in May of 1987.

Roger has been active in the town's civil preparedness (now director) the past 13 years. For the past eight years, Elaine Agey Ignazio has been a familiar worker at the Town Hall in the Payroll Department.

Glenn has a brother, Roger Jr., and a sister, Gina Rossi. Roger and his wife, Eileen (Baltronis) Ignazio, reside in town. Roger, a 1980 WLHS grad, is employed at Hamilton Standard. Gina and her husband, Jim Rossi, live in East Granby.

She is a 1981 WLHS grad, also employed at Hamilton, while Jim works at the Simsbury Bowling Center.

More on the lieutenant in the family: Glenn, class of '86 at the high school, was a member of a few clubs, but said, "The big thing in high school was the play "Oliver!" He was musically inclined, a member of the Concert Band and Concert Chorus, and served as band manager. Throughout high school, Glenn studied martial arts and his first experience (with Air Force connections) was as a sergeant in the Civil Air Patrol (Air Force Auxiliary).

Even then, his ambition was to enlist in the Air Force, earn a degree in engineering and become a pilot.

Glenn was on his way. It started in February 1986, when he signed up for the Air Force (delayed enlistment). With graduation and "Oliver!" still on his mind, Glenn was on active duty that August with short stops in Lackland, Texas; Lowry Air Base in Colorado, Travis in California, with schooling in electronics. By 1989, Glenn was a sergeant.

Looking back one more time to his high school days, he was asked if he had any hopes of a career in the theater?

"I enjoyed it all, but aviation was my main interest," he said. "I will give credit to the play and acting on the stage. It gave me a lot of confidence, a trait I later used in conversing with Air Force personnel with very high levels of authority."

The next few years for Glenn meant a different scenario for this young airman, with several changes in his status. With pilot training on his mind, he left the Air Force to enlist in the Navy at Pensacola, Fla. However, Glenn was injured and dropped from the special naval program.

His next stop was California and he was a civilian, but for this man, not for long. He did work at an electronics company in research and development, but was soon back in the service. At the end of 1990, Glenn joined the California Air National Guard in San Jose, a member of the 129th Rescue Squadron.

Active duty also meant trips across country. He was assigned to Keesler Field in Mississippi, then transferred to the state of Washington to attend "survivor's school."

Glenn, now a staff sergeant, was again moved, this time to New Mexico, attached to Special Air Force Operations. (At this rate, he should receive frequent flyer miles). Then back to California and the Moffett Air Station in San Jose.

Glenn served two years as part of a rescue unit in California, and time in Florida (I told you he moved around a lot). But his hard work did not go unnoticed. Glenn received several air medals for rescue duty by his unit, one time 700 miles out in the Pacific Ocean.

While serving in the Air Guard, he met his future bride, Victoria Villegas, who was from San Francisco and at the time working for the group commander. They returned to Windsor Locks for their wedding on Dec. 26, 1992. The ceremony was performed by Justice of the Peace Moe Goldfarb.

In November 1993, with his wife, parents and brother Roger watching with pride, Glenn received the rank of lieutenant in ceremonies at Knoxville, Tenn.

When I talked to Glenn in November, he and Victoria were to leave for California

## Many Travels in the Air Force

after enjoying Thanksgiving in town with the Ignazio family. This month, Lt. Glenn Ignazio will begin his pilot training at an Air Force base in Columbus, Miss., for a year.

Then the training will continue, with six months in Arkansas and six months in New Mexico in the same procedure he said he was well versed in as a member of an Air Force crew; but this time, he'll be the pilot of the crew.

Did Glenn meet any local servicemen in his travels state-side? (Oh, he did spend last March in Iceland and they too received a lot of snow, the same as Connecticut, but he said in Iceland, you can't tell the difference.) He answered, "Yes, at Travis Air Base in California." He met Bill Rolocut, now a pilot with the Air Force at Westover, son of local residents Dick and Ann Rolocut, who were Cabbages and Kings interviewees in August 1988.

Glenn doesn't find much time for hobbies with his trav-

eling schedule, but would you believe at one time skydiving was one of his pastimes? When it comes to vacation and military leave, Glenn and Victoria made trips to Alaska and Hawaii.

When it came time for questions on admiration and philosophy, Glenn said, "It would be my father for what he has accomplished in his life." Glenn's personal philosophy is, "Have a goal, get your mind set, and confidence will lead you on."

His father added, "Glenn has made it on his own," while his mother said, "He is determined and will reach his goal in life."

### Epilog

Glenn James Ignazio did not forget his part in the school musical "Oliver!" He had other thoughts on a career and chose service to his country. Like his proud parents have said, "on his own and determined."

Folks who have seen "Oliver!" might remember the song titles and those titles might just fit Lieutenant Ignazio: "Reviewing the Situation", "I'd Do Anything" and best of all "It's A Fine Life."



Lt. Glenn Ignazio kneels in front of a California Air National Guard aircraft.

# Dararith Ly Mixes

Dararith Ly is involved in Vocal-Motion, honors and student government. How did we find this outstanding student?

Easy, a call from the high school, a meeting set up for after school with always-cooperative Principal Steve Cullinan, an interview with Dararith, and the rest is an interesting story on an active senior.

Easy, right. (I've been asked many times how some interviews come about.)

Now to the story of Dararith.

When you hear and read about Vocal-Motion, the Windsor Locks High School musical group, you are probably aware of its fine reputation in music.

When we did interview one of the group's members, senior Dararith Ly, we found a student with honors in the classroom, honors and awards in the field of music and an active role in student government.

It adds up to proud par-

## VFW Will Honor Three WLHS Pupils

The Smalley Brothers VFW Post 6123 and its Auxiliary will honor three "Voice of Democracy" winners at 3 p.m. Feb. 20 at the post home on Fairview Street.

Joe Bergman, Dararith Ly and Jennifer Carrier placed first, second and third, respectively, in the competition. They are students at Windsor Locks High School.

ents, Heng and Bopha Ly, and the man behind Vocal-Motion, its director, John Gionfriddo.

Dararith, sometimes referred to as just "D" by his classmates, was born at the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington. He was the "first generation of his family" to be born in America.

His parents came to the states from their native Cambodia, a story in itself.

Dararith has two sisters, Kethia and Chenda. Kethia, a freshman at the high school, is a first-year member of Vocal-Motion and a student who earns high honors.

Their younger sister, Chenda, a sixth grader, is right behind in the musical department as a member of the show choir Power Company.

Dararith's parents lived in Battambang, Cambodia. Heng Ly was a captain in the Cambodia Air Force who had received a degree from the University of Phnom Pehn.

The family owned and operated its own business. However, they left their native country before the North Vietnamese army took it over.

The year was 1975. As Dararith tells the story, "My parents came here for a better life, they gave up everything, arriving in California, coming to Hartford, sponsored by Trinity Church."

It is truly a success story for his folks. Mr. Ly took a job at Heublein as receiving clerk, working himself up to the position of purchasing agent. Mrs. Ly raised the children, and in the summer months, she too now works at

## cabbages and kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

Heublein.

According to Dararith, the Ly family has all settled in the United States, aunts, cousins and grandparents. Dararith said his mother's father, Neou Mouth, was lieutenant governor of a province in Cambodia.

The family lived in West Hartford, East Hartford, and in 1980, when Dararith was 4, they moved to Windsor Locks.

He went to local schools, and played some soccer in his freshman year, but his years at high school have "been a busy schedule, there was no time for sports," he said. Today, relaxation for Dararith is "sitting down playing music ... practicing my techniques."

And when you talk to Dararith, music is probably his biggest hobby, with talent in several instruments: bass guitar, tuba/baritone/sousaphone. A time back, he was a member of the local band "Me-Him-Him-and Him;" the "Me" was Joey Mazza, the "Hims" were Jeff and Mark Burke and Dararith.

During Dararith's high school years, he's been involved in Concert and Jazz bands, Jazz Combo, in the pit orchestra for "Guys and Dolls and Oklahoma," the Windsor Locks Jaycees Musical Review, show choirs, Camps of America, and more.

He does have other interests. When it comes to spectator sports, he follows Notre Dame in college football and

the Los Angeles Rams in the professional league. His favorite basketball team is the Chicago Bulls and Scottie Pippen is his favorite player.

The movies that most interest him feature action and comedy. He likes all kind of food, be it American or Cambodian. Travel has not been neglected by this young student or his family, with trips to the West Coast, Florida and Canada.

What about holidays? In the spring, his family will celebrate "our Cambodian New Year's" with a party, renting a hall, dancing and having a good time, he said.

To continue his Cambodian heritage and interests Dararith is a volunteer in the summer months with the Khmer Mutual Assistance Association "helping people, cleaning up yards, other jobs for Cambodian families in West Hartford and New Britain."

Does this active student find the time for an odd job? Sure, he works at the Pizza Delight Parlor delivering pizzas. He did work four nights a week, but due to other commitments, now only one night a week.

Vocal-Motion is a term that could be applied to young Dararith as well. Since his freshman year, he has been a member of this musical group under the direction of Mr. Gionfriddo, who was featured in a Cabbages and Kings in-

# Classroom Honors, Vocal-Motion

interview in July 1990.

The group has traveled extensively and this coming May intends to show its talent in Annapolis, Md. Dararith's trips have included the Jazz Band to Boston's Berklee School of Music.

Among his many honors, he was a Voice of Democracy finalist in 1993, received the CASS Scholar-Leader Award, as named to the Talented and Gifted Program, Boys State, President of the National Honor Society, University of New Hampshire Musicianship Award (bass) and Fermi Music Award (bass), to name only a few.

Last month, Dararith added his voice to a Raider basketball game, singing the "Star-Spangled Banner."

Dararith commented on Windsor Locks. "If you are a student, it's the best place to be." His wish for the school system is to "have people think more about (additional funds) for the educational budget." He believes students "should give a little more consideration to others."

His future plans include getting a college degree and master's. His first choice is



**Dararith Ly**

Providence College.

He has plenty of admiration for others.

"My parents, they had it tough when they (first arrived) here, now have three healthy children, a big house, and are happy (that they) came to a new country." Dararith believes in "being honest with yourself and working hard" and "be true to your friends, because they are friends for life."

## Epilog

Dararith Ly has had early success in the music world and classroom.

He was certainly motivated by his parent's success.

The following are words of Edward W. Bok: "A young man, to achieve, must first get out of his mind any notion either of the ease or rapidity of success. Nothing ever just happens in this world: Everything is brought about. Success never comes to a man of its own volition: It will meet a man halfway, but it will never come to him all the way."

Dararith Ly is working on the other half.

# Ed and Harriett Bancroft

Ed and Harriett Bancroft have been residents of Windsor Locks since 1961. Their background covers a lot of territory, as natives of Massachusetts, both serving their country in the Navy. They worked locally, at Emery and Hamilton respectively, until retirement; for Ed in 1986, for Harriett in 1987.

This congenial couple has three daughters, one son and five grandchildren to spoil. Ed is a member of the local American Legion, while Harriett still has strong ties to her service in the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service).

Edward Warburton Bancroft was born in Northampton, Mass., on Monroe Street. A "From what I was told, President Calvin Coolidge once lived on the street," he said.

Ed is the son of the late Albert and Bertha (Gibson) Bancroft. Albert was a silk knitter in several of the silk stocking factories, well-known in the area before the Depression. He was originally from New Britain, and Ed's mother was from Waterbury.

Ed has a brother, Robert in New Britain, a brother, Phillip, who resides in Florida, and a sister, Dorothy, who passed away.

He grew up in Holyoke. However, when his father's work brought the family to Worcester, Ed graduated from Commerce High School in 1942. He had no time for sports. "I delivered papers, and we lived on one side of the city, the school on the other."

After high school, Ed worked for a few months in a machine shop, knowing he was due to serve his country. In October of 1942, he joined the U.S. Navy. His diversified naval career took him coast to coast, with boot camp in Newport, RI, radio school in New York City, then a move to sunny Florida, where he joked, "I served in the battle of West Palm Beach from '43 to '45."

The next assignment for the communication technician second class was to Washington, D.C., for a year of more good duty. The next move was to Seattle (more radio school), and then six months in Alaska, actually stationed in Adak (an island in the Andreanof group of islands in the Aleutians, site of important U.S. bases in World War II).

Ed was still traveling ... to the sunnier Hawaii for more than a year. The good duty was over, so Ed was discharged in October of 1948 at San Francisco. He admits he was fortunate, serving from Rhode Island to Hawaii, and a lot in between.

Ed and his future bride were stationed in

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## cabbages and kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

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the nation's capital at the same time, but never met until later.

Back home for Ed to Worcester and a short stay at U.S. Envelope, then the Reed-Prince Co. That's where they met and exchanged Navy stories. Harriett's maiden name was Croft. Marrying Ed was just adding the Ban.

Harriett was the daughter of the late Morrell and Ethel (Fudge) Croft. Her dad was from Nova Scotia, and mother a native of St. John, New Brunswick, Canada. She was born in Worcester, attended the same high school as Ed, again not meeting. She graduated in 1944. Harriett has a brother, Norman, and a sister Eleanor, who live in Massachusetts. They lost a sister, Gloria.

After high school, Harriet joined the WAVES, serving from December 1944 to October 1946. Her first taste of naval mess and training was at the famed Hunter College. The third class yeoman was then sent to Washington, D.C. Previous to her naval service, Harriet worked at Reed-Prince, and returned to the Worcester company, as mentioned, and met Ed.

They were married on April 19, 1952, lived in Worcester, Westfield and then their home in Windsor Locks in 1961. She joined Hamilton-Standard in 1967, retiring in 1987.

August of 1951 found Ed driving a truck for the New England Milk Producers. Many changes were in the wind. Ed went to trade school (Norton Co.) There were a few odd jobs, he said, and then a big change. He attended airline school in Worcester, with his first job at the Barnes Airport for Mohawk Airlines.

Then the reason for moving to this area — Mohawk comes to Bradley Field, with Ed saying, "I did everything from tickets to baggage." There was another change to Hamilton-Standard for a year and then settling down to the next 23 years with Emery Freight at Bradley, and retirement in 1986.

Ed and Harriett have three daughters: Carol, Debora, Jean and one son, James. Carol (WLHS 1973) is married to Arthur Theofane. They live in Windsor with their son, Brian Woodhouse, who attends school in Florida.

Debora (WLHS 1975) is married to Peter Gottschalk. They reside in Granby with their

## Are Thriving in Golden Years

two sons, Karl and David.

Jean (WLHS 1976) resides in Colchester with her husband, Robert Cullen, and their children Casey and Jenna.

James (WLHS 1977) who lives in Bristol, played football and was on the Raider track team. He went on to Hartford State Technical College, earning an associate's degree.

Ed keeps active in his retirement by playing golf at AirWays, plus some hiking and swimming. Harriett enjoys her flowers and keeping up with the yard work. The twosome have taken vacations at Cape Cod, Maine and Florida.

Television means golf on Sundays, at World Series and Super Bowl time, and a weekly viewing of "Northern Exposure", "Evening Shade" and "NYPD Blue."

Ed and Harriett are members of the town's Senior Citizen Club, while Ed keeps his membership in the Masonic Temple, Morningstar 28, in Warehouse Point. He has been past master, past secretary and past district deputy Connecticut 6C.

Ed has also been active the past four years in Legion affairs, currently as sergeant of Arms. He said, "The Legion is fellowship (of veterans) and keeping the spirit of America alive."



Ed Bancroft pets his dog, Katie.

### Epilog

Ed and Harriett Bancroft served their country, raised four children, were employed in their native state and retired in Connecticut after many years. Retirement is an active stage for them, and they probably admit (like most of us) "retirement takes all the fun out of Saturdays."

# Horans Range in Interest

The interview with Mark Edward Horan was to be on football, his support of the Miami Dolphins since 1966, and when he was picked as quest forecaster for one week by the newspaper known as the "JI."

Fine, all set, time and place, with computer training software consultant and football expert. Mark was a local football fan, that fit the CBS pitchman, with his (now famous) 'I'm a big fan.'

However, it didn't take long. Football may be his hobby, but a much more active pasttime (if you could call it that) for Mark and his wife, Rose, are their roles in American Civil War re-enactment as members of Company A, 7th Virginia Cavalry, and the re-enactment of World War II battles as members of the 101st Airborne Division.

Another example of this talented man, a native of Granby and local resident since 1985, was his contribution in writing a book, "A Glorious Page In Our History" about Admiral Chester Nimitz, "The Battle of Midway," to complete Mark's talented trilogy.

Now for some background on Mark. It begins in Granby, where he was born the son of Edward and Lorraine (Connors) Horan. Ed worked for Allstate Insurance for a quarter of a century. He was from Hartford. Lorraine is an East Hartford native, and they currently reside in Granby. Mark has two brothers, Tim of Granby and Kevin of Windsor Locks.

Mark said sections of I-91 bear signs saying Richard P.

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## cabbages and kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

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Horan Highway. "He was my cousin, a member of the FBI, who was killed in the line of duty in 1957" and so honored.

Mark graduated from Granby High School in 1973, where he played soccer and baseball. There was no football at Granby in those days. Two days after graduation, he went to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London.

He joined the naval institution because "the guard was a peacetime mission, and (eventually) I wanted to fly for the Coast Guard." He spent two years in what he called "a good experience," with travels to the Carribean (on the cutter Eagle) and the area of Greenland and Iceland (on the cutter Morgenthau).

Back in civilian clothes, Mark attended the University of Hartford and went on to Central Connecticut State University, where he received a degree in mathematics. He was proud to add, "I worked my way through college by driving a school bus in Bloomfield and Newington."

Mark's first position was a teaching assignment at East Catholic High School in Manchester (math) for two years, and then it was north to Longmeadow, Mass., at the middle school for a year.

Another switch in careers followed. He went to work in Avon for Computer System Research over a four-year period. The next four years he was with AMS Courseware in Meriden, specializing in de-

sign computer base training software." Today, Mark is on his own as consultant in the above training in the world of computers.

While at Central, Mark met Rose Ollari of Cromwell the night of the Senior Ball. Rose grew up in Cromwell and graduated from high school in 1977, where she was active in cross-country and the rifle team.

In 1981, she received a degree from Central in library sciences. Before entering the world of insurance, Rose was a teacher's aide in Rockville and West Hartford, and then joined Continental Insurance. Today she is an employee of Cigna.

She is the daughter of Louis and Bernice (Trymbulak) Ollari of Cromwell. Rose has two brothers, Louis and Steve, and a sister, Christine.

Mark and Rose were married on Feb. 6, 1982, and have lived in Manchester, New Britain, and in 1986 moved to Windsor Locks. Mark said, "We hope to have a family ... and are in the process of adoption through the Catholic Family Services."

Long before they moved here, he had a Windsor Locks connection. He had played softball here since 1978. But his true sport is as spectator of football, rooting for the Miami Dolphins since their first season in 1966 under Coach Don Shula and now with his favorite player, Dan Marino.

## from Football to the Civil War

As mentioned, Mark was chosen by the JI to be guest forecaster, and according to him, "I did OK; picked most of the winners, and it was a good week for Miami."

Probably the true and blue (or is it gray?) hobby of Mark and Rose is when they travel all over and put on those Civil War clothes, with a 15-week schedule each year, taking part in ceremonies all over New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee. There was also that once-in-a-lifetime trip, a re-enactment in England.

Mark said the season runs from spring to fall, and among their appearances they were on "ABC After-School Special" and the television series "North and South," which was filmed in sunny Mississippi. This talented couple has participated in Civil War re-enactment for the past 11 years.

In addition, they have been involved in re-enactment of the Army's well-known 101st Airborne Division, displaying World War II uniforms and firearms, mostly at air shows in different areas of the East.

When you add up their involvement in the Civil War and World War II, it's not surprising that Mark took on assisting with a book about one of the major sea battles of the Pacific during World War II. His literary experiences became a part of the Midway battle.

And how did this all start for Mark? He said, "When I was 12 years old, I read a book on the battle called 'Incredible Victory' by Walter Lord." He became interested, years



Rose and Mark Horan in their Civil War attire.

later, contacting Robert J. Cressman, who was a part of "the gathering of historians in Florida (1988) at a symposium hosted jointly by the U.S. Naval Institute and the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation on the Battle of Midway."

This was a quote from the book by the famous Admiral Chester Nimitz, referring to the battle as "a glorious page in our history."

Mark was gracious enough to give me a copy of the book, and in the acknowledgements it mentioned "many thanks to

Linda Cressman and Rose Horan for their patience while their respective husbands worked long into the night."

It took a great deal of time and the energy of many to compile the historical data. Mark and Rose both played an important role in the finished book. Mark spent 10 years researching the air actions that occurred during the battle.

He holds memberships in the Windsor Elks and the American Legion in town, and is still playing softball in addition to his software training.

## Parker Enjoys Action

What does it feel like to a basketball fan, to suit up, practice, sit on the bench and with the Civic Center lights out and the spotlight on?

Dave Parker knows how it feels. Back in December, the Windsor Locks resident was picked as the "Fleet Bank Fantasy Fan," a special feature of the Hartford Hellcats.

David Scott Parker, a native of Meriden, is not all basketball. He's into golf and bowling, too.

A busy father of three, he is married to girl of Windsor Locks — Randi Ribaldo Parker.

Before we offer more on his "once-in-a-lifetime thrill," here's some information on Dave, Randi, twins Jeffrey and Amanda, and little Trevor.

Dave is the son of David and Shirley (Wieloch) Parker. The older Dave was from Vermont; Shirley is a Meriden native.

Dave has a sister, Kara. He graduated from Maloney High School in 1977, but at that time sports had to wait. He was too busy working after school.

He was always interested in computers and attended Hartford State Tech, where he received an associate's degree, combining work at Pratt & Whitney in North Haven with college at night. He graduated in 1985 and currently works

full time at the United Technologies Research Center in East Hartford (where he has been the past 13 years).

Dave is attending Central Connecticut State University two nights a week for a full degree in computer sciences.

Randi, a 1978 WLHS graduate, is the daughter of Phil Ribaldo Sr. of Enfield and the late Betty (Ahern) Ribaldo. Phil was from York, Penn. Betty is a native of Hartford. Randi has a brother, Phil Jr., who lives in Windsor.

Phil Sr. is retired from Montgomery Elevator and has three brothers, Tony, Frank and Dean, the former Windsor Locks fire chief, and a sister, "Honey." Phil plays in the K of C Golf League at Airways.

Randi attended Manchester Community College, specializing in food services management. This culinary schooling would soon be utilized when she went to work at the (then) Bradley-famed "Terrace Room" over a five-year period. Today, Randi works for ARA Food Services and has served food at Pratt & Whitney, Hamilton Standard and Carrier Air Conditioning in Farmington.

Dave and Randi met at the

UT Research Center, where Dave was working and she was providing meals. They were married on Sept. 20, 1986, and lived in Meriden before moving to Windsor Locks last September.

The Parker family increased with the birth of twins Jeffrey and Amanda, now seven years old and first grade students at North Street School. Having twins for Dave and Randi "was great and (sort of) overwhelming," adding "but they are very different as to their personality."

The twins were then joined by their brother, Trevor, who is now 3. Young Trevor is into "junk food."

Jeffrey, the hockey player in the family, shows his stuff at the Enfield Twin Rinks. In January, he played with an all-star team during periods at one of the Hartford Whalers games, and the whole family was there to cheer him on. In school he enjoys gym, along with Amanda, as well as reading and watching "Full House" on television.

When Dave was asked about his hobbies he was quick to say "computers." But he knows the warning about all work and no play. He was

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### cabbages and kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

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## with the Hellcats

equally quick to add "Bowling at Bradley (180 average), golf in East Hartford, and when it came to spectator sports," Hellcats (season ticket-holder), college basketball, Redskins (a bad year) in pro football, the Mets in baseball, (Dave and sons like the Mets, the girls prefer the Red Sox).

Dave said, "I hope to join the local K of C in the near future."

This is how his night at the Civic Center went. He arrived at 6 o'clock, was escorted to the locker room, introduced to the players, given a full uniform and pre-game talk. Then it was on to the court, where he sat on bench and participated in pre-game warm-ups.

Then the lights went out and the spotlight was on Dave as he was introduced. He did not play, but listened to the talk between periods and watched the rest of the game.

Dave was asked whom he most admired. "My grandfather, Stanley Parker of Meriden, who worked for New Departure, and during the Depression raised a large family, a great outlook, kept the family together."



Dave Parker of Windsor Locks (left) got to suit up and practice with the Hartford Hellcats professional basketball team. With him are forward Stacey Poole and Victor Rush, assistant vice president/branch manager of Fleet Bank.

# New Pastor Brings New Spirit

Reverend John Wesley Bradley Jr. has been the Pastor of the New Life Assembly of God since September of last year.

The Milford, Conn., native took over the role of Pastor from Rev. R. Roy Olsen, who had held the position for a decade, at the church, off South Elm — you might say off the beaten path — tucked in at the end of Alma Road.

We met Reverend John on a cold January morning, amidst an active church group, and also found an experienced, pleasant and congenial man of the cloth, who “found Christ as his savior,” in 1967, giving up the brushes of (house) painting for the robes and religious life of the Assembly of God Fellowship.

John Bradley, ironically, starting a new pastorate in the town where Bradley is one claim to fame.

John grew up in the shore town of Milford, the son of retired John Sr., and Jean (Ullrich) Bradley. Mr. Bradley, who had his own painting contract business, was from Milford, while Mrs. Bradley was from Rye, NY. The Bradley family have another son, Bruce, who resides in Naugatuck, Conn.

John graduated from Milford High School, Class of 1965, and said, “I was just a

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## cabbages & kings

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WITH JACK REDMOND

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student.” His time would come later, as to a career. He immediately went to work for his father.

John was now well settled in his dad’s painting business, with the following discovery in 1967: John “found Christ,” saying he had “a personal contact with Christ.” After this experience, he decided the next year (1968) to attend Bible School, and obtain “a religious education.”

He chose the Zion Bible Institution in East Providence, R.I., now located in Barrington, R.I.

At this point of his story, John was asked, the same question I have asked several ministers and priests over the years. “When did you first decide to become a minister?”

With the two above revelations, “and at school, a call to the ministry,” John then followed through, on his return to Milford. He applied, and was given the role of Assistant Pastor/Youth Director at the Milford Borean Assembly of God, on a part-time basis.

John was at Borean for three years, and still worked for his father, with the next call to be, the Pastor at the South Shore Assembly of God

in Rockland, Mass., just 20 miles south of Boston.

We must go back to John’s high school days — his first meeting with his future bride. John and Janice Brush met at school, she was a grad of the Milford High School, Class of 1967. She is the daughter of Harold and Ruth (Churnan) Brush. Today, her parents reside in Harold’s hometown of Schenectady, NY.

John and Janice were married on July 29, 1972, and have lived in Milford, Rockland and currently reside in Enfield. Prior to their wedding, Janice attended the Prairie Bible Institute in Three Hills, Alberta, Canada. She graduated in 1972, however, she spent a year in France, working at a mission.

John and Janice have two children: John III, and Jennifer Elaine Bradley. The third John is 19, a 1993 Rockland High School grad and an honor student, who played in the school band. He is now a freshman at Northeastern University in Boston, studying engineering.

Jennifer, 15, is active in church work, as with her brother. She is a second-year student at Enrico Fermi High

## to New Life Assembly

School in Enfield. Jennifer is a member of the band, as she was at Rockland for her first year of high school.

Back to Rockland and John's pastor role — he and his family were there for 17 years, in what, he called, "a seashore town," a perk he was familiar with, being from Milford. Adding, "We loved it there, a beautiful place." However, changes come, and in September of 1993, Rev. John came to Windsor Locks to the Assembly of God Fellowship.

Why did he leave Rockland? He said, "My work was done there, I was looking for a change — to move on." Today, he is very settled in his Church on Alma Road. Rev. John said the church was built in the mid-1950s, and today, over 75 families worship Sundays (school for all ages, worship service and children's church...and evening praise services).

Rev. John: a personal look. He enjoys working on his computer (calls it his hobby), walking and relaxing in the country. For a favorite vacation spot — Aruba, for the weather alone, he said. The pastor does



The Rev. and Mrs. John Bradley Jr.

enjoy a Sunday afternoon football game (Giants) and all kinds of music, classical to gospel, with a limited view of television, when sports are on the tube.

Who did Rev. John most admire? "Rev. Hugh Corey, Secretary/Treasurer of the Southern New England District of the Assembly of God, later district superintendent — a man who had a profound influence on my life." Rev. John's philosophy of life: "Trust in the Lord, do everything in the Lord's joy and strength."

### Epilog

Rev. John Wesley Bradley, Pastor with a new challenge at his Assembly of God Fellowship in town.

I believe the good Pastor would agree with the following... "The best preacher is the heart; the best teacher is time; the best book is the world; the best friend is God."

In a lighter vein... "Did you hear about the minister who hired a secretary who had worked for the Pentagon? She immediately changed his filing system to 'Sacred' and 'Top Sacred.'"

# Cheryl Ann McCauley —

"CABBAGES & KINGS"



WITH JACK REDMOND

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain..." — Cheryl's favorite saying.

The Windsor Locks High School Class of 1994 has chosen Cheryl Ann McCauley as their president. Cheryl was the Junior class president and the Sophomore class treasurer — in other words, she knows her way around; an active and popular student, who, according to her father Ken, is politically-involved locally, "Cheryl is a true politician."

Cheryl, a native of town, is the daughter of Ken and Cathy (Antonicic) McCauley, and has a sister, Denise. The family was a subject of C&K in April 1990 when Cheryl was an eighth-grader and Denise an active senior at the Raider school.

Even as a student at the middle school, Cheryl showed her promise and busy nature as soccer/softball player, Student Council president, swimmer, cheerleader, and just to show her versatility, played the clarinet.

Denise McCauley, now a student at Springfield College, where she will graduate this year and enter the Master's program, has studied occupational therapy. She set the stage for her sister at the

local high school, being on the swim team, a member of Vocal Motion, and in the class musical of her year, "Grease."

A few notes on Cheryl's parents ... her father Ken, former vice-chairman of the town's Democratic Party, is from New York and is employed at Hamilton-Standard. Cathy, also a native of the Empire State, is a lab technician at Hartford Hospital.

With her family background, Cheryl has volunteered in Democratic campaigns, locally and statewide. At the high school she has exhibited her variety of talent: tutored algebra students, chairperson of the Junior Prom Committee and Prom Promise Committee, on the varsity swim and softball teams, and as a young girl played Little League softball. Other outside activities included the CYO and the Windsor Locks Youth Commission's public relations.

Outside the classroom, Cheryl enjoys cooking, reading, working out, and in good weather walking with her sister. She has been a busy girl, working at LCN Outdoor Sales (camping equipment), and she currently finds time to work at Edwards Super Store

as cashier.

She enjoys classic rock, not much for television, will watch a Disney movie, and her favorite actor is Woody Harrelson from "Cheers." Two other favorites are pasta and family vacations at Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Cheryl has won her share of awards and honors. To list a few: Talcott Mountain Science Center participant, Connecticut Girls' State nominee, Harvard Book Award, UConn Honors Seminar and member of the National Honor Society. Cheryl was recently nominated for a new honor, the National Principals Leadership Scholarship (chosen by the principal and teachers), which required an application and essay on a service project.

How Cheryl sees her role as president of her class: "My main contribution is in fundraising ... magazine drive, patrons drive on our class play and the Senior Ball." And speaking of the class musical and play ... on March 24, 25, 26 ... "Li'l Abner" (hero of comic strip by Connecticut native Mr. Al Capp). Yes, Cheryl has an important role in the play.

Cheryl's favorite subjects in school include biology and

## - WLHS 1994 Class President

Spanish, which she hopes to pursue further in college; and at this writing, it's going to be Providence, Trinity or Springfield College.

Her comments on Windsor Locks: "I like the town, it's a good community ... people work together;" and on her school, "Lots to offer, if the kids take advantage of what's offered."

Admiration was for her father ... "who instilled a work ethic, in everything I do, and (to always) do your best, and do not be lazy." Her personal philosophy ... "Do not expect things to be handed to you." A favorite saying: "The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain." (Words by singer Dolly Parton).

### Epilog

Cheryl Ann McCauley, president of her class, active student with serious college plans, and "true politician" at an early age. This week's column should read "Cabbages & (young) Queen."

Her friendly demeanor offers the following: "Never hesitate to hold out your hand; never hesitate to accept the outstretched hand of another."



Cheryl Ann McCauley

### CLARIFICATION

The article, "Cheryl Ann McCauley — WLHS 1994 Class President," which appeared on page 7 in last week's issue of the Journal was written by Jack Redmond. His name and the "Cabbages & Kings" title were inadvertently left out of the article.

# California Earthquake:

"Epicenter" ... per Mr. Webster ... "The part of the earth's surface directly above the origin of an earthquake."

For the past four years, I have made the trip south to the state of Florida to see baseball's spring training games. This year, it's a different story. Our daughter and son-in-law moved to California last year. Fine. I guess I'll have to wait for the Red Sox to return to Fenway.

But wait a minute ... let's go back to Monday morning, Jan. 17, 1994. It's 7:45 a.m. in Windsor Locks, and we are watching the "Today" show on television.

The first announcement: a quake has hit southern California! The phone rings, and it's our daughter Nancy. Her first words: "We're okay ... lost our lights, it woke us up ... did you know we had an earthquake?"

"Yes, we heard it on the television."

Nancy continues, repeating, "We are okay. We'll call later."

Then the details ... an earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter scale hit the San Fernando Valley and other parts of Los Angeles County at 4:31 a.m. PT, felt from San Diego to Las Vegas.

So, no baseball this spring ... how about a trip to California to see for myself what I have missed on television and the many newspaper reports on crippled freeways, tent city, shortage of water and food, homes of the stars and just average folks

who live in the land-of-make-believe, probably to find their problems were unbelievable. In February, I was off to California and Nancy and Frank's home in Westlake Village to see how they were coping.

The following are Nancy Redmond Deshaies' vivid accounts of their experiences on day one and after the 1994 California earthquake:

"My husband Frank and I were sleeping soundly when the earthquake started. As soon as the rumbling penetrated my consciousness, I knew what was going on, which was odd because I'd never experienced a quake before. But then, the entire house was shaking, the bed was shaking, everything was rattling: the windows, the mini-blinds, the mirrors and pictures on the wall. There are times in an emergency when you do what you should, and there are times when you turn to your husband and just say "hold me."

"When the rocking stopped and the noise subsided, we got up and turned on the lights and went together from room to room, seeing if anything had been damaged. A plate that I had hung on the kitchen wall just the day before had fallen and broken, and the chandelier was still swaying alarmingly over our glass dining room table, but, other than that, everything in the house seemed undamaged.

"Then the power went out. We got out our transistor radio

(the portable television's batteries were all rusted out) and the very first station we turned to convinced us that this earthquake had been extremely serious. We felt so thankful that we were all right and the house was safe. Only

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

about 20 minutes had elapsed since we had been awakened, and I thought about the time difference: 10 minutes before 5:00 a.m. here is 10 of 8:00 in Connecticut, so I immediately picked up the phone and called my parents. I knew they'd be watching "The Today Show" and be worried about us. Plus, who knew how long the phones would remain working? Mom and Dad were relieved when we called and were watching the coverage while we talked. I knew they'd spread the word or could reassure anyone who called them for news.

"Frank and I only moved out to California this past summer, so we're still learning where towns are. When we heard that Northridge was the epicenter, we didn't know how truly close it is. Northridge is only 16 miles away, as the crow flies, which, when you're talking about an earthquake, is a more meaningful way to describe how near we are. We took the portable television and plugged it into the cigarette lighter in my car and

## A Trip to the (Near) Epicenter

were able to see the alarming extent of the damage.

“After trying unsuccessfully to go back to sleep, Frank made the decision to go to work, a 15-minute drive in the direction away from the epicenter. Without power, the phone system wasn’t working, so he sent the few people who had showed up back home. He said it was odd seeing so few cars on the road and then, at some gas stations, long lines reminiscent of the gas shortages of the ’70s. He saw a few broken chimneys and a section of cinderblock wall that had fallen down but, between his office and our home, the damage was minimal.

“We took a bike ride to see if anything was open and rode the one and a half miles to the center of Westlake Village. The major grocery stores were either closed or letting escorted customers in one at a time. We stopped at a “mom and pop” convenience store and got a few items like juice, bread, and a can of Spaghetti-O’s. We realized that we probably

shouldn’t spend too much cash, because, like many people these days, we rely on the ATM at our bank, but of course, that was closed down, too, without any electrical power. The irony is that it was turning into a beautiful day, in the 70s and very sunny. By mid-afternoon, we got back our electricity.

“We’ve been through the area along Route 101 which goes just south of Northridge and Reseda (which the experts now say was actually the epicenter), and you can easily see signs and buildings that have been hit. I refuse to go seeking out the worst areas.

“The after shocks are awful, too. Once a hurricane or a tornado has passed through, you survey the damage and proceed; time blurs the memory and your mind helps you to forget. With an earthquake, however, the after shocks rudely intrude, first on an hourly, then on a daily basis. Just when the memory of the sensation is starting to fade and your sense of security if returning, the floor moves under your feet, the windows rattle, and you brace yourself, no matter where you are. If you’re watching a program, they interrupt with a seismic number; if you’re watching the news, you see the announcers sit there and shake

at the same time you are. It’s very disconcerting. After all, you don’t usually have to think about whether the earth will be moving underneath your house or consider whether the kitchen cabinets are likely to open and let everything fall out. Welcome to California, Dad!”

### Postscript

Now that I have been there ... I went, I saw a great place to visit (with all their problems), but I’ll take the four seasons of Connecticut, including the snow and the cold. During my stay, I did have a chance to view a few remains of the quake, especially certain malls which are still not open, plus the fires of last year (results still very visible), and the recent mud slides along the famed Malibu Beach on the Pacific Coast Highway. Being a tourist at heart, on a trip over the Santa Monica Mountains, we passed the location of the hit television series “M\*A\*S\*H” and went on a guided tour of the currently popular show “Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman” which is filmed in Agora Hills.

For Nancy (WLHS ’65) and Frank (native of New Britain), the stories of their experiences and after-effects were indeed something to write home about ... and, yes, they are coping very nicely, thank you!

## James Maitland: Engineer,

This is the story of James, Kate, and little Ashley Maitland. Jim of the Engineering World, Kate, the “domestic engineer” (with a part-time position at the town hall), and Ashley, a “Barney” enthusiast, two years and counting. All adding up to a very family-oriented threesome.

Both Jim and Kate are from large families, growing up in Webster and Oxford, Mass., respectively. Ashley can call Windsor Locks her home town.

Jim has only been in town since November, 1989; however, he is very involved in community affairs ... as a former chairman of one important committee and one (equally as important) commission. The committee — “facilities advisory,” whose main objective is studying school buildings, and the commission — Economic and Industrial Development.

Why does Jim volunteer for such time-consuming assignments? “Because I feel things should be done for the good of the town and school system, (and most importantly) our daughter will be entering the system shortly.”

More on James Edward Maitland Jr. ... born and raised in Webster ... and where is Webster? Where Mass., Conn.

and R.I. meet. He attended local Webster schools, graduating from Bartlett High School, Class of 1980, where he was the captain of the varsity tennis team.

He is the son of the late James E. Maitland Sr., who passed away in December. Mr.

Maitland was a native of Fall River, and a retired textile employee. Mrs. Ann (Szumal) Maitland was from Ashland, Wis. Jim’s mother

now resides in Webster. James and Ann met at a USO club in Milwaukee, while he was a GI in World War II.

Jim Jr. has a brother, Dr. David Maitland, who lives in Northborough, Mass., and two sisters, Dr. Karen Schilling of Oxford, Ohio, and Lois Paire of Dudley, Mass.

Did Jim Jr. have any idea (after high school) what he wanted, as far as a career? ... “Yes,” he said, “always wanted to be an engineer ... my brother, the future doctor, was in college at the time, and a lot of his classmates were engineers, and I was impressed,” and took all the right roads to seek out his future career.

First step ... Jim entered Tufts University in Medford, Mass. He did all the right things and graduated in 1984, with a degree in mechanical

engineering.

Jim’s first position was with Riley Stocker Corporation, which lasted a little over a year, then coming to Connecticut to join a business rival of Riley, Combustion Engineering Inc. Today, Jim is still at what is

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

now ABB, in the fluidize bed engineering department. In May of 1993, Jim earned an MBA at the University of Hartford.

While at Riley Stocker, Jim met his future bride, Kate Cahill, of Oxford, Mass., the daughter of Daniel and Clare (O’Connell) Cahill. Mr. Cahill is retired from John Hancock Insurance. Mrs. Cahill is a registered nurse at a Oxford Convalescent Home.

Kate has three brothers, Dan, David and Paul; and three sisters, Maureen, Anne and Pat. Kate is a grad of Oxford High School, Class of 1979, where she was a member of the Student Council.

She has an associate degree in business from Becker Junior College, and went to work at Riley Stocker, where she stayed nearly six years.

Jim and Kate were married on April 25, 1987, with her uncle, Father Paul O’Connell as officiate, at the St. Rochs Church in Oxford. Father O’Connell is currently pastor of St. Mary’s Church in Shrewsbury, Mass.

Before the wedding, Jim had decided to leave Riley. It meant a long engagement, and the next spring, the wedding, and a move to Enfield. In November of 1989, they set up their home in Windsor Locks.

## Former Facilities Upgrade Chairman

Locally, Kate worked at Emhart, and then at Ensign-Bickford in Simsbury, until Ashley was born. Today, Kate works part-time at Town Hall, for the local Board of Education.

Ashley Maitland, who will be three in September, is one little active girl, one of Barney's biggest boosters, and this is what her folks had to say ... "She is independent, demanding, but very loveable (I'd say, cute as a button), and looks like Shirley Temple." And I must add, knows her ABCs.

What about her parents and their free time? They both enjoy playing tennis, Kate is into reading novels, and does watch the news magazine shows on TV — 48 Hours, 60 Minutes — (and would you know) a candle pin bowler from way back, and watches the matches on TV. Jim is into sports on the tube when it comes to spectator sports, but locally, he was a player in the indoor hockey league, and still plays softball in the C-E league. When it comes to baseball, Jim roots for the Mets, while Kate is a Red Sox fan, but don't bring up the 1986 World Series.

Vacations have been to Vermont north, and south to the beaches of Carolina. For the record, Jim is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. And speaking of Engineers ... Kate came up with this ... "There are men and there are women ... and there are engineers."

Well, the town has an engineer in chairmanship of the Economic and Industrial Development Commission, which for Jim and its members, is time-consuming, but Jim realizes the needs for the growth of new business in the

town. Jim has been involved with the commission work since August of 1991.

Back to Jim and Kate, a few personal thoughts ... Jim said he admires his parents ... "Growing up the family was number one, and my parents provided us with good education advantages, and were always good to their children and grandchildren."

Kate had this to say ... "My family too, raising seven kids, was always warm and considerate, we were very family-oriented." Kate also wanted to add ... "My grandmother at 86, is still going strong" She is Helen O'Connell of Uxbridge, Mass.

Did Kate have a word or two on her engineer? ... certainly, "Jim is overly patient." With Jim adding his very practical philosophy ... "Enjoy what you have." Wait a minute, Kate said, "Please add the following ... I hope Jim and I can provide Ashley, what our parents provided us."

### Epilog

That's the story of Jim, Kate and Ashley Maitland. This is a family now adopted-town-oriented ... for better

schools and more business, and looking ahead to their daughter's future.

Jim and Kate Maitland learned valuable lessons from their parents. Passing them on to Ashley, in addition showing how to love, from the closing song of "Barney."

The following words come to mind that seems to suit all ages, from the famed Dr. Seuss ... "My uncle ordered popovers from the restaurant's bill of fare. And, when they were served, he regarded them with a penetrating stare. Then he spoke great Words of Wisdom, as he sat there on that chair: To eat these things, said my uncle, you must exercise great care. You may swallow down what's solid, BUT, you must spit out the air! And as you partake of the world's bill of fare, that's darned good advice to follow. Do a lot of spitting out the hot air. And be careful what you swallow."

*(Editor's Note: James Maitland recently resigned from the schools' Facilities Upgrade Advisory Committee.)*



Kate, Ashley and James Maitland

## Joe Zolciak — K. of C. Activist

C. Joseph Zolciak Jr. is another "I'm a big fan" and readily admits, his team is the Buffalo Bills.

Better known as just Joe around the local Knights of Columbus club rooms, he was interviewed shortly after the Super Bowl game, and he took the defeat rather graciously. Joe is a native of Buffalo, N.Y.

and has lived in town since 1985. His story is one of a traveling career in the service, with college degrees earned from Florida to Connecticut.

Joe was born and raised in Buffalo, situated at the northeastern end of Lake Erie. He is the son of C. Joseph Zolciak Sr. and Arlene (Robinson) Zolciak, both natives of that snowy city. Joe

has a sister in Virginia, Chris, married to Dave Thompson. They have two children, Danielle and Jeremy.

Joe went to elementary schools in Buffalo, but when it

a year, football was no longer fun, so I left and (truthfully) I was in love with the girl I met in high school, my future wife, Karen."

Joe further admitted, "Returning to the Buffalo area, I still wanted to try college ... I had graduated from high school in 1973, a year in Dakota, and again

tried ... this time at the Erie Community College, but in November of 1975, had enough ... joined the Naval Reserves."

The following is the traveling career of Joe Zolciak: boot camp at Great Lakes, Ill. in March of 1976. Next stop, Meridian, Miss. where he attended Yeoman School. The newlyweds lived off the base. Next, to Pensacola, Fla. (their

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

came time for high school, he chose the Griffin Institute and Central School in Springville, N.Y., 40 miles south of Buffalo. He was a three-letter athlete at the school — baseball, basketball and football. It was on the football field that he earned a scholarship to the University of South Dakota.

Looking back at that time of his life, he said, "I only stayed

## ... and Much More

two children were born in Florida, more on their children later).

Joe's next assignment was north to Newport, R.I., with Karen staying in Florida. He was enrolled in the Naval Court Reporting School. Next stop, Norfolk, Va. ... he was now a member of the Technical Electronic Warfare Squadron. In 1980, Joe spent eight months on the USS Independence.

In January 1982, Joe and his family moved to Connecticut. Joe was now in Windsor, with the Nuclear Power Training Unit, where he served until October 1985. He stayed in active duty until November of 1988. Joe did not have enough of the service (or so it seems), he joined the Connecticut Air National Guard, and today, reserve duty at Bradley in the legal office.

After leaving his naval service of 13 years, in addition to his Connecticut Air National Guard duty, Joe worked at two insurance companies, and was employed at Robinson and Cole in Hartford, as manager of their word processing system.

We had mentioned Joe, at times, was reluctant to finish college, but that all changed in May of 1984, when he received his first bachelor of science degree (business administration) at the St. Leo College in Tampa, Fla., and in 1988, an accounting degree from Teikyo Post College in Waterbury. Joe changed all those indecisions, made at a younger age.

Since coming to Connecticut, Karen has been busy as hairdresser at several nursing homes in the area. And speaking of coming to the land of steady habits ... Joe and Karen lived first in Buffalo, then East Windsor, and in September of 1985 moved to their present home in Windsor



Joe Zolciak, with 'Peaches'

Locks.

The children of Joe and Karen ... a son, Michael Zolciak, and a daughter, Kimberly Zolciak. Michael is 17, a senior at East Catholic High School in Manchester, where he has been active in soccer and baseball. His immediate plan after graduation is to enter the military, according to his father. Kimberly, 16, a second year student at Northwest Catholic in West Hartford, has been a dancer (tap, ballet and jazz) for a long time and has done some modeling, and someday "professional modeling."

When it came to mention Joe's hobbies ... it was golf to softball; golf at Myrtle Beach, S.C. and area courses; softball, especially with the "national ranked" K. of C. team, where he plays a manager's role. As for spectator sports, there's always the Buffalo Bills, the team he roots for and why he travels to Buffalo for games. Joe even went to the west coast in January, 1993 to see the Bills play the Cowboys in the Super Bowl at the famed Rose Bowl.

He always has time for his K. of C. activities ... after he joined in September of 1991. Currently, Joe is on the board

of directors (Finance Committee) and editor of the organization's newsletter, "Knightly News." One big event for the K. of C. is on Sunday, March 20 ... the annual breakfast, with Sen. John Larson as main speaker.

When asked who he most admired, Joe said, "My late father-in-law, Eugene Burkland, a hard worker all of his life, in the grocery business, always managed to enjoy life to the fullest, and committed to his family." Joe's personal philosophy ... "Work hard ... be a good loser (like the Bills fans) let it roll off, life is too short." Did he have a favorite saying? "Yes, on my good or even bad days ... when anyone asks me ... I always say, 'I'm doing outstanding.'"

Epilog

Joe Zolciak, who pursued an education and earned degrees, after giving up twice. He served his country and now gives his energy and hard work to the K. of C., word processing systems, and the Air National Guard ... and yes, still faithful to the Bills.

"Here's to the losing team ... sportsmen to the end, who can lose as gracefully as they can win."

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## CLARIFICATION

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The article, "The Voge Family — from Computers to Chess," which appeared on page 7 in last week's issue of the Journal was written by Jack Redmond. His name and the "Cabbages & Kings" title were inadvertently left out of the article.

# The Voge Family —

Doug Voge is into computers; Patsy and Nicolina, modeling and dancing; with Christopher, checkmating since he was four.

In other words, the Voge family is talented, versatile and you'll have to admit... variety is their spice of life.

Douglas Allen Voge was from Wisconsin, Patsy (Back) Voge was born in Garland, Texas. This congenial couple met in Ohio, were married, and have made their home in Windsor Locks since 1988. Their children... Nicolina, 12 next month, ballet and model; Christopher, 9 — kids with different career paths.

Now for the story of their parents, who worked jobs in several states. Doug grew up in Beloit, Wisc., 60 miles northwest of Chicago, near Lake Michigan, where he said the winters were rough.

He was the son of Wilfred and Jean (Haas) Voge. Mr. Voge is retired, and his occupation was chief design engineer in sewer treatment equipment. Doug has a brother, Michael, and a sister, Susan, who still make their home in the Badger state.

During his early school years, Doug was interested in vocational studies. When he was ready for high school, he went looking for a warmer climate, going south to Florida to live with his grandparents.

In 1978, he graduated from high school in St. Petersburg. Looking back, he recalled coming from a school system of 400 students to a high school of 4,000 students. There were so many kids, he said, "I went to school from 6 a.m. to noon" ... the school hours were in two shifts.

He knew at an early age he wanted to be a machinist. After

high school he worked several jobs ... and then decided to go north to Cleveland, Ohio. He found a home with the brother (Raymond) of his future bride, Patsy. They met and were married on Oct. 3, 1981.

Patsy is the daughter of Maurice and Willy (Van Hattum) Back. Both were natives of Holland, meeting after World War II (he was in the Dutch army) in Java, Indonesia. Willy's father was a businessman in the (formerly called) Dutch East Indies. They came to Boston in 1956. His employment took him to many states ... Boston to Texas, Florida, New York and Ohio. Patsy, as mentioned, was born in Texas. She has two brothers, Larry and Raymond, who make their home in Florida and Ohio, respectively.

Patsy also remembers the hard winters living in Whitesboro, N.Y., near

— TownsPeople —

APRIL 1, 1994

# - from Computers to Chess

"CABBAGES & KINGS"



WITH JACK REDMOND

Syracuse, after her family had moved from Texas. She graduated from Whitesboro High School in 1978. Her first employment was in Ohio, where she did secretarial work, but actually was more involved in two careers. Her dance lessons began at an early age, but at 16, due to an injury, she had to give up the dance. She turned to modeling. Another move, this time to Florida, also found Patsy in the world of modeling ... and her appearance on national television in a "Pepsi Cola" commercial.

Patsy and Doug have had their change of address ... they first lived in Kent, Ohio, where he worked in manufacturing companies, one as foreman in the machine shop, then to New Britain and Windsor Locks.

Now, the family of Doug and Patsy ... they have two children ... Nicolina Gesina Voge, born in Garfield, Ohio, now a sixth-grader at the Middle School. The honor student has followed in her mother's footsteps, as model, at the Hartford agency of John Casablancas, and professional ballet dance with the New England Dance Conservatory in East Longmeadow, Mass. Even with six hours of dance a week, Nicolina enjoys all subjects in school and, like her father, is into computers. As a model she has appeared in local commercials.

Christopher Maurice Voge, third grader at South School, with his favorite subject math, along with soccer (indoors) and baseball. He too, had two careers: when he was only five, he entered the world of Tae Kwon do, earning a "Green Tip," and at the age of four ... plays the game of chess ... maybe another Bobby Fisher? ... for this Hartford native.

We mentioned Doug as foreman in a Ohio machine shop, where he stayed a year; however, the newlyweds had a big change of plans, with a move to New Britain, Conn. They stayed there for two



Clockwise from top left: Patsy, Doug, Nico and Chris Voge; with their dogs, Rhythm, left, and Akiko.

years, and in 1988, wanted to be closer to work, because of his new employment at Kamatics, settling in Windsor Locks. At the Kaman division, his title is Informational Systems Supervisor. He said he has been involved in CNC (Computerized Numerical Control) for the past 12 years, in various positions.

When it comes to hobbies ... Doug builds model cars, boats, and is involved in computer programs. Adding, "Our kids are our hobbies." He did mention at one time, playing the drums in a jazz band and orchestra in school, as a student in Florida.

Patsy has always been active locally, she volunteers at the South School library, has participated in writing workshops and is an adviser for the PTO. She has a large doll collection, which she has added to because of the family's vast traveling agenda. When it comes to vacation for the Voge family ... it may be

camping or a trip to Florida.

Doug has added something new to his agenda ... as a Windsor Locks volunteer fireman, was sponsored by Assistant Chief Ken Jeffery. Doug is currently training at the new fire facility on Bradley Field.

When it came to admiration for Doug, he said, "Tom Peters, a management consultant, who is well-known and a man not afraid to change things." Doug's personal philosophy ... "Work hard and it will happen." Patsy said she admired her parents and did have one word for Doug ... "Easygoing."

#### Epilog

Doug and Patsy Voge have lived and worked in several areas of the country, and are now well settled in town, active in work, school and public safety.

They both realize "Things don't just happen, people make things happen."

## Eddie Staron — Veteran

Eddie Staron, a steady and matter-of-fact nice guy, along with his wife, Janet, and their family, have been residents of Windsor Locks for 30 years. He achieved something special in the world of bowling, recently, when he bowled a 300 game at Bradley Bowl.

He is a veteran of more than 38 years with the telephone company, father of three children; and on holidays, it's a full room with six grandchildren.

Edward Joseph Staron, better known as just Ed or Eddie, is a Hartford native, who attended a Polish Catholic school, St. Cyril-Methodius, and graduated from Hartford Public High School, Class of 1954. Eddie played basketball and baseball, and has been interested in sports ever since.

He is the son of the late Anthony and Frances (Pikula) Staron. Mr. Staron was from New Jersey, Mrs. Staron, a Connecticut native. However, the way Eddie tells the story

... "my parents went to Poland at the age of two, my dad returned to the states at 22, my mother at 20, they met later on their return to the states."

Eddie has a sister, Patricia Vittner of South Windsor. Another sister, Jenny, has passed away.

Eddie served in the Connecticut National Guard for six years. When he was in high school, he worked part-time at Aetna, continuing after graduation, until February, 1956. He joined SNET, starting in the mail room, soon advancing to the title of installer in the cable department. Today, Eddie is a special service installer.

Janet (Good) Staron, a Waterbury native, graduated from Gilbert High School, Class of 1953. She was one of seven children ... Walter, Tom, Robert, Sandra, Gertrude and a brother, George who has passed away.

After high school Janet worked at Traveler's for six

months, then went to the telephone company, where she met her future husband.

She was at SNET for five years, first as an information

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

operator and then engineering clerk. She is the daughter of the late Walter Good, and Mildred MacMurtrie Good, who resides in Wisconsin.

Eddie and Janet surely connected on their phone lines, when they married on April 12, 1958 ... and it's just four days to their anniversary. They have three children ... Edward A., Linda and Debra. The newlyweds lived in Hartford for six years, before moving to Windsor Locks in 1963.

Now for some background on their children ... Edward A. Staron, another athlete in the family, played Little League in town, Honorable

## Telephone Worker and Bowler

Mention in All-State Basketball and Baseball, co-captain of the court team at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven,

where he received a 1986 degree in business administration.

Today, the younger Edward is telephone linesman in the Manchester area, and lives in Windsor Locks.

Linda is married to David Brown, also a native of town, where he excelled in soccer and baseball at the high school, where Linda was a cheerleader. They live in South Windsor, with their three boys, Zachary, Sammy and Noah. Currently, Linda is attending Asnuntuck Community College. Debra Fletcher lives in town, with her three children, Adam, Jacob and the first granddaughter, Angela.

When it comes to hobbies, Eddie admits, "I'm into all sports." He's a big fan of the Red Sox, Giants, UConn and Celtics. Of course, bowling is his main pastime, but he does manage a few rounds of golf during the summer months and as a member of the local K. of C., and has played at Airways, in the Knights League.

Janet is more of a homebody, watching the soaps on television, working those cross-word puzzles, tending to the family garden and crocheting. As for vacations ... DisneyWorld with the grandkids was a big treat.

Eddie seems to do everything in threes ... 30 years with the K. of C., 38 years with the phone company; and recently, hit the pins in the Bernaski's Merchant League at Bradley with his first 300 game. He said, "When I need a strike (usually) in the 10th, I choke." But not this time, with Eddie finishing with a 721 series. He bowls twice a week, with his highest series a 779, and sports a 214 average. Edward A. has had a 297 game, and a 740 series, and a 195-200 average, according to his proud dad. Sounds like a great father and son team.

When asked who he most admired, he said, "My mother, raised three children, took care of our sister Jenny, who had multiple sclerosis, after our father died."

Did he have a favorite saying? Yes, Janet said, "Is that right!," with Janet adding (for one word to describe Eddie) "that's easy ... he's Ed."



Eddie Staron

And that's the best way to tell the story of Eddie Staron ... the bowling telephone worker, who knows, "Bowling: a sport where you can build yourself up by knocking things down."

## Richard 'Ike' Iacolino: Into Golf, Flag Football –

When we heard that Richard Alan Iacolino, better known to his friends and fellow workers as just "Ike," was active in local flag football, along with referee Tom Skinner, we also found the Enfield native a golf enthusiast, collector of vintage comic books, and will soon be bowling (again) with his two sons, Jason and Kevin.

From August to December, for Ike, it's a combination of work (at his trade as machinist) and flag football as referee, but with spring and the summer months ahead, he will be playing golf, and working different shifts. He and the boys, and his wife, Debbie, have been residents of Windsor Locks since 1985.

Some background on Ike ... attended Enfield schools, was a grad of Enfield High School, class of 1973. He is the son of retired Joseph and Theresa (DeLorge) Iacolino, natives of Enfield, where they still make their home. Ike has a brother, Joseph of Agawam; and a sister, Gail of Enfield.

After high school, Ike said, looking back, "I wasn't sure what I wanted to do, didn't want to be a machinist at 19."

But life and outlooks change ... his employment record went something like this ... Hamilton-Standard for a year, odd jobs in construction and (the) machine shops, back to Hamilton in 1993, where he met fellow referee Tom Skinner. He left the local company for the Twin Manufacture in South Windsor. He is now quite settled, with Twin "doing work for the Federal Aviation Administration ... with repairs to engines, from different airlines."

How did Ike meet his future bride? He said, "Debbie Seibert was working at St. Joseph's Nursing Home in Enfield, as a nurse's aid, and I was working part-time." Debbie was at St. Joseph's for six years, and today, is employed at AAA Aircraft Supply Company on Suffield Street.

She is the daughter of the late John Seibert and Evelyn Seibert. Debbie has a brother, David of Somers, and a sister, Lynn, who resides in Mansfield.

Debbie attended Enfield High School, receiving her

diploma a few years later. She and Ike were married on Sept. 20, 1980, and lived in Enfield until 1985, when they moved to Windsor Locks.

Ike and Debbie have two sons ... Jason, 11, and Kevin,

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

8. Jason is a sixth grader at the Middle School. Kevin, in the second grade at North Street School, is into baseball and basketball. Both boys enjoy "Nintendo," and they have taken up bowling in different age groups. Jason's best high was 137, and Kevin's was 112 — not in the big league yet, but Ike intends to start bowling again with his sons.

As mentioned, Ike collects comic books, and just how did this newly acquired hobby start? Ike said, "When they (the writers) decided to kill off Superman, I just figured that someday (comic books) will be worth a great deal of money." He has started a large collection ... and from what I hear, Superman is back!

APRIL 15, 1994

## – Machinist by Trade

This is also a man who enjoys golf, belongs to the Men's Club at Grassmere in Enfield and is proud to say, "shoots between 40 and 46." Ike served as president of the Hamilton Golf League when he was employed at the local company.

The family's annual vacation spot is Hampton Beach, N.H. Getting back to the summer months and golf ... Ike has been a marshal at the Greater Hartford Open in Cromwell for three years, and someday hopes to carry the scores (boards) for 18 holes, preferably along side of Fred Couples, his favorite player. Debbie is also a fan of the GHO, and hopes one of these years her favorite, Greg Norman, will come to Connecticut.

Another spectator sport for Ike is following the Boston Red Sox and the Pittsburgh

Steelers. When it comes to television, "Home Improvement" and "Matlock" are their favorites.

Now for the football hobby (if it can be called that) ... for the past three seasons, Ike has been active as a referee for the local Windsor Locks Men's Flag Football League. Ike is a former player, and his association with Tom Skinner, (C&K December, 1993) led to Ike's chance to referee.



Richard 'Ike' Iacolino

Along with Ike and Tom, Billy King and Bud Carlson are also officials, and former players.

When it came to the question, who Ike most admired, he picked a famous name in pro football—Walter Payton, about whom Ike said, "The former Chicago Bears player was one of the best to play the game, he was not a player to brag, just went out on the field and played."

Ike's personal philosophy ... "Be honest in what you do in life." Did he have a favorite saying? ... "People who live in glass houses, shouldn't throw stones."

In the case of Ike Iacolino ... no stones, just accolades as a family-man, worker, and a man who enjoys his hobbies.

## Dr. Peter A. Michaelson -

*"Learning never stops ... we are all unique, we can learn from each other..." — Dr. Michaelson's personal philosophy*

In June of 1991, Dr. Peter Andrew Michaelson became a part of the local dentistry, combining his practice with an interesting and diversified lifestyle that covers the role of disk jockey, a runner (last year's Dexter Dash) and high hopes someday to be a contestant on the popular television show "Jeopardy."

Some background on Peter ... he grew up in Queens, largest borough of New York City, where he said "it wasn't tall buildings and people, but lawns and back yards." He was born on St. Patrick's Day, the son of the late Dr. Samuel Michaelson, a dentist for more than 50 years. His mother, Vera (Man) Michaelson, still resides in her Queens home, "the same house she grew up in," he added.

Peter has two brothers: David, who works in the world of insurance, on Long Island; and Dan, dean of students at Bennington College in Vermont.

In high school, young Peter, who graduated from Jamaica High School (Class of 1972), participated in track

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

and was a member of the math team. Did he have any idea what he wanted to do in life? ... "Had an idea of something to do with science."

First stop, a trip to Connecticut, where he decided to stay, now a resident of West Hartford. Big step ... he entered Yale University, where in 1976, received a bachelor of science in mathematics. At the famous New Haven school, Peter recalls a few of his classmates

... Bob Shriver, son of R. Sargent Shriver Jr. (of the Kennedy clan) and Wethersfield's own television actor, Mark Linn-Baker.

Peter tried life insurance for one summer, "didn't like it," so it was time for his next stop. It meant attending dental school at UConn, where he earned a degree as a doctor of dental medicine in 1981. However, there is more to his story than attending dental school ... did his

father have a big influence on Peter? ... "in a way," he said, "I felt I was smarter and cleverer than my father ... (this) is going to be easy." Well, the truth goes like this ... with Peter saying, "It wasn't easy, and I gained a lot of respect for my father."

The first year out of dental school found Dr. Peter working in Wethersfield, and the next 10 years (gaining a lot of experience) he worked for other dentists in Danbury,

## — Local Dentist, Disk Jockey, Runner

Hartford, Bridgeport and East Hartford.

In 1991, Dr. Michaelson began working with Dr. Raymond Cashman, on Old County Road, and in a few months purchased the business and opened his own practice, where he is today. Dr. Michaelson is a member of the American Dental Association, Connecticut Dental Association, and the Hartford Dental Society.

When Dr. Michaelson is not busy in his office, and it's Thursday night, his faithful listeners know where they can hear him ... he works as disk jockey on WWUH 91.3 FM, the University of Hartford radio station. He operates a jazz program from 9 p.m. to midnight, and has been hosting the program for the past 15 years.

When it comes to running, Peter has been at it since junior high school, and continued in high school and college as a member of the track team. Now, he said, "There's not that many opportunities for road races, the Dexter Dash was in my backyard, and as for the Boston and New York marathons, a little too long for me."

When he finds the time, he does become a spectator fan, his loyalty in two cities ... the Mets and New York Knicks in NYC, and the Red Sox and Celtics in Boston. On the television scene ... he watches "L.A. Law" and "Jeopardy."

He enjoys the quiz show, and took advantage of an opportunity to be on the show, "made it past the first round," and intends to try again.

Vacation time means visits to friends in New Mexico and Florida, and not to miss a chance to visit the Caribbean.

When asked who he most admired ... came a name from the National Track and Field Hall of Fame: Glenn Cunningham, a miler of the '30s, with Dr. Michaelson saying ... "As a young boy, Glenn was in a fire and he had to overcome injuries to his legs ... and performed in the 1936 Olympics."

Did the dentist have a favorite saying? "Yes, by Albert Einstein: 'Everything in life should be made simple as possible, but not simpler.'" And for a personal philosophy, Dr. Michaelson said, "Learning never stops, we are all unique and we can learn from others."

Pat Dixon, his dental assistant, and 1989 WLHS grad, had this to say about Dr. Michaelson ... "Very honest type of person ... loyal to his employees."

To close the story on Dr. Peter Andrew Michaelson ... a few words to fit two of his pastimes ... "Disk Jockey: one who lives on spins and needles." "Dentist: A fellow who bores you to tears." And certainly, the good dentist is one unique individual.



Dr. Peter Michaelson

## Sister Joan Flanagan, Former Diversity

Sister Joan Elizabeth Flanagan, director of religious education at St. Mary's Church, has just concluded her role as facilitator of the advisory committee, made up of local citizens with diversified backgrounds, on "how to improve school quality and diversity."

More on the committee later... as for Sister Flanagan (of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur), her career has covered the role of nursing, teaching, assistant principal of a high school, and in 1992 she assumed her current position at St. Mary's.

Some background on this dedicated and amicable person ... Joan was born in Bridgeport, the daughter of the late Herbert and Mary (Lapke) Flanagan. Mr. Flanagan was from Fairfield, an architectural draftsman by trade; Mrs. Flanagan was from Pennsylvania. Joan has a brother, John, a salesman who resides in Bethlehem.

She attended St. Augustine Grammar School, graduated from Bassick High School (Class of 1954), and looking back, "I was interested in a nursing career," she said. During her high school years, she had on-the-job training at St. Vincent Medical Center and Bridgeport Hospital, which made her all the more interested in the nursing field.

Joan was into "thinking

about nursing" at the time, and not the life of a religious. She entered the St. Vincent Hospital School of Nursing, and in 1957 received her cap of "Registered Nurse."

However, during the period, "I decided to become a nun ... (receiving) a gift in taking care

from Emmanuel College in Boston.

Sister Flanagan's first teaching position was at Chicopee Holy Name High School, where she stayed for four years. In 1964, she earned her master's degree from Fairfield University.

She continued her teaching career at East Catholic High School, then to Central Catholic In

Norwalk, to Notre Dame High School in Bridgeport (an all girls school), eventually towards co-educational, with 25 years of service in Bridgeport. She taught biology, was science department chairperson and the last 10 years served as assistant principal, with curriculum/teacher supervision as part of her position.

In August of 1992 ... another decision, after being involved in religious education for many years, she wanted to make religious education a full-time working career and came to Windsor Locks and St. Mary's.

In Windsor Locks and at St. Mary's, Sister Joan "enjoys the small community ... I love it ... there is a general concern by the parents for their children ... the people are friendly ... I always feel welcomed." Sister Joan is a member of the National

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

of sick people, plus the influence of the Sisters of Charity, and especially two priests."



The first being Father Grady, chaplain at the hospital, "a kind man ... a priestly priest, and another priest ... Father McCarthy, a patient himself who touched the heart of all the people ... an inspiration."

With her mind made up and decision made ... Joan Flanagan entered the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in Waltham, Mass. After three years of training, Sister Joan took her first vows in 1960. She was trained as a Biology teacher, and in addition, trains nurses during the summer months. Her next stop was a degree in biology education

## Committee Facilitator

Catholic Educators Association and the Diocesan Directors of Religious Education.

When it comes to hobbies for Sister Joan, she said, "I'd have to say reading ... I read everything, especially mysteries." In addition, she enjoys sewing (crewel), even a flower garden has her attention, and vacation time means visits to family in Connecticut. One big trip (with an aunt) to the islands of Hawaii rated very high on her travels to far-off places.

When it comes to music, it's classical to country, and that includes a record or two of Willie Nelson. Public television is usually her number one choice when it comes to the tube.

More on Sister Joan's involvement on the advisory committee, her role as facilitator, recently concluded ... with these comments: "Input was a grass roots approach (as with other towns) ... no hidden agenda by members of the local committee ... ideas were brought forth that could be shared by other towns and other committees ... the state government holds some of the major tools (education) ... but the parents, teachers and administrators must be a part of the (solutions)."

When Sister Joan was interviewed as part of a recent story on the committee's role ... she said, "(I have had) a lifelong interest in the quality of education for all children, and I feel that I could make a contribution to the community/

school district."

As a longtime teacher, Sister Joan was asked how students were yesterday versus today. "Kids are kids ... the world today is quite different than the time I started ... peer pressure is an important factor."

Also asked about changes in Catholicism ... "good, however, a tremendous challenge to today's Catholics ... a challenge to live the messages of the gospels." When asked who she most admired ... "My parents, had a great faith, love of family, my father,

injured in World War I, survived, supported the family during the Depression years ... my mother, quiet, a good sense of humor and so very kind."

The Sister's personal philosophy ... "(I) try to live the (values) of the gospels ... the best way I can."

**Postscript:** With this C&K, marks 860 interviews and 19 years, from Fire Chief Bill Reilly to Sister Joan Flanagan ... that started on May 1, 1975 (but who's counting? ... I guess I am ... it's been just great...)



Sister Joan Flanagan

MARCH 18, 1994

## Jessica LaRussa — Musically

“For as long as I can remember, I have possessed a love for music.”

Words and (music) by Jessica Anne LaRussa. Credits include her work from Grade four to Grade 12, with band, chorus, VocalMotion, and performance in the following musicals: “Godspell,” “Annie,” “Oliver,” and the recent senior hit “Li'l Abner.”

Jessica, daughter of Raymond and Anne LaRussa, is nearing the end of her high school years, looking forward to more music training when she enters Anna Maria College in Paxton, MA., this fall, to continue her education with a major in music and a minor in voice performance.

Jessica adds her name to the long list of musical seniors of the Windsor Locks High School program that has thrilled parents, students and just plain citizens of her town with great musicals over the years.

Before listing Jessica's musical and other talents, some background on her family — her dad, Raymond Joseph LaRussa, native son, 1963 WLHS grad, now senior buyer at Hamilton-Standard's East Windsor plant. He is a veteran of more than 20 years with the Air National Guard.

He is the son of the late Dominick F. LaRussa, owner of the Main Street appliance and furniture store from 1947 to 1964, and the late Dora (DeCaro) LaRussa. Raymond

has a brother, Anthony, who resides in Florida.

Jessica's mother, Anne (Jackson) LaRussa, WLHS Class of 1966, is the daughter of the late David Jackson, and Anna (Domanico) Jackson, who still makes her home in town. Anne has a brother, Jim, who resides in Worcester,

MA. Anne was born in Philadelphia, came here with her parents at age 10, but considers herself “a native.” Anne is currently employed at the Corporate Headquarters of Kaman.

Talent runs in the LaRussa family. Jessica's sister, Andrea, has had her share of school activity ... she is a grad of the local high school, Class of 1988, where she was indeed active, played the clarinet in the school band, a softball player, and member of the cast in her senior musical, “Music Man.” Andrea is a 1992 grad of St. Anselm College in Manchester, NH., with a degree in English/Education.

Andrea is now teaching at Providence High School (Catholic All-Girls) in San Antonio, Texas. She and another native son, Todd Pfaffenbichler are planning a December wedding at St. Mary's, according to her parents. Todd is a four-year veteran of the Air Force, and also teaching, at a Texas college. His folks were featured in a C&K story back

in December of 1983.

Back to Jessica — she's been playing softball since the third grade, and last year earned All-Conference Award

### Cabbages & Kings WITH JACK REDMOND

as three-year starting pitcher on the Raider Softball team. When asked for her comments on Coach Pat Scelza, she said “One of my favorite people, a great coach.”

Since her sophomore year, Jessica has been a summer lifeguard at Pesci Park, including swimming lessons. Other activities include, member of the Windsor Locks Youth Commission, the school newspaper, Catholic Youth Organization, member of the St. Mary's Folk Group Choir, vacation bible school assistant and a lector at mass.

Jessica has a few of her favorites to mention ... Television, it would be “Frasier” and “Mad About You,” and when it comes to eating, it's pasta. For her favorite singing group, the word “Beastie” was mentioned. She attends concerts by local groups when they appear in Hartford or New Britain. Oh yes, the family's favorite vacation spot is Wildwood, New Jersey.

More favorite pastimes ... horseback riding, leisure

## -Inclined Senior, Softball Star

reading in psychology, doing crafts (painting, ceramics, collages) and playing the flute, trumpet and saxophone.

Speaking of musical instruments, or better said, in Jessica's case: the sounds of music and the following scenario ... Grade 4-7, band, flute; Grade 8, band saxophone, chorus (Soprano) ...

In her own words, "Even when I didn't have an audience, I still loved to perform and entertain myself ... " Grade 9, chorus, Grade 10, chorus, private voice lessons, performed in "Oliver,"; Grade 11, chorus, VocalMotion, performed in "Annie" and "Godspell,"; Grade 12, band-trumpet, private voice lessons, St.

Mary's Folk Choir ... studies voice at Hartt School of Music.

More in her own words ... "Upon entering high school, I found that my musical horizons could be broadened even further. As I signed up for my high school classes, I chose electives within the music field as well as continuing my singing in the high school chorus."

Jessica's favorite musical ... "Godspell," and someday would love to perform in "Jesus Christ Superstar." She noted, the three musicals she was in were staged in East Granby, a young theater group, and this summer on their stage, "The Music Man," will be presented, with Jessica a member of the cast.

Some personal comments on the girl called "Jessie 2-1 Kid," by her softball

teammates and also "Flex," by fellow students. Her personal philosophy ... "If you want something bad enough, go for it." Her favorite saying ... "Until the color of a man's skin is of no more significance than the color of his eyes ... " This goes along with her mother's description of Jessica ... "she shows a sensitivity to things (and people) around her." Her father had one word for his active daughter — determination."

That's the story of Jessica Anne LaRussa ... again in her own words: "I feel that I am truly fortunate and hopefully, by gaining acceptance into (college), I can further nurture this gift (musical ability), sharing it with those around me, making a difference not only in my life but also in the lives of those I touch."

## Harold and Blanche Michaud:

*"My darling wife ... she's the one ... she's a peach ..."*  
— Harold Michaud, when asked, who he most admired.

Harold and Blanche Michaud have been married for more than 50 years. They are proud parents of three, grandparents of six and great-grandparents of two.

This couple from Maine have lived in town since 1955. Harold is a veteran worker of local tobacco farms, factory employment and school maintenance, while Blanche was a local teacher with more than two decades of service to kindergarten and second grade students.

This friendly and active

couple have lived the full life, with memories galore of life in Maine, raising a family (coming from very large families themselves), Blanche's determination to finish college, and Harold's

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



hobby of restoring antique cars, which remain his prize collection.

Harold Conrad Michaud, raised on a farm in Wallagrass (five miles from the Canadian border),

Blanche (St. Germain) Michaud, born not far from Wallagrass (what a great name) in Eagle Lake. She said they had met in the eighth grade, and have been a twosome ever since.

For the present generation to absorb ... as youngsters growing up in Maine, they remember the rough winters, snow days, unheard of, and yes, with Harold walking over seven miles to school, and Blanche living nearer, and only five miles to school. (Just thought I'd keep the record straight.)

Harold was the son of the late Robert and Amanda (Morin) Michaud, both from the state of Maine, and were parents of seven children. Harold had three sisters, Lillian and Elizabeth are both

deceased, and Julie Patchin, who resides in New Jersey. His three brothers ... Al and Bernard of Maine, and Robert, who divides his time in Florida and Vermont.

Harold not only remembers the cold winters, but always enjoyed skiing in his younger days, and certainly remembers some hard work on the family farm where they raised potatoes, oats and buckwheat. He completed high school with the Class of 1937 at the Fort Kent High School.

Now to the future teacher in the family ... Blanche was the daughter of the late Paul and Victoria (Gagnon) St. Germain, who were from Maine. Blanche was one of 17 children ... and only three have survived: Blanche, Elva



Blanche and Harold Michaud, front; with back row, from left, Peter, Elaine and Jim Michaud.

# From Maine to Connecticut

Marquis of Westfield, Mass., and Rhea Gray who lives in Virginia.

Blanche attended what they called in those days, a "normal school," a school for future teachers. She graduated in 1936, and three years later on Jan. 22, 1939, Harold and she were married and lived in Wallagrass in the house she grew up in.

During World War II, Harold left the farm, and he and Blanche came to Connecticut to work in defense plants ... Harold at Jacob Chuck in Elmwood, and she at Colt's.

They had come to Connecticut in 1941, with Harold working on tobacco farms in Suffield. After the war, in 1946, they returned to Maine to live and work in Presque Isle. Harold opened a small grocery store and garage, while Blanche took her first position as teacher. In the summer months she attended the University of Maine to study for a degree. Her goal was realized, over a period of years, in 1957, when she earned her degree in education.

In 1955, the newly experienced mechanic and teacher returned to the nutmeg state. They had lived in East Granby, Suffield and East Hartford on their first trip to Connecticut and now became settled in Windsor Locks.

Harold's next three decades were spent working for the Royal Typewriter Company, Hamilton-Standard, and for 16 years at the high school, retiring in 1979. Blanche retired from teaching after 23 years in 1978, with service in all the local schools.

Now for the family of Blanche and Harold ... their three children, Elaine, James and Peter. All were WLHS grads, and now currently live in Windsor Locks. Elaine Gould works in Rocky Hill for Comprehensive Rehabilitation Associates Inc. James is married to JoAnn (Rozenski) Michaud, and currently operates a barber shop in Poquonock, and at one

time a shop on Spring Street. They have three children ... Christopher, Amanda and Kerri. Christopher is married to Lynn (Boutwell) Michaud, and they have two children ... Ian and Elizabeth.

Peter Michaud is married to Kathy (Barnes) Michaud and they have three children ... Debra Gorczycki, and the twins ... Brian and Kristin.

Over the years, Harold and Blanche have had their share of travel ... with trips to Hawaii, Bermuda, Florida, California and Virginia. These days, she said, "We mostly go up to Maine."

When it comes to hobbies, Blanche sews a great deal (quilts), some crocheting, and always finds the time to read a novel. However, when it comes to Harold, it's cars for the man with vintage variety, two Studebakers, 1929 and 1937, with a later model Avanti, 1963. In addition, he and his son Peter have restored a truck. During the past few years, Harold and his sons have exhibited his gems in the world of antique cars.

Blanche calls Harold "one busy man," while Harold had these kind words for Blanche ... "My darling wife ... she's the one ... she's a peach." Harold's personal philosophy ... "Let's just say ... a life of good clean living."

## Epilog

Harold and Blanche Michaud, active all their life, raising a family and with two different careers. The name of Michaud has been familiar, over the years, with the story of Lillian Michaud, also a local teacher, in 1975, and from Van Buren, Maine.

Just had to add a few notes on Harold and Blanche ... for Harold ... "An automobile tire is so named because in the early days it was considered 'attire' or covering for a wheel."

For Blanche ... "The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterward."

# Mark Senofonte .

Mark Angelo Senofonte, a nice big guy, with a life of total involvement on the local sports scene, be it Little League, high school sports, basketball or soccer.

First as a player, now coach/umpire, you name it — and equally important, Mark as the father of three active boys, is proud of several events, among the following ... the 6th grade basketball games (with Maryland teams, as player in his youth, now coach), fishing and coaching with his sons, traveling to Florida and a visit inside the space shuttle "Columbia"; and lastly, watching "the kids," over the years come through the sports program in Windsor Locks.

Some background on Mark ... son of Leonard Joseph Senofonte and Jean (LaPointe) Senofonte, both from Hartford, for years making a home for their five children in town, and subjects themselves of C&K, way back in November of 1977.

Today, Leonard is very retired after many years in construction and into the game of golf in the K. of C. Golf League at Airways in Suffield.

The Senofonte story is one of sports in town, with Mark, and his brothers, Leonard Paul and Paul Robert, all former Little Leaguers and varsity players in sports at the Raider school.

More on Mark ... came here at age two, with his parents, attended local schools, and graduated from the high school, Class of 1973, along with his high school sweetheart, the future Mrs. Senofonte, Darlene Ollari, a native of Windsor Locks.

Mark's career in high

school ... was one of the star pitchers on Coach Dan Sullivan's team, also excelled on the football and basketball court. As a freshman, played soccer, but in his second year, decided to try out for the new football program. In addition, he played first clarinet in the school band, and to complete his well-rounded high school years, Mark was a member of the National Honor Society.

After graduation, Mark went on to UConn, where he

married to Richard Smith, and they too, reside in town. Darlene's family was also into local sports, with Donald and David, former Little Leaguers; and on the high school level: Donald played varsity soccer and baseball, with David into three sports, soccer, baseball and on the court.

As to Darlene's employment, she is currently working part-time at Fleet Bank, and was no stranger to banking circles, after 13 years (after high school) with Connecticut Bank and Trust. Then the family was increasing,

and she became a full-time mom for the boys.

Their three sons ... Matthew, 11, Daniel, 8 and right behind, Steven. Matthew is a fifth grader at South, Daniel a third grader at South, and Steven, first grade at North. Matthew is into Little League, travel soccer, rec. basketball and "loves" to fish with his father. He's a big Boston Celtic fan, in addition to the UConn court team, and had strong objections to Donyell Marshall going to the pros.

Daniel, plays in the Farm Little League, rec soccer and basketball, and in the music field, plays the guitar. Steven, on the other hand, is "just getting into sports," starting with this year's Farm Little League.

Before listing the accomplishments of Mark's brothers and their sports activities ... information on his employment career ... and before working for a living ...

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



played some JV baseball. At first, he took liberal arts courses, then switched, with his sports background, to physical education (in his second year), graduating in 1977, with his Bachelor of Science degree.

That same year Mark and Darlene were married ... June 4, and lived in East Hartford for seven years, before returning to their hometown in 1984.

Darlene is the daughter of the late Ivan Ollari, a native of town, and for many years connected with the Southern Auto Exchange in East Windsor. Her mother, Doris (Pearson) Ollari, was from Springfield, and makes her home in Windsor Locks. Darlene has two brothers ... Donald, who resides on Long Island; David, who lives in town; and a sister, Dale,

a boy's dreams of playing in the major leagues ... Mark was no different ... with high hopes as a pitcher, saying, "I wanted it so bad." With no offers ... he went off to college.

He was certified as a teacher, but in 1977, had no offers from baseball or the teaching world. He did manage some substitute teaching jobs around the area (even Windsor Locks). He took a job in a convalescent home "to carry us over, not a career," he said.

Well, if the teaching world was not ready for Mark ... the world of a machinist was. In 1978, he entered Hamilton Standard as a machinist ... and today, Mark is supervisor in Manufacturing Control, Space Systems International (new) ... with one of the services providing back packs for the astronaut's space suits.

In 1991, Mark traveled to the space center in Florida, a part of a working look-see at some of Hamilton's work in the space program. Mark said, he was mighty proud to say he was fortunate to "go into the space shuttle, Columbia."

Mark was also proud to recall when he pitched at the high school, with his brother, Paul, as his battery mate. He has two brothers, Paul and Leonard, two sisters, Laura Jean Kania, and Diane Louise Bologna.

Leonard lives in Suffield, with his wife Teresa (Dingess) Senofonte, and Paul resides in Waterford, and come this July will wed Beth Costello.

Laura and her husband, Tom Kania, have moved to North Carolina, where Tom will pursue the family career of undertaking. His dad, Donald Kania, operates the



Mark and Jean Senofonte, with their children: Daniel, front, Steven, left, and Matthew.

Kania Funeral Home in town. Tom was a subject of C&K in August of 1979. Laura graduated from the local high school, Class of 1970. Diane and Al Bologna live in Suffield. She was a grad of WLHS, Class of 1977.

Leonard and Paul were also active in sports ... Leonard, WLHS '75, was All-Conference football at the Raider school, with Paul playing football, baseball and

basketball. He is a 1984 grad of the school, went on to the UConn Class of 1989, where he played freshman football.

Now for Mark's accomplishments in local sports ... past three years, involved in the 6th grade basketball (home and home) series with Maryland. Mark was the coach last year. He had played there in 1966. In the Little League program ...

*SENOFONTES / page 7*

**Continued from page 6**

active the past five years, now a coach in the majors, with fond memories of his own playing, starting pitcher on the 1966 All-Stars who won the state title that year. He is the coordinator of the rec. youth basketball program, and referee for the local travel soccer league.

In addition, Mark is Umpire-in-Chief of the Windsor Locks Little League

and member of the Hartford Board of Umpires, and Hartford Board of Basketball Officials. (And he still finds the time for fishing?)

On a more personal note ... and rightfully so, Darlene said her husband is a "dedicated" individual. His personal philosophy ... "Live for now... if you want to do it, do it now." When it came to say who he most admired, no time was lost ... "My father ... taught me the values of life, work hard, and (always) be honest."

**Epilog**

Mark Angelo Senofonte with a heart as big as he is, especially when it comes to Windsor Locks, the kids, the many programs that keep fathers like him busy, with the kids active on the sports pages.

His dad set the good example as father of his family and I'm sure with the patience of his mother, Jean.

Someone once wrote ... "Each of us is the accumulation of our memories ..." — Mark is reliving his memories every day.

## Pauline Taylor –

*“If you want something ... ask for it ... be told, yes or no...”* — Pauline’s advice to her two sons

The story of Pauline O’Halloran Taylor is of coming to America from her native Ireland, to marry, raise two sons, work hard, and continue her education, never forgetting her home or parents back in the old sod.

This month the friendly Irish colleen became the president of the Windsor Locks Women’s Club. It was a tribute to her involvement and tenacity, with activity in the local scout program, her domestic work ethics over the years, in Ireland and in her adopted country.

Pauline’s parents, Michael and Bridget (McMahon) O’Halloran, still reside in her birthplace ... Six Mile Bridge, County Clare, Ireland, just five miles from Shannon Airport, the first landing spot for so many Americans who travel to the Emerald Isle for the first time.

Her family, all still in Ireland, includes her brother, Joseph, and sisters, Maureen and Doreen. Also, she said, a flock of aunts, uncles and cousins. Her mother was one of 10 children. Pauline’s grandmother had come to the States (many years ago to New Britain) for a short period, returned to Ireland, to marry and raise a large family.

Pauline’s memories include (even) at the age of three, “talking about coming to America,” and receiving packages from her Aunt Peggy (one of Bridget’s sisters), filled with colored ribbons and candy kids could not even imagine in Ireland. Aunt Peggy, now 85, still lives in New Britain.

Pauline’s life in Ireland ... her schooling stopped at the 7th grade level. She went out to the world seeking her first employment at the age of 14. She found work in Limerick City, taking care of three

children (ages 2 months, 3 and 5 years old), working “from six to bedtime, with full responsibility for the children, with no time off.”

After three years, and at the age of 17, she “wanted a

### Cabbages & Kings

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better job,” and was off to Dublin town ... for more care of children and household duties, but remembers well ... “how amazed I was ... the size of the city, but best of all, had my evenings off and weekends.”

The job in Dublin lasted for five years; however, although she enjoyed her new surroundings, a mishap: she was badly burned and had to take off for over three months. She remembers, “I was lonesome, my parents were far off at home.” But there was a bright side, young Pauline, while in Dublin, attended movies and the great shows at the famed Abby Theater.

During her convalescence, faithful Aunt Peggy sent get-well cards, including an invite

## - the New WL Women's Club President

to come to the States. Aunt Peggy's husband, Bill Clarkson, was also receptive to coming to America, but to all concerned, found out it was not easy to bring someone over. The big question... "was a job waiting for (Pauline), that no American was interested in having said job."

After a year of "red tape," she was ready to come, a job taking care of children and housework (no American need apply) ... Pauline was then 23, and was welcomed to New Britain and the Clarkson home.

In addition to her new job, Pauline was trained to be a nurses' aide. Her next big step ... she met and married Gary Richards in 1970. Mr. Richards was a U.S. Army veteran of four years, worked in Hartford until his death in 1980, as supervisor of an armored car company. He and Pauline had two sons ... David and Michael ... more on the boys later.

To bring Pauline's employment up to date ... she worked at a Plainville convalescent home for three years, then stayed home to care for her sons after Gary passed away. She worked in area homes, and today is employed by Mercury Excelum Inc. in East Windsor.

On Oct. 23, 1982, Pauline married Gordon Taylor, who was from Sheffield, England, who had served for 18 years in the Royal Navy. He had come to Canada in 1968 to work, was transferred to Massachusetts in 1974, and eventually came to work at Dexter, retiring in 1993. He has a son, Mark Taylor, who lives in Enfield.

Gordon and Pauline had met while she was living in

Plainville. They both were active in local scouts, when Pauline's sons were younger. She was also a den mother, in Plainville.

Some background on her two sons ... David and Michael Richards. David served in the Army for four years, with time in Germany. He was a 1990 grad of WLHS, where he played soccer, and currently is employed in Bloomfield with NAPA. Michael, 1992 WLHS, is now attending Manchester Community College. Both sons live at home.

More on Pauline ... when it comes time for hobbies ... she enjoys reading, working on (large) jigsaw puzzles. Travel should be considered her and Gordon's main hobby ... with trips to Canada, New Hampshire and Maine. The past six years Pauline has traveled to Ireland to see her parents, with Gordon going every other year. Pauline just "loves" American football, hockey and the ice shows on TV. Other television shows include "Dr. Quinn and Christy."

Something Pauline is especially proud of ... completing her high school diploma requirements ... which meant learning subjects like science and U.S. history and algebra. Today, she attends Asnuntuck Community College ... her major ... travel.

As for holidays ... Christmastime ... to Pauline, "is great, and is also a sad time ... her parents are 3,000 miles away."

She always has time for the Windsor Locks Women's Club ... been an active member since 1987, with the past two years as vice president. She was installed



Pauline Taylor

as president on May 10. She said her main duties are "to show leadership, oversee the many projects of the club..." and adding, "it's a hard-working group of women ... we meet at the K. of C. Hall the third Tuesday of every month."

When asked who she most admired ... she said, "My mother ... in the way she brought us up and what she taught us ... I also have what I call my second mother ... Aunt Peggy, who has been like a mother to me, we are very close."

Pauline believes in the "golden rule," hard work, honest living, be kind and helpful to others ... "the way I was brought up," she said.

### Epilog

Pauline Taylor ... the long road from Six Mile Bridge, to Limerick, Dublin, New Britain, Plainville and today, Windsor Locks. Proud, and rightfully so, completing high school and now a college degree.

She is certainly an example of another "Horatio Alger Story," the true successful story of an Irish colleen. As the Irish Blessing goes... "until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."

# Anthony Farr —

*"Tough guy... good coach ... gets the best efforts out of his players..." —Tony Farr's comments on Coach Dan Sullivan*

Anthony Joseph Farr keeps a family tradition of being on top of his game or class ... be it on the sports field or classroom.

The son of David and Susan Farr, Anthony, better known as Tony or "TF," was named as this year's Windsor Locks High School valedictorian for the senior class of 1994.

The National Honor Society student has distinguished himself on the varsity soccer field and basketball court, and just to round out his talents, played the drums in the concert band.

Tony was recently honored at the annual Connecticut Association of Schools and Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference Scholar-Athlete Awards, along with fellow student Swapna Radia as two high school seniors, with a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or better, who have participated in a CIAC-sponsored varsity sport. Swapna played soccer, basketball and softball.

More on the scholar-athlete ... Tony, a native son, plans to attend Providence College to study Biology/Education ... with future plans of teaching and coaching.

Tony's family ... his father, David Farr, a teacher at South School, has coached sports at the high school, is very involved in American Legion baseball as the state commissioner and locally, served on the Park Commission and currently is the town's treasurer. He and

Tony's mother, Susan (Goldsmith) Farr were featured in a C&K column in February, 1984. Dave has two brothers, Peter and Steve, both active in town.

Tony has two brothers ... Michael and Mark. Michael, WLHS '92, is now attending Keene State in

New Hampshire, was a member of the wrestling team. Mark, a fifth grader at South School, is into soccer, baseball and basketball.

Tony has combined his class work, working at the high school, and sports activity. The working at the school has been in the role of custodian.

When he has free time ... Tony enjoys playing the drums, and (just like his dad) keeps up with the New York Yankees and Don Mattingly (his favorite player). Mr. Mattingly is an individual Tony most admires, saying, "He's a player who carries himself with a lot of class, enjoys the game and (certainly) is a symbol of what baseball is all about."

Tony enjoys "all kinds of music," and watching "Home Improvement," on TV. When it comes to movies, comedies are his favorites. Vacation time with the family has meant numerous trips to Florida, probably when the Yankees are in spring training. Can't forget his favorite food ... pizza.

As mentioned, the Farr family has left its mark (and is still doing so) in the sports program of Windsor Locks. Uncle Peter Farr, father of Eileen Farr, a senior and honor student, Dan Farr at UConn,

and Matt, a grad of the University of Scranton. Tony mentioned his cousin Dan, was also honored at the CIAC conference in 1992. He had played three sports at the Raider school. Matt is a swimmer, and Eileen, a three-letter athlete. Uncle Steve is

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



the father of Lynne, also a senior and honor student, and Jennifer, in the eighth grade at the

Middle School.

Looking back at Tony's participation in high school sports, where he played for coach Dan Sullivan (two sports) and for his father, JV basketball coach ... he had this to say ... "Coach Sullivan was a tough guy (with a sincere smile on his face) ... a good coach, who gets the best efforts out of his players." Playing for his dad ... "a little awkward, I wanted to play more ... have to say, it was fun playing."

Tony's young years have yielded the following philosophy ... "Try to live (life) to the fullest ... get the most out of everything you

—————TownsPeople—————

## - This year's high

do.”

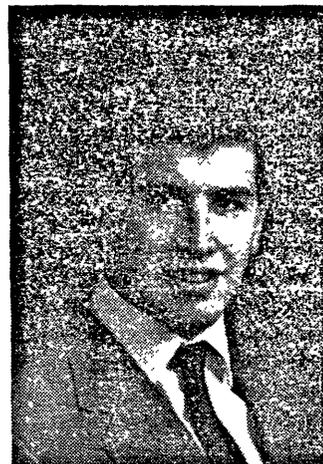
Comments on his awards ... “Attending the CIAC dinner was a big honor (he went with his brother Mark and parents), especially when you are with the best scholar/athletes in the state.” As for the honor of being chosen the valedictorian of the class ...

Tony said, “My parents were very proud, with my father saying, you earned the honor as (a result) of a lot of hard work.”

### Epilog

Anthony Joseph Farr, chosen the valedictorian of his class ... with Kai Loundon, the salutatorian.

Tony, Kai and their classmates all have people they look up to ... the late basketball coach, Jim Valvano, was certainly an inspiration in sports and life in general ... leaving these words to think about ... “To me there are three things everyone should do every day. Number one is laugh. You should laugh every day. Number two is think ... spend some time in thought. Number three, you should have your emotions move you to tears. If you laugh, think and cry, that’s a heck of a day.” He also spent a career telling his players ... “Don’t give up. Don’t ever give up.”



Anthony Farr

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

# school valedictorian

# The Scouting Family of

*"Scouting ... the one thing we do together as a family ..."*

When it comes to scouting in Windsor Locks, the name of Girard is very much involved, be it the Cub Scouts, Pack 201 and 261, or Boy Scouts, Troop 263.

For the past five years, Larry, Sharon and Charles Girard have spent at least one night a week in the scout program, as Larry so profoundly expressed ... "One thing we do together ... it offers something for all of us." They became active when young Charles joined the Cub Scout program.

However, time is also spent on Larry's own business "Canal Bank Associates," with Sharon as an "Independent Musical Educator," at home and part-time, currently at the Windsor Clover Street School. Charles, 12, is a fifth grader at South School, and when not in scouting projects, enjoys swimming in the family pool.

More on Lawrence Edgar Girard Jr.: he grew up in Enfield, the son of Lawrence E. Girard Sr. and Carol (Garvulenski) Girard. Mr. Girard was from Enfield, Mrs. Girard a native of West Springfield. He is now retired after 40 years working for the Town of Enfield as a heavy equipment operator. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, and was awarded the Purple Heart.

and children from birth to age five) as "music movements ... a lot of singing, musical games, clapping, rhythmical movement, locomotive and

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



non-locomotive and with parents taking part with their children, noting, children that age tend to follow their parents in making moves, etc."

Larry and Sharon had met during their high school years, when they both had an interest

in drama. They were married on June 25, 1976, at St. George Church in Guilford. They have lived in Windsor Locks since the wedding. When not scouting or teaching musical classes ... they have both been CCD teachers at St. Mary's Church.

Before detailing Larry's employment record ... his higher education: he attended the University of Hartford (at night), was a member of Tau Alpha Pi, and honor student for "teachologists" — with the Vietnam War on everyone's agenda, especially young men, and Larry having a high number in the draft. But he didn't have to go, at the time, "was not ready for college." When he was older, he went for the higher education and

Sharon is a 1972 grad of Enrico Fermi High School, was also active in the drama club, a member of the National Honor Society, and took part in musical projects at the school. She went on to Western Connecticut State University earning her bachelor's degree, and later was awarded her master's in music education from the Hartt School of Music.

Sharon has put that education and obvious talents to good use, with her own home studio as an independent music educator. She has been teacher of music programs at Suffield schools, Warehouse Point Library, and currently at the Windsor Clover Street School teaching K-5, general music. In addition, Sharon has put on classes in her studio, describing her work (parents

The younger Larry has a brother, Edward of Hazardville, two sisters, Michele, who lives in South Carolina, and Yvette, who makes her home in Pueblo, Colorado.

Larry graduated from Enfield High School (Class of 1970), where he was active in the drama club, social studies activities, and played the trumpet in the school band. At a younger age, he was a member of the town's Drum and Bugle Corps.

Now for the musical teacher in the family ... Sharon (Henderson) Girard, the daughter of Roy and Shirley (Brown) Henderson. Mr. Henderson is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force with many years serving around the world. Sharon has a sister, Lori, who lives in town.

## Larry, Sharon and Charles Girard

his effort has paid off.

When he first entered the job market, he worked in Enfield for Control Molecules for a two-year period. Next came another two years, this time at South Windsor's Dynamic Control, involved in electrical work on F-15s. His longest tenure in the outside market was as project engineer at the Connecticut International Corporation, with GAB and Sepco as part of the operation, in the manufacturing of airport lighting.

Larry then went "on his own," in the operation of Canal Bank Associates. Which he describes as "after market services in airport lighting ... light bulbs to spare parts, with customers from Florida to

Alaska, to Hawaii and as far off as Guam." Adding, "I like working for myself."

The Girard family enjoys

camping, with vacation time in Washington D.C. and Virginia, visiting

*GIRARDS / page 8*



Larry and Sharon Girard, with their son Charles

## Girards — A Scouting Family

*Continued from page 7*  
battlegrounds of the Civil War. Larry is a UConn basketball fan, plus follows the Red Sox. Sharon reads a lot, tends to the family garden, and says ... "My whole life is music ... jazz to classical."

Their scouting activity, the past five years includes the following: Larry who handles the public relations, Pack Committee Chairman ... Sharon, Den Leader and one of the few assistant scout

masters (Troop 263), where Charles is a member. Larry summed it all up by saying ... "Scouting, one of the things we do together as a family, it has offered something for all of us, I'm convinced scouting teaches our youth values, that (sometimes) may have been lost."

Larry was asked for his philosophy of life ... sure, "No guts, no glory." A saying which he relates in starting his

own business.

### Epilog

The Girards may be called good scouts. When I was a tenderfoot (beginner in the ranks of Boy Scouts), the motto was "Be prepared." I'm sure it's the same today.

Larry, Sharon and Charles are very "prepared," be it scouting, business or music, knowing the scout oath requires "helping others at all times."

# Cynthia Mokritski -

Cynthia Currier Mokritski grew up in Burlington, Vermont, and remembers the cold winters when she was young — but the cold weather also meant skiing and skating. When she was older, and left Vermont, she found warmer weather in Connecticut, ideal for running, a hobby she now pursues, despite a recent illness that may have been life threatening.

First, some background on this mother of a young daughter, Danielle, an active nine-year old student at South School, and member of the "talented and gifted program."

Cynthia is the daughter of Andrew Currier, Jr. and Marilyn (MacArthur) Chase, both natives of the Green Mountain State. Cynthia is the only one in her family that came south to work and live. Her brother, Bill, lives in Winooski; a sister, Michele in Colchester and another sister, Diana, in Grand Island, where their mother makes her home.

Cynthia graduated from Essex Junction High School, Class of 1974. Looking back to those years, she said, "I was

not athletic, just a person who studied hard." After high school, she attended the University of Vermont, with all good intentions to study geology. However, due to a death in the family, she dropped out after a year. She worked several jobs in the Burlington area, until an opening at the IBM office in Essex Junction on the third shift.

She worked in Vermont for eight years, mainly on parts for the IBM computer. In 1984, Cynthia was transferred to Connecticut, to work in Hartford at the IBM marketing office. The daily commute (she lived in Suffield, then moved to her present home in Windsor Locks) to the capital city was bearable; but these days, Cynthia makes the trip to her new location in Hamden, still with the giant IBM, working with sales reps as a business measurement analyst. Her comments ... "I really like living in Windsor Locks, no

desire to move closer to Hamden, and I'm getting used to the daily routine, not sure how I will make out come the winter."

More information on Danielle, the daughter of Cynthia and Andrew Mokritski. As mentioned,

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



she's a third grader, where her favorite subject is English.

She's into acrobatics, and when it comes to TV, "The Family Channel" is most watched, with the following programs: "That's My Dog," and any stories on the famous dog "Rin-Tin-Tin." Her mother said Danielle wants to find everything she can about dogs.

Her mother can be classified as a lady who certainly wants to find out about things to do ... for example: she is teaching herself to play the piano; she made three (yes, three) parachute jumps in New York state, soloed in an airplane in Vermont, and one of her many goals is to become a pilot. Oh yes, another point, her favorite two TV shows are "Northern Exposure" and "Cops." Mention the show "Cops," and Cynthia said, "I like to help people, and some day, maybe become a cop."

When it comes to so-called normal hobbies, Cynthia enjoys reading, hiking, and her main hobby (these days) is running, with high hopes to be in the New York City Marathon in November. More on that later. For exercise she is a member of the New England Health & Racquet in Enfield.

Something else close to her heart are "causes." She is a member of the "Citizen Action Group," whose main function is to lobby state legislators on causes they have become involved with. In addition, Cynthia supports Greenpeace, as a member in their environmental concerns.

Cynthia calls Bob Frelow "my take-charge squad," when it comes to her causes, and running ambitions. She met Bob (her fiancé) when they were both working for IBM. Bob recently joined the Wang Company.

Her serious illness began, she said, "with headaches in October of 1992," which resulted in surgery and removal of a tumor. In medical terms, she said ... "Anaplastic astrocytoma."

With a giant smile on her face, she said, "Now I'm fine," and ready to pursue her numerous goals — the first being the New York City Marathon, with sponsorship by the Leukemia Society of America, Inc. (Northern Conn. Chapter).

The society provides training for the race. They conduct training sessions every other weekend in area towns. Cynthia keeps up her own training, in addition, by



Cynthia Mokritski, on one of her daily runs

running five to eight miles every day or every other day.

Cynthia told her doctors, even as she was being prepared for surgery, "I want to keep running the 5K races." and she proved she could do it, after a reasonable period of time.

As to the New York City marathon, she will be running for the Leukemia Society, with the name of Emily Thompson (a neighbor who died in 1993) on her shirt.

As she had mentioned, in high school, "I was not

athletic," but years later, started to run with her sister, Michele, and that's when she decided one of her goals was to be in a marathon.

Who does this talented and courageous lady most admire? "My maternal grandmother, Dorothy MacArthur, who is in her 70s, divides her time in Florida and Vermont, has had one heck of a life, mostly helping others, and even after a loss of a leg ... still loves to dance," Cynthia said with love.

Cynthia's philosophy of life ... "When you get up in the morning, do the best you can." Her favorite saying ... "Success doesn't happen by spontaneous combustion, you must set yourself on fire."

That's the story of Cynthia Currier Mokritski, one courageous lady. We will be watching for her in the NYC marathon. After meeting her, you just know she will run the good race.

Cynthia has set many goals ... the words of Edwin H. Land comes to mind: "Don't undertake a project unless it is manifestly important and nearly impossible."

# Flanagan and Stone -

I've been trying to connect (for an interview) with the Windsor Locks town counsels (Flanagan & Stone) for some time. We finally set a time ... noon at the Town Hall, on the day of the referendum.

Before the interview, I said to myself, wait a minute, I'm going to face two lawyers, two on one, I wasn't sure it would work out.

Sometimes, we wonder why we worry. Just at the strike of high noon ... Chris Stone showed up, but no Karen Flanagan.

She had to attend to legal matters, Chris said, and we could meet at another time, or talk to Karen on the phone.

That's what we did ... talk on the phone. Now meet your Town Counsels ... Karen (Kristof) Flanagan and Christopher Richard Stone.

Not sure, if ladies first applies to lawyers, attorneys, barrister ... we'll go with the background on Karen. She was born in New Hampshire, the daughter of John and Hilda (Colburn) Kristof, who were also natives of the "Granite State."

When Karen was five, the family moved to East Hartford. She has two brothers ... Barry, who lives in Manchester, and Jan, who makes his home in Maine.

She started school east of

the river, graduating from East Hartford High School (Class of 1964), a member of the National Honor Society and was in sports as a cheerleader.

The next four years she spent in New Haven at the Albertus Magnus College, Class of 1968, with a Bachelor of Arts in history. She was now ready

for the working world. In Hartford, she received her indoctrination

into the world of state government and a little politics. She worked under Windsor Locks' best known citizen, Ella Grasso, and then Gloria Schaffer. Her job was to assist the election attorney. She went on to the UConn Law School, graduating in 1979.

During and after law school, Karen worked as a Superior Court clerk in Manchester and Middletown. She left the court for her first law office experience, with the Michael J. Whelton firm in East Hartford.

Her next position was with Stephen C. Barron of East Hartford, for a four-year period. The following are her other positions she has held: Assistant Town Attorney for East Hartford, for the State

Department of Education in legal affairs. Karen was campaign treasurer for one of Senator John Larson's election victories. She was legislator commission member of the Democratic party, before joining Kevin Brown and Chris Stone in 1989. Today, it's the Flanagan & Stone

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



office in East Hartford.

On a more personal note ... Karen has two daughters ... Stephanie, 16, and

Colleen, 14. Stephanie attends Wethersfield High School, and is interested in the world of gymnastics. Her sister Colleen is the soccer member of the family, and is a student at Silas Deane Junior High. Karen and her daughters reside in Wethersfield.

When it comes to free time, Karen enjoys reading mysteries, watching "NYPD Blue" on television, and follows "all the games," of the UConn basketball team. Vacation time with the girls is usually at a beach in Maine.

## — W.L. Town Counsels

Now for the other half of Flanagan & Stone ... Chris Stone, would you believe, a native of Windsor Locks, son of the late William Stone and Eileen (Gillespie) Stone, who resides in East Hartford.

Chris has three brothers ... William and Tim of East Hartford and Michael of Glastonbury.

As a young boy in East Hartford (the family moved to E.H. when Chris was only two), he played Little League and Midget Football. He's a grad of East Catholic High School (Class of 1977), where he played on the tennis team. He said, "My tennis coach was Jack Redmond at the high school." (no relation) Mr. Redmond died recently in Georgia.

Chris went on to UConn, where in 1981, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. As for his entry into the legal profession, he had this to say ... "I always had a fondness for the law ... a way of arguing one side and another."

This goal was fulfilled when Chris graduated from the Catholic University Law School in Washington, D.C. His first law office was with the Stephen C. Barron law firm, staying five years. Then the Brown, Flanagan & Stone law office was organized ... and in 1992, became Flanagan & Stone in East Hartford.

Chris listed what the town council's duties were with the Town of Windsor Locks ... "Advisory for the boards and commissions, Board of Selectmen, zoning matters, tax appeals, sewer commission matters and interpretation of the town charter and other legal matters."

Chris is married to Linda (Burke) Stone, the daughter of the late James Burke, who worked at Pratt & Whitney for years, and Beverly (Wright) Burke, who makes her home in South Windsor. Linda has a brother, Brian of South Windsor.

Linda is a grad of South Windsor High School, Class

of 1982. They met in the law offices, and on Oct. 24, 1987, were married. Linda has an Associate Degree from Manchester Community College, and works at Flanagan & Stone. They have a son, Zachary, 5, who will attend kindergarten in the fall, is already into T-Ball, and starting to be a tennis person, like his dad. His sister, Brittany, only two, but "already daddy's little girl," a faithful viewer of TV's "Barney." The Stones have lived in Manchester, now in East Hartford.

Tennis is still Chris' hobby, along with membership in the East Hartford Country Club, where he sports an 18 handicap for 18 holes. Adding, "Politics is a hobby of mine ... working for Democrats to be elected." The family vacation time is on old Cape Cod. As for spectator sports ... "It's the Yankees, no ifs, ands or buts, all the way with the Yankees." His favorite player, Don Mattingly. And on the TV screen ... Thursday nights it's "Seinfeld."

As with all interviews, the following questions are asked. Who have you most admired? ... Chris ... "My father, he was even-tempered, a very definite individual, and what a father should be, he was that

kind of father." Karen ... "My mother ... was one of 13 children, very poor, (however) brought us up to do the right thing." Karen and Chris both believe in the "Golden Rule," Karen adding her favorite saying ... "What goes around, comes around."

Chris is a member of the East Hartford Rotary. He and Karen are members of the Connecticut Bar Association.

### Epilog

Karen Flanagan and Chris Stone ... make up Flanagan & Stone, our W.L. Law ... Town Counsels ... advisory to the town on legal matters.

I couldn't complete their story without a few "lawyer-client-law" sayings ...

"Lawyer (calling on client who is in prison cell): 'What I'm looking for now is a judge with a terrific sense of humor.'"

"A celebrated lawyer once said that the three most troublesome clients he ever had were a young woman who wanted to be married, a married woman who wanted a divorce, and an old maid who didn't know what she wanted."

"Life and law must be kept closely in touch, as you can't adjust life to law, you must adjust law to life. The only point in having law is to make life work. Otherwise there will be explosions."

# Jack People-Watched,

To paraphrase the words of Jim Murray, when told "You can't write about golf for a week" ... my response was ... "I'm not going to write about golf for a week, I'm going to write about people." —the Connecticut people who enjoy good golf at the Greater Hartford Open at River Highlands, Cromwell, watching some of the best golfers on the PGA Tour.

David Frost won this year's event by one stroke over Greg Norman. But first, some comments on the week and a recap of each day.

And what a showcase it was ... Norman, Daly, Price, Couples, Wadkins ... wait a minute, was this the U.S. Open, PGA or Masters? No, the local Canon GHO, that Connecticut fans have been following and filling the 18th hole amphitheater at Cromwell for several years. As Tournament Chairperson Allyson Cormier said of the continuing player commitments ... "We are thrilled with the responses that we received from the PGA Tour pros this year." And the fans were thrilled too, judging by the large crowds from Wednesday to Sunday.

I have had the pleasure of writing about and watching the pros since 1978. So you see, I'm into people-watching, especially at the GHO ... old timers, teenagers, mothers

with babies, amateur golfers for their day in the sun, be it Monday or Wednesday, television and radio personalities, businessmen in suits (taking long lunch hours), hundreds of volunteers, Jaycee members, medical units, grounds keepers, police ... well, you get the idea ... it's people-watching.

However, there's another side to the story, with emphasis on celebrity watch in America ... the PGA Tour has its own celebrities. Mention the names, as above, Norman, Daly and Couples. On Wednesday, I came across the following two examples ... first, the entrance of Greg Norman on to the putting green (from the media building), with the assistance of a few Jaycee officials, making sure the noted golfer was able to make his appointed rounds with no trouble. As I left that scene for another one at the 10th Hole (Norman was starting at the first ... for

Norman and Daly, it was decided to play opposite ends of the course to avoid problems with massive galleries), arriving at the 10th ... Mr. Daly was assisted by a local policeman. Yes, the tour has its celebrities ... and they must be protected.

Now for a week's

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



breakdown ... as I said, watching people for a week.

Monday, June 20 ...

Opening Day of the 1994 GHO ... weather could not have been better, after all that hot stuff the past weekend. Opening ceremonies, attended by Mayor Mike Peters of Hartford, plus several Canon officials, local and state dignitaries for the ribbon cutting. We were also provided with music by the UConn

# While Frost Takes the Cake

oand. This was followed by the first pro-am of the week, amateur golfers with the pros ... some familiar names ... Bobby Wadkins, Lanny's brother, John Elliott of Bristol, Ronnie Black and Morris Hatalsky.

The good news on Monday ... Canon U.S.A. Inc. will sponsor the GHO for another four years. Good for the Jaycees and the community.

Tuesday, June 21 ... Rain, Rain, go away, come back next Monday. It did go away for a while ... the GHO did manage three events ... Celebrity Long Drive Competition with Hartford Whaler Geoff Sanderson with the longest drive. Number two ... Canon Jaycee Shootout ... won by Billy Andrade of Rhode Island for the second year in a row ... but quite a field ... Price, Pavin, Beck, Green (Hubert), Stewart, Sluman, Zoeller, Forsman and Frost. The last event was the annual Diet Coke Youth Clinic held on the practice tee, hosted by Fuzzy Zoeller.

Wednesday, June 22 ... The sun came out, as did the stars of sports and the television world, a great day for the Celebrity Pro-Am.

The crowds were big ... following Daly, Norman and Couples. For a time, I followed Lawrence Taylor, formerly of the New York Giants, accompanied by his old football buddy, Beasley Reece of Channel 30, who also played for the Giants. The Red Sox fans also saw big Jim Rice, now retired, but still can hit the golf ball. Saw Kevin Nealon of "Saturday Night Live," but sorry, not one of the show's fans, and another celebrity ... Mr. Grant Aleksander, of "All My Children," a soap opera, name or show, not familiar. Tennis was represented by tennis great, Ivan Lendl. But one guy I was familiar with was Joe Regalbuto of the show "Murphy Brown." Mr. Television of ESPN, Chris Berman was there as was Hartford Whaler, another Chris, Pronger by name.

Again to quote Mrs. Cormier ... "Over the last few years we have built our celebrity field to one of the

finest on the PGA Tour. These people care about the charities we support and the people of Connecticut. I hope the local fans come to support them at the GHO." The fans do support the charities, but we also remember the celebrity field, a few years back, during the Sammy Davis Jr. years, when Bob Hope and Jackie Gleason came to Hartford.

Thursday, June 23 ... First day of the tournament ... and a fast fact on four top PGA names back in Hartford after not playing here in a while. Greg Norman last played in 1985, Fred Couples in '86, Fuzzy Zoeller in '89, and the long-driving young man, John Daly last played in '91.

When all the pros had finished for the first day of the tournament, there were five golfers leading the pack at 65 (five under par) ... Clark Dennis, David Frost, Phil Mickelson, and the man who usually is near the top (in other years) Corey Pavin.

Windsor Locks Watch ... Even with the estimated 55,000 fans, I spotted a few from town ... at the eight, watching Greg Norman was my golfing partner in the K. of C. League at Airways, Phil Famiglietti; Dick Brennan of the Lions, and former Bradley Field employee; Bob Rumbold, of Channel 22 weekend sports, and former Little Leaguer, way back in '65; Vincent Naegel, marshal at the first and 18th hole, also a K. of C. golfer; Jeff Ives, former selectman; and Bill Kupernik, marshal on the 13th, a local fireman.

Friday, June 24 ... and the rains came back. The weather did not bother the crowds, estimated to be 67,000. They were not disappointed as to the golf played, led by young David Stockton Jr., with a 132 total, followed by David Frost at 133. The tour's popular players were not far behind ... Norman, Daly, Zoeller and Couples were all in the hunt.

Everyone was talking about Stockton, because his father, David Sr., won the GHO at Wethersfield back in 1974. David Jr. had Saturday and Sunday, plus the big names to worry about, to be the first father and son to win the same PGA Tour event.

Saturday, June 25 ... What a surprise, not the great golf and the crowds, the weather forecast ... periods of showers and possible thunder ... the sun came out and a nice afternoon. Another surprise, a visit to Connecticut and the GHO of our granddaughter, Patty Deshaies, who works for a media agency in Boston, with special invitations to the Channel Three Skybox Hospitality tent overlooking the 17th green. Talk about first class, as I was her guest.

In addition, we watched the action on the 16th and 9th holes, just to give Patty a well-rounded look at the course and the shots of Zoeller, Daly and Norman. We were accompanied by Bob, Patti and Kevin Creech, along with Kevin's friend, Russ Kaiton, son of the "Voice of the Whalers," Chuck Kaiton, who was doing his bit to describe the action of the leaders for WTIC.

At the close of the day's events ... Dave Stockton Jr. and David Frost were on the top of the leader board with a total of 199, a new tournament record. Close behind was Mr. Norman, Mr. Daly and a new name, John Cook.

Tomorrow should be some shootout ...

Sunday, June 26 ... and what a shootout it was ... on the best day (weather-wise) of the week. If you were among the thousands at Sunday's final round of the Canon GHO, or watched on television or listened to your radio, you already know David Frost of South Africa won by one stroke (12 under par) over ever-so popular Greg Norman, the shark from Australia. With this win, Mr. Frost will take home \$216,000. It was estimated that 100,000 people were at the Cromwell course, 322,000 for the week. (Last year, 250,000, the old record.)

Young Dave Stockton Jr. didn't make it, trying to win, as his father, Dave Sr. did in today's Senior Player's. But it wasn't to be for Stockton, or John Daly, Fuzzy Zoeller, who along with Stockton, were only three strokes off the pace. It was a great week for everyone ... but it was David Frost who had all the candles lit.

# Walter and Dee Holliday:

Walt and Dee Holliday have spent most of their adult life in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. Walt, the former colonel, was better known as "Doc," (as in Doc Holliday), and Dorothy, better known as Dee, can also be called colonel.

Walt, now retired from the reserves, earned the high rank of full colonel, and today, Dee, still in the reserves at Westover Field, has reached the same rank.

This congenial and highly traveled couple have been residents of Windsor Locks since their wedding on Aug. 22, 1987.

Walter Calvin Holliday



Walter and Dee Holliday

grew up in Metuchen, New Jersey, the son of the late Asa and Irene (Gibson) Holliday. Asa was from West Virginia, and Irene, a native of New Jersey. He worked many years in an arsenal, and was President of a Credit Union Bank. Walt has two brothers ... Robert of New Jersey, William of Kentucky, and a sister, Virginia, who resides in Ohio.

Walt attended the local schools in Metuchen, graduating from the high school, Class of 1953. He played football as a guard, and in those days, on defense and offense. His next big move

was to attend Rutgers University in New Jersey, where in 1957, he received a degree in Business Management. It was also his first taste of military procedures and discipline, as a member of the school's Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

In November of 1957, Second Lt. Holliday went on active duty with the Air Force, attending navigator school in Texas, and an eventual assignment to Westover Field in Massachusetts. He spent four years on active duty, mainly in the operation of refueling SAC bombers "in the air," a method used to keep the bombers in the air flying their missions.

Returning to reserve status with the Air Force Reserves, Walt then went into the world of insurance with CIGNA, retiring in January of 1992, where he worked "in all phases of Data Processing."

Reflecting back to November of 1967, Walt spent time on active duty, when the Air Force was "looking for navigators at Westover." During this additional active status, he made trips to South America, all of Europe, even to far off Guam, and three

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



trips to Vietnam during the Vietnam War. He saw service (during active duty) with local airmen... John Duffy, Tom Durkin Sr. (who were C & K interviewees), Walter Cynaski, William Rollcott and Dick Rehnberg.

According to Walt, he was a member of crews on the following planes... KC 97 (Refueling SAC bombers), C130 (all purpose) and C124 (Cargo). He was, during reserve time, Commander of the 337th, and before retirement, was Wing Director of Air Crew Training. Col. Holliday is also proud of the 6,500 hours of flying time during his career. Another position he held was recruiter for the Air Force Academy, advising young students how to apply with the necessary paper work. This included students in Windsor Locks and Suffield. Walt retired in May of 1990. However, these days he is busy around the house, and making sure their trailer is fit to travel the country.

Walt has two daughters ... Kim and Heidi. Both girls went to Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass. Kim is now a practicing lawyer in Washington D.C. and a grad

of the Northeastern Law School. She is married to Greg Netland, and lives in Arlington, Va. Heidi is married to Rod Colson, they reside in Southwick, Mass. She is employed by the Hartford Insurance Group in Simsbury.

Now for the other colonel in the family ... Dee (Donnelly) Holliday, or Colonel Holliday. Both Dee and Walt were nonchalant as to their rank. Dee was from Waterbury, the daughter of Joseph and Dorothy (Begley) Donnelly. They reside in Waterbury. Joseph was in the U.S. Army, while Dorothy was a member of the WAVES. She is also a distant relative of the former Connecticut resident, the late and great actor ... Ed Begley Sr.

Dee comes from a large and active Irish family ... seven children: Betsy of Farmington, Colleen of Waterbury, Peter of Boston, Richard of Farmington, David of Southington and Father Joseph Donnelly, Pastor of St. Bridget's in Manchester ... and Dee makes seven.

Dee graduated from Sacred Heart High School in Waterbury, Class of 1966. She went on to St. Francis School of Nurses, wearing her new hat as a nurse in 1969. Her first stop as nurse came in Washington D.C., at the George Washington University Hospital. However, there was a big occasion in the Donnelly family. Her brother, Joseph, was to be ordained for the priesthood, at St. Peter's in Rome.

In 1971, the Donnelly family traveled to Rome to witness Joseph become Father Joseph, with the then Pope VI, as official at the ceremony of ordination. It also gave Dee the chance to visit the Vatican (with her family) in addition to stay for seven months working for an American family, who were part of the diplomatic corps in Rome. Many years later (1989) Dee and Walt were in Rome for a private audience with Pope John Paul, and have a beautiful picture of them and the Pope, a reminder of their visit.

On her return to Waterbury, Dee went to work at St. Mary's Hospital for a year. In September of 1973, Dee joined the U.S. Air Force for a four-year tour of duty,

spending over two years in Madrid, Spain. In 1977, she became a member of the reserves, worked in Washington D.C. for a year, and then back to Connecticut, to serve at Westover Field, where the flight nurse met the navigator. During the time of the Persian Gulf War she traveled to Germany to care for the wounded. Today, Col. Dee Holliday is still in the reserves at Westover.

Dee and Walt are members of the Reserve Officers Association. Walt is also involved in the Air Force Association, V.F.W. and the Silver Falcon Association. Dee is a member of the American Legion.

Although they have both traveled extensively during their years of service, travel is still their main past-time. Their new trailer will certainly be put to good use. They do hike in Connecticut and the Mohawk Trail, their own way of exercise ... plus following the Red Sox (no exercise in that, but sure can be frustrating). When it comes to television ... "Jeopardy," and the NBC Thursday night line-up.

To round out Dee's versatile involvement, she has taught CCD classes at St. Mary's the past two years, and has participated in the role of Eucharistic Minister.

Dee was asked who she most admired ... "Mother Teresa," she said, adding, "a selfless given person." What about a few chosen words to describe Walt? ... that was easy for Dee ... "A real gentleman."

Just so, I still remembered ... I saluted the two colonels as I was leaving. Before that, I reminded Dee ... I'll bet you have heard the expression ... "When are the Hollidays going on Holiday?" They had.

Expressions like that are considered corny. But it's not corny to give Dee and Walt credit for their years of service to their country.

Mike Barnicle of the Boston Globe wrote the following words ... folks like the Hollidays, he had in mind ... "Our culture is so caught up in celebrity, scandal or these cheap political people who live to get their name in lights that we rarely pause to consider the fact that we are surrounded with anonymous heroes." We sure are!

# Liss Family –

TownsPeople

JULY 15, 1994

## – Active with W.L. Little League

*“I receive a lot of gratitude in teaching the kids good sportsmanship ...” — Len Liss comments on the Little League*

Len Liss grew up on a farm in East Granby. He left the farm for school, until he joined the United States Air Force and met his wife in Virginia. He is now a veteran at SNET and very involved in the local Little League program, along with his wife, Ann, their son, Joe, and their daughter, Katie, a faithful fan.

This easy-going guy is described by Ann as a man “who likes to have fun, and likes to kid,” but when it comes to the Little League, he’s all seriousness, knowing, “being involved means spending time with my son Joe, and teaching the kids good sportsmanship.”

Leonard Joseph Liss was the son of the late Leon and Frances (Bieleski) Liss. Mr. Liss came from New Britain,

later operated a tobacco farm, then into the world of vegetables. Mrs. Liss was a native of East Hampton, Mass. Len has a brother, Myron, who resides in New Hampshire, and a sister, Elizabeth Corso of East Granby.

Len was a member of the first class to graduate (1964) from the new East Granby High School. He played

basic training at Lakeland AFB in Texas. He went on to Chanute AFB in Illinois, to study how the air force handles flight line equipment.

Before his discharge in February of 1971, Len served in the Philippines, where he found that country “interesting, hot and with a different way of living.” While stationed in the Far East, Len made trips to Vietnam. With his tour of duty up, he returned to the states for a year, serving in Virginia, and the best part was meeting his future bride, Elizabeth Ann Babcock.

Elizabeth, better known as just Ann, met Len in 1969, at an Air Force function. Ann is a native of Virginia, the daughter of the late Wallace Henry Babcock, who was in the grocery business and a native of Virginia. Her mother, Mahala (Carter) Babcock was from Lynchburg, VA. Ann has two sisters, Carolyn and Joan, both of Richmond, in the “Old Dominion” state, which also includes the residency of

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



England Technical Institute to study electronics.

In February of 1967, Len left home and school for a different life style, when he joined the U.S. Air Force, with

basketball and soccer at the school. Soon after graduation, he entered the New



**The Liss family, from left, Katie, Len, Joe and Ann**

Mahala Babcock.

Another family note ... Ann's grandparents, Robert and Ossie Carter, are still going strong in their 90s, living in Amherst, Virginia.

Ann and Len were married in Richmond, at the Our Lady of Lourdes Church, on May 23, 1970. Len was still in uniform at the time, so their first home was off the base in Richmond. Coming back to Connecticut, they lived in East Granby and Bloomfield, before making their present home in Windsor Locks (1972).

On his return to civilian status, Len joined SNET in April of 1971, working at the central office, serving Simsbury, Granby and Windsor Locks. Now, after 23 years of service, Len is a technician in "Special Circuits."

Ann worked at Sweet Life in Suffield for 10 years, and left to raise their family as mother and homemaker ... today, she works part-time at Edwards Foods.

Ann and Len have two children ... Kathryn Ann Liss and Joseph Anthony Liss. Better known to their friends and fellow classmates as Katie and Joe. Katie, 14, will be a ninth grader at the high school this fall. She is into piano and dance lessons. Joe, 9, goes to

the fourth grade in the fall, at South School. The Little Leaguer is into football with the Jets and taking karate lessons.

When it comes to Dad's hobbies, he's quite a versatile individual ... cross-country skiing (with Katie and Joe), biking, roller blades and "amateur" photographer. Around the house, Len is into the garden, landscaping, and certainly Mr. Fix-it, with an addition to their home.

They are Boston Red Sox fans ... and may just have a personal "in" ... Len's first cousin, Richard Zawacki, is the Sox physical therapist. Mr. Zawacki has been with the Sox for the past eight years, traveling the full baseball schedule from coast to coast ... wins and losses.

Ann is more of a home body ... enjoys reading, crafts and crocheting. Vacations for the family mean visits to Virginia, Florida and the Cape. During the summer, Ann said, her family comes from Virginia to enjoy the Liss pool and renew family stories.

Back to baseball for this item ... Len and Joe took in a game at the new Camden Yards in Baltimore, Maryland. The Red Sox were not in town, so they had to settle for the Orioles against the California Angels.

On the local scene, in addition to the Little League, Len has been a member of the V.F.W. the past three years. Ann has been active in the PTO. Both have given their time and energy to the Little League program ... Len as a coach and manager, Ann as "team mother," with the responsibility of fund raising and parent's announcements.

Looking back to his three years in Little League, Len said, "Spending time with Joe has been great, and the gratitude received teaching the kids good sportsmanship."

He was asked who he most admired ... thinking of his high school days, he said, "It would be my brother-in-law, Phil Corso, who showed me the right direction and to pick a career."

#### **Epilog**

Len and Ann Liss, parents with concern for their children, spending quality time, providing dancing and piano lessons for Katie and the necessary sports for Joe.

Ann said, "Len likes to kid," but there is no kidding when it comes to their children ... with the kind and appropriate words ... "Love does not consist in gazing at each other, but in looking outward together in the same direction," when it comes to the family.

JULY 22, 1994

# Harry Briggs, Jr. –

*“It was great growing up with four brothers and four sisters ... always someone to play with ...” — Harry’s comments on a large family.*

Harry Caldwell Briggs Jr. — certainly has a distinguished ring to it. However, young Harry is down to earth (pun intended), in the business of excavating and grading, as owner of “Dick’s Bulldozing,” a

local operation he took over from Dick Rolocut in January of 1990.

The New Haven-born young man has traveled from coast to coast, as waiter, admitted “ski bum” and all-round athlete in high school

and college; while earning a degree, and then a masters; but today is well settled in his own business, saying, “(Dick’s) had a great reputation and kept the name.”

But first, the family of Harry Briggs, Jr. ... and quite a family. He is the son of Dr.

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

Harry C. Briggs Sr. and Joann (Tietje) Briggs of Winsted. Dr. Briggs was a member of the Yale-New Haven Hospital staff when Harry was born. For 20 years, Dr. Briggs was in general surgery at Winsted Memorial Hospital and today,

is teaching at Yale Medical School.

Harry’s family was living in Branford (at the time of his birth), moving to Woodbridge, and then up to Winsted, where Harry and his brothers and sisters grew up. Looking back to those days, Harry said, “It was great growing up in a big house, with four brothers and four sisters, there was always someone to play with.”

Just for the record, Harry’s father was a Windsor Locks native, from 1929 to 1931, with the family moving to Massachusetts, to live with his parents. Mrs. Briggs was from New Jersey.

As mentioned, Harry’s four brothers ... Charlie of New Jersey, David and Jonathan of Winsted,

TownsPeople

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

# – In The Excavating Biz

Lawrence of Unionville; and four sisters ... Mary Jo of Maine, Johanna of Granby, Cathy of Massachusetts, and Marion, who resides in New Hampshire.

Now for the future ground mover ... Harry graduated from Gilbert High School, Class of 1980, where he played football, tennis and was a member of the swim team, and just to complete his talents, in the school band, with trombone as his instrument. Oh yes, in his younger days, he was a boy scout.

Harry admitted, "I never really enjoyed school, wanted to work, and the summer months worked at Hitchcock Chair, with my father saying, 'it would be good experience,' but for me, I did not like working for someone else."

He changed his mind about school ... went to Boston College where he earned a B.S. degree in geology, Class of 1984, and continued his swimming as co-captain of the team. He also kept busy in the summer painting houses.

Harry's active life (work/play/travel) on his way to Windsor Locks ... on to Cape Cod, for sun, fun and work as a waiter (certainly not a geology assignment, that could wait) and cook ("always enjoyed cooking"), plus greeting passengers on a charter fishing boat. From the sun to some snow ... at Stowe, Vt. Looking back, Harry said ... "Great skiing, great time and work as waiter ... but with the off seasons ... traveled coast to coast a couple of times."

He enjoyed California, on one of the trips, stayed six months at Lake Tahoe, to work and on his free time ... "a ski bum." But all fun and no work or additional schooling would be his next stop ... the windy city of Chicago, earning a masters in business administration at DePaul University. However, he did work for a time selling cars.

"Let's see," stopping for a minute, "after leaving Chicago did a lot of things ... in June of 1988, helped my brother Charlie start his own plastic coating business in New Jersey, which lasted for about seven months."



Harry Briggs Jr., on his excavator

He returned to Connecticut and Windsor Locks, going to work for Dick Rolocut in July, 1989. Mr. Rolocut, "The Bulldozer Man Around Town," was featured in a C & K, August of 1988.

In June, 1990, Mr. Briggs Jr. took over Dick's and today, has three full-time employees at the location on King Spring Road—and he said "business was good." His motto ... "If it's in the ground we can handle it."

What about Harry's hobbies? "I used to have some ... now work is my hobby," he said, with a slight smile. But when friends call ... Harry may go out to eat, play some cards, pool or darts. Not much time for vacations, but a recent trip to Virginia, "was my first vacation in a long time." Harry is not into television, sports or music. He may follow some sports, depending on the season.

Harry has been a member of the Windsor Locks Chamber of Commerce since 1990. But wait a minute ... another side to this man of ground equipment. Harry has found the time to collaborate with Christine Piane of East Granby on a "children's book dealing with environmental problems." Ms. Piane is also the artist on the book, in the

yet-to-be released publication. She was a customer of Harry, and one word led to another and that's how the book got started.

He was asked who he admired ... "My father ... a great teacher, very unselfish." His philosopher (Harry's) was also realized from his father's teaching ... "Each one of us are here to better the lives of people around us." Did Harry have a favorite saying ... "Sure," he said, "it goes something like this ... It just doesn't matter (sometimes what happens) ... and what if it did."

#### Epilog

It seems only as an obvious observation of Harry Caldwell Briggs, Jr. ... he has been highly educated, not only in college, but in the college of human experiences, by his travel, working with all sorts of people, coming from a large family, plus the leadership of his father. And now in the operation of his own business.

By Harry's life style, so diversified, he probably found the following to be true, "Risk is essential. There is no growth or inspiration in staying within what is safe and comfortable. Once you find out what you do best, why not try something else?"

JULY 29, 1994

## Matt Sweet –

Matthew Joseph Sweet — family man, engineer, local coach in two sports, and if he had more time, he might be off fishing or hunting.

But this quiet man, who grew up in Poquonock, always will find the time for his two children: his son, the younger Matthew, and his daughter, Kylie. Both are active in various areas of sports and activities that include an

interest in fossils (Matthew) and dancing (Kylie).

Their dad and their mother, Kathleen (Lawlor) Sweet, have been residents in town since 1985. Kathleen, better known as Kat, is also a native of Windsor.

Matt is the son of Al and Anita (Parentau) Sweet, who make their home today in Windsor's Poquonock section. Anita is a native of Windsor,



The Sweet family

# Dedicated Coach of Local Sports

while Al was Brooklyn-born, but his family moved to Windsor, where he grew up. Al is now retired after many years at Chandler-Evans in West Hartford.

Matt's parents moved from the center of Windsor to Poquonock when he was five, where he started school. He graduated from the Windsor High School, Class of 1972. He did not play varsity sports, but participated in intramural basketball, town softball, and when he was younger got his start in Windsor's Little League program. While in high school, like many of his fellow students, he worked on a tobacco farm. Matt achieved the status of membership in the National Honor Society.

When Matt was asked, did he have any idea of a career, as he left high school? ... he said, "Well, not really, always interested in the sciences, wild life and maybe forestry ... but was told there was no market for these or no big money."

Then he took positive steps by going to college ... in Vermont at St. Michael's, where he earned his degree in mathematics (1976). Now he was ready to pursue his career.

In mathematics? ... no, first a summer job at Choice-Vend in Windsor Locks. Big step ... he attended the University of Hartford (nights) to study engineering. And engineering it was for a career ... Matt joined Combustion Engineering Inc. on Oct. 31,

1977; and today, the company is called ABB-CE, with Matt as "principal engineer" at the Windsor-based plant.

How did Matt meet his

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



future bride? ... he lived next door to Kat's sister Nanci in Windsor. Now more

on Kat ... she's a native of Windsor, grad of that town's high school, Class of 1977, the daughter of Robert and Maureen (Brink) Lawlor, both of Hartford, now living in Windsor. Kat has a brother, Robert, of Manchester, and Nanci Lapp, who now lives in Windsor Locks. Their dad has his own photo business in the area.

Kat and Matt were married on May 8, 1982, and lived in Windsor until 1985, when they decided to move to Windsor Locks. She worked at Aetna Insurance for eight years. They have two children ... Matthew Robert Sweet, 9, enters the fourth grade in September at South School. Kylie Sweet, who will be eight in October, enters second grade at North. She is into collecting all kinds of dolls, animals, dancing, singing, and is very athletic. The young Matthew is a Little Leaguer, plays soccer and has a real interest in fossils.

What does the engineer do on his off hours? ... Matt is a member of the Suffield Sportsmen's Association, with its main function fishing and hunting. However, his hobbies do not end in Suffield ... he's into jogging, canoeing, hiking and still enjoys a game of basketball. For 12 years, Matt played softball in Windsor. He's a big Yankee fan, and when it comes to TV ... Tuesday night, he is watching "NYPD Blue." The family enjoys vacations in Vermont, with cross-country skiing a family treat.

This is the fourth year for Matt's involvement in the Little League town program as assistant coach ... first with T-ball and now Minors. What do kids benefit from Little League? ... according to Matt ... "For me, it's helping the kids to learn the basics of baseball, teamwork, discipline

and, best of all, paying back for the (good times) I had with my dad, when I played Little League." In addition, Matt has coached soccer in the town league the past three years.

When asked who he most admired, Matt said ... "My mother, always a very optimistic person, a good sport, and the kids always came first." What about Matt's philosophy of life ... "To do the best at the job you are given and (make sure) you do it 100 percent." Yes, he even had a favorite saying ... "Winners never quit ... quitters never win."

I had to call Matt back for a few notes ... he wasn't there, so I asked Kat for one word to describe Matt ... she came up with "wonderful" — now Matt will know, too.

Matt Sweet has been a good (wonderful) addition to the coaching ranks of his adopted town.

## Sally Pascale — Active

"I hate when one group of people impose their beliefs on others, no matter what they may be ..." — Sally's philosophy of life

Sally (Fertig) Pascale had a traveling education, growing up with family moves from her birthplace in San Diego to Denver, Colo., back to Southern California, then on to Panama City, Fla., up north to Granby. Sally is a grad of Granby High School, after attending two high schools in the family moves.

Her folks were early travelers, too — Walter and Betty (Greisz) Fertig, he California-born, Betty of Maryland, who moved to the golden state at seven, where she met Walter, became high school sweethearts, were married, and are now retired and living in nearby Westfield, Mass.

Which brings us back to Sally, now a very active member of the town's historical society. She certainly saw a few historical spots in her travels and is now very settled in town, since 1986. Her husband, Blaise Xavier Pascale, and their four children are close-knit and active kids, with ages from eight to three. Sort of reminds me of another C&K column ... called "Kids R Us."

Sally has a brother, Walter Jr., who lives in Wyoming, the "equality state." Her two sisters live in Connecticut — Margaret of West Granby and Becky of Granby.

Blaise, a New Haven native, is the son of Frank Pascale, now of Torrington, and the late Mildred (Schurk) Pascale who was also from the Connecticut

shore town. Blaise has a brother, Christopher, who resides in Milford, Conn.

The Pascale family moved to Torrington, where Blaise started school, and he graduated from Torrington High School, Class of 1972.

Blaise and Sally met when they both were working at Spencer Turbine. They were married on Dec. 16, 1977, lived in the following towns ... Windsor, Canton, New Haven, Torrington, yes, even Austin, Texas for two years, and in 1986 came to Windsor Locks ... talk about a traveling gal, she knows moving and new places to see the sights.

What about employment? ... as mentioned, Blaise worked at Spencer, and today is manager/VP at the

Malerba's Silver City Tire, because as Sally said, "He's a former cost accountant but really likes working with cars." Blaise had tried college ... attending UConn, New Hampshire College and the Morse School of Business.

Sally was also a student at

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



UConn for a year ... but wedding bells changed her career goals. She did work at CBT and in Austin, Texas

when they lived there. She did, however, mention working for her mother and father, who operated a hardware and lumber store in Granby, which was sold two years ago.

How about those four little Pascale children ... Amy, 8, Christopher, 6, Frankie, 6 and Maggie, who will be 3 on Aug. 21, blanket and all.

Amy is into the fourth grade this fall at South School, among the TAG students, enjoys reading, drawing, biking, swimming and is the quiet one in the group.

## with WL Historical Society

Christopher, kindergarten at North, likes fishing, balloons, and playing by himself. He will be joined by his brother, Frankie, in the K class, who his mother called with love ... "wild man," who enjoys his bike and "getting into trouble as much as possible." Little Maggie, who as mother proudly said, "will be a drill sergeant when she grows up."

The four children must keep them busy; however, Sally and Blaise have two distinct hobbies for free time when available ... Sally enjoys reading, "anything about history, and space, mysteries and the Civil War." Which certainly gives you an idea why she is a member of the historical society, more on that later.

Blaise, along with his friend Herman True, are always on the lookout for old fire trucks. To Blaise's credit, he has a 1930 American LaFrance pumper and a 1937 Ladder Truck. As for spectator sports, auto racing has his attention.

Old Cape Cod is the

favorite family vacation spot. Television is limited, but for Sally she still enjoys the reruns of "The Heat of the Night."

Now for the historical society ... Sally is presently secretary, after serving as vice president and president. Was asked when she joined ... "Two babies ago (1989)" ... and why did she join? ... "I'm a history freak, majored in college ... we didn't know too many folks in town, and this was a good way to meet people, and have had a great time in (projects)."

When asked who she most admired? ... Sally responded ... "My parents, I love them ... and you can add Sir Winston Churchill ... he spoke and wrote so well."

Sally had strong opinions on various subjects, for example, when she said ... "I hate any group of people who impose their beliefs on others, no matter what that may be." Her favorite saying, which she believes is attributed to Thomas Mann ... "They begin with burning books, then by



Sally and Blaise Pascale

burning people."

### Epilog

Sally, Blaise and their "Kids R Us," making for a happy group, but with diverse likes and dislikes. I'm sure they would agree (Sally and Blaise) ... "There are two lasting bequests we can give our children. One is roots. The other wings."

## With the Jancos —

“Anything he puts his mind to . . .” — Kathy’s description of her husband Tony.

Don’t ever try to contact the Janco family during a Little League tournament.

When we had the pleasure of their company, it was just an off night in July (for them), and we had the family all to ourselves.

There’s Tony, Kathy, Stephen and Kyle, the talented foursome, with water and snow skiing, the musical gifts of Kathy, plus the coaching and playing of Little League baseball, with even Mom taking in coaching duties at T-Ball.

To say the Janco family is busy, involved, is not an understatement. But first, before all those activities, some information on dad . . . Anthony Stephen Janco Jr.

Tony is the son of Anthony Sr. and Bernadine (O’Brien) Janco. The senior Janco came from Waynesboro, Pa. The former Miss O’Brien was from Waterville, Maine. Today, they are enjoying retirement in Florida, after Tony Sr. spent 33 years with the postal service, as letter-carrier in East Hartford. They have another son, Art La Blanc, and daughter, Cheryl, who both reside in South Windsor.

Tony Jr. lived in East Hartford until he was 16, with the family moving to South Windsor. He graduated from East Catholic High School (Class of 1974), where he played varsity football, after an early start at Midget and Pony football, plus Little League baseball (majors and seniors).

Along his side, at family activities, is Kathryn (Roberts) Janco, who was an “air force brat,” with her father, Jack Roberts, a retired Air Force Major. He had 22 years of service to his country, followed by years of flying with civilian airlines, and in addition (in this area) with Kaman and Aetna.

Kathy’s mother, Peg

field hockey and track, and in music classes, which included the Round Table Singers/Band. In 1979, she graduated from Utica College in New York, earning a degree as voice major, and the talent to play the piano and clarinet.

Tony and Kathy met at a Manchester teen center in 1973 . . . and six years later, were married on July 14, 1979,

with their first home in Vernon, for a year, before moving to Windsor Locks in

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

(L e w i s ) Roberts is a former army nurse. She was from Dearborn, Mich., with Jack a native

of Akron, Ohio. A plane collision involved Jack (an Air Force cadet at the time), and he was a patient of Peg, who took care of him, in Hot Springs, Ark. (1949), which eventually led to wedding bells. They now live in Manchester. Kathy has two brothers, Gary of Manchester and Dale, who makes his home in California, and one sister, Christine, who is also on the west coast in Oregon.

Kathy was born at Homestead Air Force Base in Florida, with a move to Manchester in 1973. She had started school in Rome, N.Y. (one of her dad’s stops), and the move to Connecticut meant she was a grad of Manchester High School, Class of 1975. She was active in sports . . .



1980.

Before their wedding, Tony joined the Air Force in September of 1974, with the postal service their only communication until September of 1978. Tony began his service time in Maine, and then spent two years overseas, in Thailand, the Philippines and on the island of Guam. He returned to the states and the remaining time was in New Jersey.

After his discharge from the Air Force, Tony worked at Pratt & Whitney for a year, in addition to being a student part-time at the University of Hartford, over a period of seven years, sticking with it, earning an associate degree.

His next position was with the Gas Turbine at Bradley in aircraft maintenance for 12 years, and then joining the Federal Aviation Administration (the past three years). He recently received the FAA’s “Mission Impossible” award at the second annual flight standards

## It's Skiing, Music and Little League

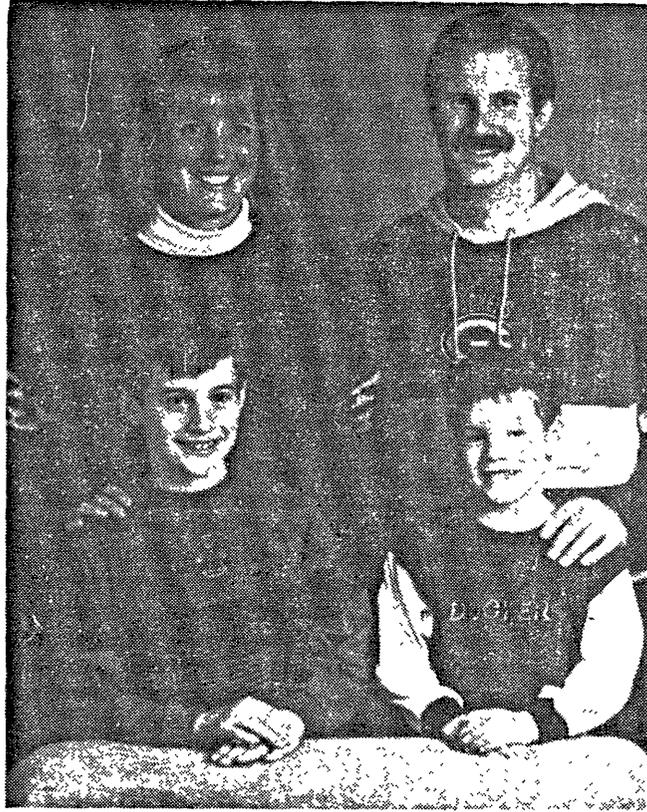
division awards ceremony. Tony is a flight standards division aviation safety inspector at the district office in Windsor Locks. In addition, Tony is in a development program whereby pilots are instructed in maintenance of their aircraft.

Now the Janco boys ... Stephen, 9, in fourth grade at South, "into everything," according to his parents, with baseball, soccer, skiing and he's a big fan of the football pros ... the Green Bay Packers. Kyle, 6, first grade at North, also a skier, baseball, soccer, and with Stephen, was in the snow race at Blanford, Mass. More on the Little League later.

How about hobbies? ... "If there is any free time," Tony said, he does restore old cars, plays in the Windsor VFW Flag Football league and has played softball in East Hartford. He and the boys are Red Sox fans. Tony is a member of the Enfield American Legion.

Kathy at home ... is into sewing (flags) ... has a garden, enjoys skiing with the boys. Kathy at other positions ... was a Nurse's Aid during her college days, for six years taught music at Ellington/Bolton/East Windsor elementary schools, and had two years as a volunteer in Windsor Locks kindergarten music program with teacher Kathy Pleva.

Now for more on Little League ... Tony and Stephen have been involved the past four years (T-Ball, Farm and Minors), with Kyle and Kathy joining the T-Ball gang this



The Janco family

year. Tony said, "this has been the best year of the participation of the parents." And what benefits do the kids get? "If the basics of Little League are properly supervised by the coaches, Little League can be great, and certainly sportsmanship will follow."

When Kathy was asked for a few choice words on Tony, she had this to say ... "Anything he puts his mind to." Before the interview really got started, I talked to Kathy's mother, Mrs. Roberts, and she added ... "Tony, he's a great guy." (You see, mother-in-

laws can say nice things).

Who did Tony admire ... "My father, he passed along, as we were growing up, values, that I hope I can pass to my boys." Did he have a favorite saying? ... yes, "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

That's the story on the Janco family ... Tony, Kathy, Stephen and Kyle ... for their skiing, music from Mom, and most of all, especially in May, June and July ... its Little League. You just can't get more of the American scene than that ...

## Mike Curto — President of the

*“Have a sense of humor ... do not take life too seriously ...” —Mike Curto’s personal philosophy*

For the past 10 years, Michael Albert Curto (he’d rather be called, just Mike) has been line/operations manager of AMR Combs, on the other side of Bradley.

Before his entry into the sales and services provided by Combs (“executive aviation affiliate of American Airlines”), Mike worked in the caterer business, owned and operated a restaurant on Spring Street, and years before those business experiences, he was a very young U.S. Marine, with service time in Japan and Vietnam.

Mike, the son of the late Frank and Blanche (DeBarge) Curto, was born in the Pine Point section of Springfield. He was one of nine children. His father was from Springfield, his mother a native of Winooski, Vermont.

Mike’s brother Bobby passed away. His other three

brothers ... Nick of Longmeadow, Vincent and Frank Jr. of California; and four sisters ... Sylvia and Roberta of Springfield, Frances in Texas and Carmilla in California.

Mike attended Technical High School in Hartford, graduating in 1967, but before he knew it, he was off to the Marines, serving until the middle of 1970. He was in boot camp in Parris Island, S.C., which he remembers well ... “An experience and where you grow up fast.” He was only 17 at the time, and soon, at Camp Lejeune, N.C., training for the infantry. But the service had other plans for Mike ... motor transport training. He was soon off to the Far East and 13 months in Japan. He “loved it, and almost stayed in Japan,” he recalled.

However, Mike’s next stop was not home, as he volunteered for Vietnam, and had this to say ... “A terrible

place and a terrible war.” He was discharged with the rank of Sergeant, and it was time for young Mike to try civilian life. He went to work for a caterer company at Bradley, from 1971 to 1982. He then had other ideas to try ...

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

opened a restaurant on Spring Street, where Jake’s is now located. After a little over two years, Mike again changed jobs ... this time joining Combs. He reminded me ... “I have been in the Windsor Locks area since 1971.”

He is now married to Maria (Abbate) Curto. They were wed on July 13, 1990. Maria is a WLHS graduate, Class of 1971. The past two years, Maria has worked for the Carillo Agency Inc. in town.

She has a son, Joey Ribaldo, who is a student at

## W.L. Chamber of Commerce

the middle school. Mike has three sons ... Michael Jr., Marc and Vincent. Mike Jr. lives in Springfield, where he works for International Harvested. Marc lives in town, works part-time at Bradley, and is looking to attend college. He was a 1994 graduate of the local high school. Vincent lives in Springfield and is attending his first year of high school.

How about free time for Mike? ... he enjoys working with his hands, he said, mostly on cars, and a recent remodeling job around the house has kept him busy. He remembers well the Caribbean cruise he and Maria took. For sports, he's a big Red Sox fan, and the television is limited, he said, to Public TV.

On the local scene, he is also kept busy as president of the Windsor Locks Chamber of Commerce. He's been a member of the Board of Directors the past four years.

The function of the Chamber? ... "To promote business ... liaison between the local business and the town leadership," he stated. Adding, "There are 100 members, with 18 on the Board of Directors ... the members meet once a month (Second Wednesday of the month) at 7:45 p.m., currently at the Combs location on Route 75 (Ella Grasso Turnpike opposite Spring Street).

The Chamber of Commerce and town officials have recently published a brochure "touting Windsor Locks as a centrally-located town with a good quality of life." Mike said, "For many years the town did not have an up-to-date brochure to market itself." Copies are available at the town hall and through the Chamber of Commerce.

Mike was asked to elaborate on Combs ... he had this to say ... "We offer a wide range of sales and services to the Fortune 500 companies ... specializing in maintenance of

planes and charter flights."

Back to Mike for a few personal comments ... who does he most admire? "My father, who put his mind to anything (to make it work) ... always a hard worker, the focal point of the family ... with my mother (a quiet person) raised a large family." Mike (as his father before him) ... with a personal philosophy, "Have a sense of humor, and try not to take life too seriously."

### Epilog

Mike Curto, saw war first-hand, tried a few jobs, before settling down to a management position with AMR Combs.

Mike found his niche. From observation, is very comfortable, with the following words running true ... "A man's character never changes radically from youth to old age. What happens is that circumstances bring out the characteristics which had not been obvious to the superficial observer." And yes, a sense of humor always helps.

# 'Three Sons' ...

*"Since I was a kid I always wanted my own business ..."*  
—sincere comment from Dave Mikalonis

David James Mikalonis, businessman, racing enthusiast, and best of all, devoted to his family: Cheryl and their three sons, Danny, Andrew and Sammy.

When it came time to name his new business venture (a lifetime dream), there was only one choice ... "Three Sons Oil and Lube Center," located on National Drive (off Route 75) since May of 1988.

All the amenities surrounding their comfortable home (pool and all), tucked in at the end of Hickory Street, is for family enjoyment, be it the boys' go-carts, playground structure, or just enjoying family fun. The Mikalonis family is what Windsor Locks is all about ... sports and family togetherness.

Dave, Cheryl and their three sons are all Windsor Locks natives, Cheryl of the Courtney family. Dave is a WLHS grad, Class of 1973, his wife two years later.

Dave said he was always interested in auto mechanics, "taking things apart." He is the son of the late Frank

Mikalonis, who was from Warehouse Point, and who died in 1983, after retirement from Montgomery. Dave's mother, Mary (Karpinski) Mikalonis was from Thomsonville, and makes her home with Dave and Cheryl.

Warehouse, but in 1988, he realized his dream ... opened his own oil and lube center. Today, it's the "Three Sons," with 10 employees, plus Cheryl working on the books ... definitely, a family affair.

Now to the mother, surrounded by men, big and small ... Cheryl is the daughter of Jack and Judy (Morin) Klocker of Windsor Locks. She has

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

Dave has a brother, Francis, who is employed by



Dexter, and resides on Hickory Street. For the record, the Mikalonis home is the "old family homestead," purchased by his parents on Pearl Harbor Day in 1941.

During his high school days, Dave got his first chance of "taking things apart and on autos," at the Balch Shell Station on Bridge Street, in East Windsor. He tried factory work for a few years at Montgomery and Dexter, even three years installing carpet for a Springfield company, and a decade at the Finast

two brothers, Jay and David, and three sisters, Kathy, Colleen and Patsy.

Dave and Cheryl were "high school sweethearts," and married on Oct. 21, 1978, after seven years of dating, and lived in town ... no other place like Windsor Locks, "a great place" in their eyes.

The "Three Sons," ... Danny, 11, sixth grade at the Middle School, a Chicago White Sox baseball fan, "good student," pitcher in the Little League (minors), also into basketball.

Andrew, 9, fourth grade at South, also a pitcher in the Little League program, hobby ... "fixing things like his dad." He roots for the Seattle baseball team. Sammy, 6, first grade at North, into T-ball,

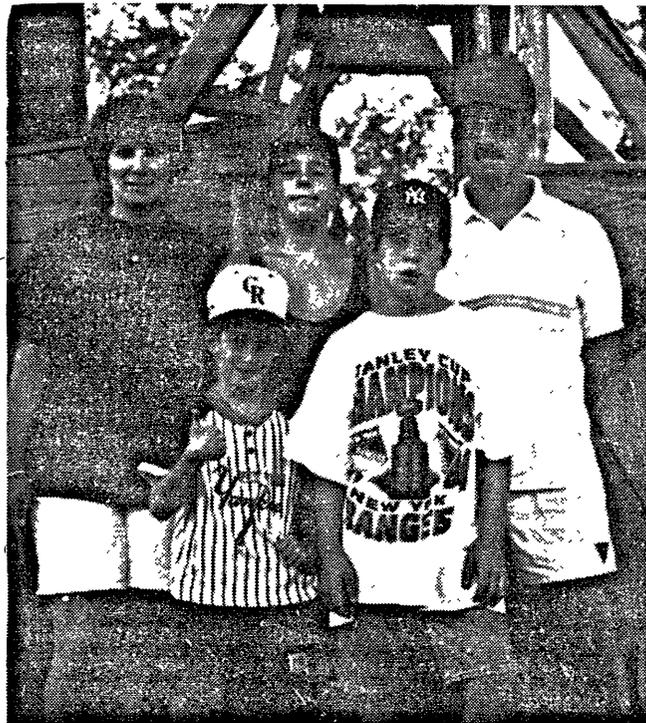
# A Mikalonis Family Affair

with his mother as coach, and even at his young age, "likes to write stories," and a fan of the new Colorado baseball team.

When it comes to hobbies for the Mikalonis family, to name a few: snow skiing, snowmobiles (that are used); Dave is an old fisherman from way back, used to own his own boat, but that's before his six-day work week. Now on his day off, he's with the family, swimming in the summer, some snow fun in the winter. Oh yes, the boys and Dave take in the Riverside races when they can make the time.

In 1965, Dave purchased his first car ... a GTO Pontiac (which he used to date his future bride). Today, one of his many projects at home, and due to his schedule, he's been restoring the past four years another 1965 GTO Pontiac, from top to bottom. He's not sure when he will complete this other dream ... but knowing Dave, he'll do it, and it will look like new ... it's already halfway there.

The family vacations have been to the Cape or Lake Winnepesaukee, in New Hampshire. At home, the television is limited to the World Series or the past winter Olympic Games, but there is one program that Dave feels is like their home environment,



The Mikalonis family

"Home Improvement."

Besides the family involvement in the Little League program, Dave is a member of the Windsor Locks Chamber of Commerce. When Cheryl was asked for a few choice words on Dave she said, "He's a hard worker," with Dave echoing those sentiments on his own father, who he also described as "a hard worker, and a man I most admired." Dave's personal

philosophy ... "To be with the family ... when it came right down to it, it is what counts in life."

The best way to complete this grand story of the Mikalonis family is to quote the following ... "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 just in your own eyes."

SEPTEMBER 2, 1994

## Kenny Sabine -

With Kenneth Paul Sabine, owning a business is "what I (always) wanted to do ... not work for others, to make up my own schedule."

Today, that wish has come true. Kenny is the "Complete Oil Service Company," or better recognized by his logo ... "COMOCO."

Kenny lives in Windsor Locks, with his wife, Robin (Sheehan) Sabine and their two children ... Lindsey and Derek. They were married March 17, 1978, at St. Mary's Church, and have lived in town ever since. And Spring Street has been their home base, with his shop and office in the rear of their home.

Kenny is the son of the late Donald Sabine, a native of Quincy, Mass., retired from Pratt & Whitney after 35 years, who was a veteran of World

War II. Mr. Sabine had met his future bride in England, Doris (Barber) Sabine. Doris now makes her home in Deltona, Fla. Donald, stationed in England, returned

in Florida. Ken has a brother, Jack, who lives in Columbia.

Now the other half of the business venture ... Robin is the daughter of Bob and June (Fitzpatrick) Sheehan, who

were featured in a previous C & K column, in November of 1979.

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

to the states in October of 1945, with Doris still in England, waiting for the birth of their first



child. Ken's sister, now Beverly King, was born, and she and her mother came to the states in early 1946. Beverly also makes her home

Bob and June divide their time in Florida and New Hampshire, as he is retired from the Connecticut DOT. He is a former local baseball player, who played semi-pro, but his dreams of a big league career was interrupted by his entry into the service.

For the record, Robin's grandfather was the well-known local politician, Mr. John Fitzpatrick. And Bob's

TownsPeople

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

# with His Own Oil Business Service

uncle is the legendary Mario L. Gatti, town engineer.

Robin has two brothers, John of West Suffield, Tim of Old Saybrook; and two sisters, Karen Colone and Theresa, who reside in town. Robin is a graduate of WLHS, Class of 1976, who went on to work for the Connecticut DOT in Wethersfield for seven years, until her first child was born.

Kenny and Robin were "high school sweethearts," and were married, as mentioned, on St. Patrick's Day. Their oldest child is Lindsey, 14, now a freshman at the high school, plays softball in the Girls Little League, and is also into soccer. She is an honor student. Her brother Derek, 11, a sixth-grader at the middle school, is also into Little League, and soccer, and this year "will try basketball." His parents said "He's a good student."

Now for Kenny's employment ... during his high school years, he divided his off-school activities, working at Jack August Restaurant and Bradley Bowl. He remembers well, walking from Suffield High School (he had two years at WLHS, and the last two at Suffield, Class of 1974) to both jobs on Route 75.

After high school, Kenny had several jobs before taking on the ownership of his own business. He worked at



Robin and Kenny Sabine

Standard-Bellows for a few months, then a year at Enfield Volkswagen, Point Automotion in Warehouse Point, Gengras Motors in Hartford, Main Street Automotive in Broad Brook, then a partnership with "Main Street," working on Mercedes-Benz.

In 1981, again a partnership, but the oil business, which lasted until April of 1984, when Kenny took over the oil business on his own. He's been at it the past decade, doing what he likes best.

When he finds the time, he's a member of the Tobacco Valley Bass Anglers ... which means bass fishing is his main hobby. And where? ... on the Connecticut River or

Congamond Lakes. At home, he has a garden. Like their friends and neighbors, the Mikalonis family, the men enjoy racing at Riverside. Kenny is a big New York Giants football fan, while Derek follows the Chicago White Sox in baseball. Did he have a favorite White Sox player? ... yes, Frank Thomas. When it comes to television, Derek is a fan of "American Gladiators."

Robin was asked about hobbies ... she said, "the family," and one must include her duties as office manager with the paper work for "COMOCO."

Kenny and Robin were asked who they most admired ... Robin said, "My parents." Kenny admitted, "I have admired a group of people, but not anyone specific." For the record, Robin added ... one word to describe Kenny ... "ambitious," and when asked to describe himself, he said, "I guess you would say conservative."

#### Epilog

Kenny Sabine, an independent entrepreneur, as defined by Webster: "A person who organizes, operates and assumes the risk of a business venture."

That's Kenny, his own man ... and very content.

But best of all, he's a family man ... enjoys fishing and racing cars, and will probably agree ... "Take a chance! All life is a chance. The man who goes further is generally the one who is willing to do and dare."

## Jon Montigny and Beth Grecco —

Jon Montigny is a native of Windsor Locks, who now lives in East Granby. Beth Grecco was from Long Island, and now makes her home in Simsbury.

What do these two soccer enthusiasts have in common? ... both are very involved in the Windsor Locks indoor soccer facility.

The facility off Route 91 (Exit 41-42) located on Lawn Acre Road, where Jon and Beth spend their time, is called

the Northern Connecticut Indoor Sports Inc. (NCIS).

Jon is the owner and president of NCIS, with Beth the program director of soccer. Jon said, "We opened in October of 1993, with about 1,500 participants the first year, and hope to double it over the second year."

Jon has been involved in the game of soccer the past 20 years. Beth also has the credentials: as a UConn grad, she earned All-American

honors on the soccer field, two years in a row.

Some background on these two soccer coaches (who we met last month, as they were just starting their daily soccer session) who were proud to say, "we train a lot of Windsor Locks kids"; in the sport made popular by the great Pele, which is fast becoming an important activity in our country, the past 15 to 20 years.

Jon is a grad of WLHS, Class of 1968, where he was on the track team (no soccer for Jon at that time), coached by Pete Sarant. When it came time for college, Jon chose Tulane University in New Orleans, La., not on a sport scholarship, but academic. He spent a year down south, returning to Connecticut to attend UConn, earning a degree, going on to the University of Hartford, for a degree in physics and a MBA in marketing.

Before the world of soccer at NCIS, Jon worked at Dexter for 22 years, leaving there in June of 1993, to be full time at NCIS.

Jon is married to Betti (Colli) Montigny, daughter of Margaret and former local Fire Chief Jack Colli, who were featured in a C&K column in May of 1976.

Betti graduated from WLHS, Class of 1969, went on to UConn and today, has a Ph.D. in education



Beth Grecco and Jon Montigny

## - Indoor Soccer at NCIS

administration, and the past 17 years, has been at the Synergy High School in East Hartford.

Jon has two sons, Jay and Taylor, both of Enfield. Jon and Betti have a daughter, Tracey, and a son Peter, who

background in soccer ... saying, "Coaching kids, especially over the years coaching youth teams in Avon, Suffield, Enfield, East Granby and Granby ... for seven years, coach of the Suffield High School Girl's soccer team."

NCIS has a full-size playing surface, nearly 60 x 25 yards ... with programs for youth, men, women and coed adults. Kids from ages 5 to 6 (nerf soccer), 7 and 8 year olds in leagues, to men's over 40. Leagues range in ages from 9 year olds to over 40 (men), with clinics and tournaments as regular activities at NCIS.

Jon also stated ... "With after-school youth soccer clinics (from K-1 to 4-5), a great way to introduce a child to soccer or to give them the confidence to play on regular teams," and further, "NCIS is dedicated to your (children's) soccer needs."

Adding, "We have experienced and licensed coaches ..." to name a few ... Judy Michalski, former All-American at Simsbury High, Jim Gothers, former semi-pro player, David Clarke, Connecticut Wolves player and Jordan Grossman, head coach of the Central Connecticut State College Women's Soccer team.

For more information ... call Beth at 623-2413.

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

live in East Granby with their parents.

Back to Beth Grecco, who was from Long Island, attended school there, and graduated from high school in 1987, where she played volleyball and soccer. Her four years at UConn (Class of 1991) was marked by honors in soccer, as member of the team that played in the Division One finals, in her senior year. Beth majored in fitness management.

Beth's path to NCIS took a few turns. Her first job was in Cromwell, at Tri-Town Sports for six months; and while looking for her place in the sports picture, she worked at Kane's Market and did manage to work at several soccer camps in the Simsbury area. Then the opening at NCIS, and today, as mentioned, she is very involved in her work at the indoor soccer facility.

Jon indeed has acquired a



would probably find Beth at the beach, and at home she's an avid reader. Being a true blue UConn fan, she follows the basketball teams (men's and women's). Jon is also a UConn court fan, in addition to sailing, wind surfing, and a few games of tennis and basketball.

Some information on NCIS ... its soccer, all-year round, with Jon saying, "We're closed only Christmas Day, Easter and Thanksgiving ... but plan a tournament on New Year's Day."

How about these two enthusiasts of soccer, away from the sport?

... You

## The Ruckdeschel Family —

*"If I'm not at home, or at work, I'm at the high school, doing for the kids..." —Diane on her involvement with high school activities the past 21 years.*

The Ruckdeschel family ... there's John, Delta Airlines, golfer, Little League coach, Navy veteran; Diane, the very concerned mother of three, volunteer extraordinary; Geoff, college student, plays the sax, actor; Matt, also in college, sax and the clarinet; and then Allyson (better call her Ally), still in the high school, plays softball and the flute.

For a short time, the family was hard to pin down (with their busy schedule) for an interview. But last month, we got together (all except Matt at York College in Pennsylvania) and found out what makes this family tick.

Now some information on this "easy street" family ... John Edmund Ruckdeschel, born in Syracuse, N.Y., grew up in Mexico, N.Y. (yes, Mexico), the son of the late Gordon Ruckdeschel, and Theodora (Yager) Ruckdeschel who still makes her home in Mexico, 35 miles north of Syracuse, on Lake Ontario.

John's family lived on a turkey farm, where his two brothers, Gordon, now of Syracuse, David in Mexico, and their sister, Branda, of Charleston, S.C., also grew up. John graduated from the

local high school (Class of 1966) where he was a member of the track team (set a school record in the high hurdles) and the football team for two years. At a younger age, he played Little League.

Did John have any high hopes as to a career ... "Yes, during my junior year of high

### Cabbages & Kings WITH JACK REDMOND



school," he said. "I joined the naval reserves, even made boot camp at Great Lakes, and then returned to school." In August of 1966, John went into active duty, serving on the USS Wrangel (an ammunition supply ship), with sea duty to the Caribbean and Mediterranean Seas. He had the pleasure of some sightseeing in Naples, Italy, the islands of Sicily, Malta and Crete, and southern France.

John stayed in the reserves after returning to the States, and in 1971 received an honorable discharge. He then was thinking of a more permanent career.

A decision was made ... John attended the Gale Institute in Minneapolis, Minn., an airline technical school, where he was taught about airline procedures, be it

plane maintenance, airport codes, reservations at the ticket counter, "all you have to know about airlines," he said. Next stop ... Delta Airlines at the famed airport of Chicago — O'Hare.

When Delta and Northeast merged, John was transferred to Hartford and the Bradley Delta complex ... now a fixture since November of 1972, be it operations or the ticket counter.

The lady of the house ... Diane (Rose) Ruckdeschel, the daughter of the late Iris Rose, who came from New Jersey, and Norman Rose, a Chicago native. They had previously lived in Morton Grove, Ill., where Diane grew up. Mr. Rose is now a resident of Phoenix, Ariz. Diane has a brother, Norm, who lives in Fox Lake, Ill.

Diane graduated from Niles North High School in Skokie, Ill., Class of 1967, where she excelled on the tennis court and earned the title of MVP. She went on to receive an associate degree in business from the Metropolitan School of Business in Lincolnwood, Ill. She worked at the local bank in Lincolnwood from 1969 to 1972.

In May of 1971, Diane and John met ... were married on July 8, 1972. Diane continued her work at a bank when they moved to Connecticut ... the familiar Northern Connecticut National Bank for three years, then two years at Combustion Engineering Inc., and today, has six years' service at Dexter.

John and Diane first lived in Des Plaines, Ill., when he was transferred to Connecticut, November 1972. They lived at Bradley Apartments for a short time, then in Enfield, and in 1976

returned to Windsor Locks.

The children of John and Diane ... they probably would not prefer the word "children," and rightfully so, Geoff is 21, attends Manchester Community College part time,

studying communications, and intends to transfer to Eastern University in the spring. He's a 1991 grad of WLHS, where he was a member of Vocal-Motion for three years, and *RUCKDESCHELS* / page 10

## — Mix of Music, Softball and Delta

*Continued from page 7*

the concert choir. He played baseball for the town, Windsor Locks All-Stars in Little League. Geoff was in the musical class play "Guys and Dolls." He's already involved in town affairs as a member of the Republican Town Committee. He works at the Blue Moon Diner in Suffield, and in the Enfield Men's Deck Hockey League, and just to

complete his talents ... plays the sax.

Matt, 18, attends York College in York, Penn., also majoring in communications. Was a 1993 grad at WLHS, four-year member of Vocal-Motion, and concert choir, in addition, four-year concert band and marching band, with sax and clarinet as his instruments. Was in the 1993 production of "Oklahoma." Matt played on the

high school tennis team, also in the Enfield Men's Deck Hockey League and works part time at the North Street School and as janitor for the Adams Cleaning Co. in Enfield. When he finds the time, he enjoys skiing and roller blading.

And then there's their talented sister ... Allyson (Ally), 15, a sophomore student at the Raider school. Birth of some note ... "born during the

famed tornado of 1979 that hit Windsor Locks." Into politics already, as vice president of her freshman class and the sophomore class. She played softball for the middle school, and was a Little League All-Star. In her younger years, she was a cheerleader for the Midget Football and WLHS. Not to be outdone by her brothers before her ... Ally is a member of the high school's

show choir and the concert choir. For nine years, she danced at the Joanne Ferrers' School of Dance, and played the flute ... when a member of the Middle School band.

Now that's some talent for the three children of John and Diane.

When it comes to John and Diane ... members of the Safety Committee ... Diane was a member of the Women's Club in town ... John, a 20-year member of the American Legion. As for hobbies ... John is into golf, bowling and admits to being a "history buff," reads all he can on the subject. Diane is into "anything I can do for and with the kids." Adding, "If I'm not at work, home, I'm usually at the high school," a volunteer for the past 21 years. That's her life.

When it comes to vacations ... maybe to New Hampshire, but the family have made the music trips (Vocal-Motion) wherever the group is singing. As for spectator sports, John is a big Red Sox fan, but the boys are true New York Yankee followers. And what TV show ... why, it's "Dr. Quinn," for Diane wouldn't miss the show on Saturday night, even the reruns are enjoyed.

When it comes to Little League Softball for girls ... John has been involved since 1981 ... saying, "(we) try to teach sportsmanship and the team concept ... be successful with others." John put a word in on one of his coaches, a few

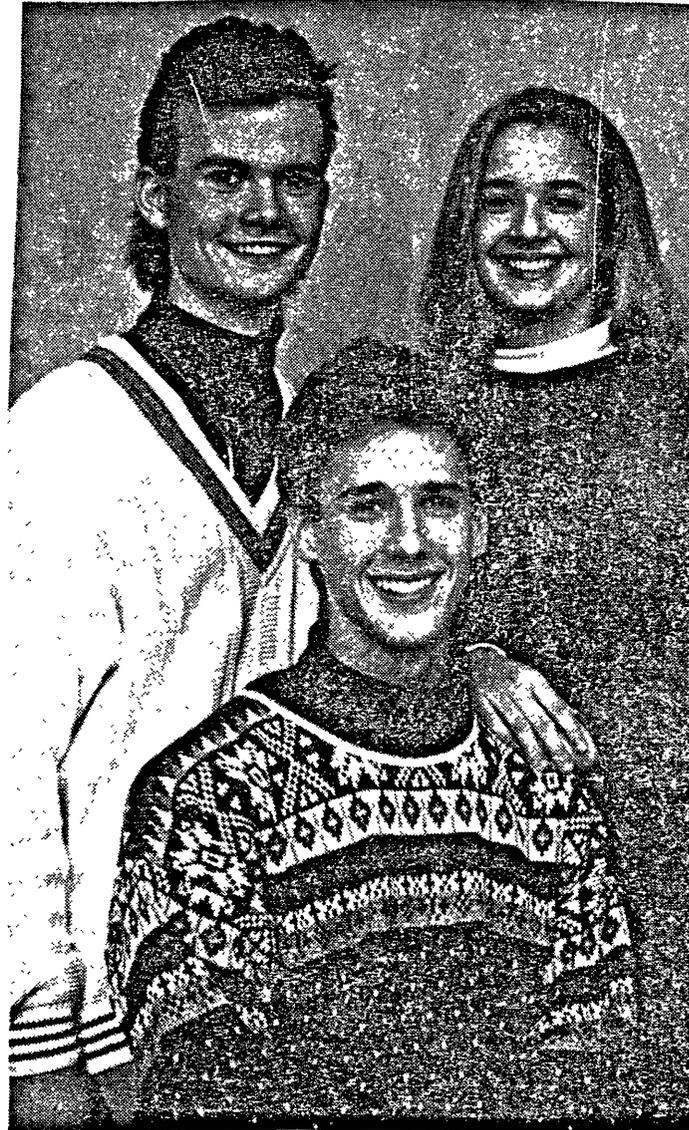
years back, Bob Norris ... "a great guy." This year's team (ages 13 to 15) was a success as John managed the team, assisted by Joe Ouelette and Les Hinckley.

When John was asked who he most admired, he said ... "Abraham Lincoln, who, when he set his mind to something, was successful in life." Diane said, "I would say my grandmother, Dorothy Rose (who passed away) ... she taught me responsibility ... and raised six grandchildren (from 2 to 8) when one of her daughters died." Diane then put it all together ... one word to describe John, "I would have to say, he's involved in the town." After meeting the family ... I must add Diane's name to that list of truly devoted volunteers.

### Epilog

That's the story of the Ruckdeschel family ... I came across the following, and I'm sure John and Diane would agree ...

"Children ... you may give them your love but not your thoughts, for they have their own thoughts. You may house their bodies but not their souls, for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams. You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you. For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday. You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth."



From left, Geoff, Matt and Ally Ruckdeschel

## Ann Raccone Pomeroy -

Ann Raccone Pomeroy's "claim to fame," has been her children and grandchildren. However, we found during our talk many diversified and beneficial roles she plays in her home town, along with her husband, Ron, also a native son, and dancing partner since their high school days.

Ann and Ron have been square dancing and round

dancing for years, and never tire of these popular pastimes ... as an added treat, they recently returned from the new country music capital in Branson, Missouri, and "found it great."

Ann has been a member of the Greater Hartford American Red Cross chapter and was named the "Volunteer of the Month," for August. It is a

community service she has been involved with over the past eight years.

Ann comes from what she so profoundly called a "greatly extended family," ... the Raccones of Windsor Locks. Her father, Angelo "Cap" Raccone and mother, Donnie (Shepard) Raccone, now spend their time in Florida. Ann has a sister, Kathy LaRussa, who also makes her home in sunny Florida.

Ann mentioned her father is retired from Dexter with 36 years of service. He and his late brother, former Postmaster Joseph Raccone, and their five sisters have left their mark on the history pages of Windsor Locks.

Ann attended St. Mary's School, then the high school, Class of 1955, where she not only met her "high school sweetheart," Ron Pomeroy, but was named the valedictorian of her class.

More on Ron ... the son of the late Ralph Pomeroy, and Anna (Navaroli) Pomeroy, who still makes her home in town. Ron's dad also worked at Dexter, a member of what he called the "Dexter Clan," as Ron has worked at the Main Street plant for 39 years.

Ron has two sisters, Ruth Westervelt of East Granby, and Doris Viloette of Westbrook, Maine. Ron is also a 1955 grad of WLHS, where he played basketball under



Ann and Ron Pomeroy

## — Active in Many Circles

coach "Bud" Shapiro.

After graduation, Ron went to work at Dexter, just as his dad and future father-in-law before him, for three decades plus, Ron has been in manufacturing, quality control and today, is working in product development as research lab technician. Commenting on all those years, Ron said,

"It's a good company, like all companies there are changes made, and I'm still there."

Ann worked for three years at E.F. Horton in town, after she and Ron were married at St. Mary's Church on Sept. 21, 1957. They celebrated their 37 years together just a few days ago. They have lived on Elm Street since their wedding. Ann worked until the first of their five children were born and she said, rather in a kidding fashion ... "it sort of killed my career."

But how wrong she was ... a mother of five, her calendar is filled these days ... but first, information on those five children of Ron and Ann.

There's Susan, Nancy, Cindy, Kevin and Chris ... Susan, the oldest, is married to James Lamanis, and they live in town with their son, Brandon. Susan is a registered nurse, a grad of Becker Junior College and Springfield

Technical Community College. Nancy, also an RN, a grad of Southern Connecticut State University, is married to Andy Andrews. The Andrews live in Florida. Cindy went to LaSalle College, is married to Mike Carroll, and they make

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



their home in East Hartford, with their daughter Audrey.

Kevin and his wife, Diane (Grandahl) Pomeroy live in town, with their daughter Kristina. Chris is still at home, attends the University of Massachusetts, and soon will have his degree. Chris is a former Little Leaguer in town. All the children of Ron and Ann are grads of WLHS.

When asked, what about hobbies? ... both agreed, "travel." To name a few places ... England, Scotland, Wales, Mexico, Bermuda, Nova Scotia, Canadian Rockies, the islands of Jamaica and Caymans ... which included a few cruises. And as mentioned, they just returned from Missouri where they saw

the talents of Charley Pride, Tony Orlando and Barbara Mandrell.

Oh yes, up to five years ago, Ron and Ann and the kids went camping, with the big trip, a cross country junket of over 10,000 miles. She was proud to add ... "42 nights, consecutively camping out, no motels."

No camping now ... with Ron and Ann, it's been square dancing for more than 30 years at local clubs (Massachusetts and Connecticut). The past 15 years have added to their repertoire round dancing, with this added comment ... "We're out dancing three nights a week, the other four nights, eating out." On Sunday night, they watch "60 Minutes," (after a dinner out), and the rest of TV ... "a little bit."

On a more local level ... Ann has "assisted in the blood donor program" of the American Red Cross, in northern Connecticut, covering the towns of Enfield, Suffield, Bloomfield, Windsor and Windsor Locks. Adding, "I do anything I can to assist, and it is very satisfying, saving lives, just to be a part of it."

Ann has not neglected town affairs ... she has been a checker at town elections, and the recent budget referendums.

Ann was asked, who she most admired? ... "My father Cap, dam good person, taught us good family values, I was fortunate to be born into my family." Her personal philosophy ... "Treat people decently ... do not do any harm." Any favorite sayings? ... "Yes, relax, don't let it get you." Ron was asked for one word to describe his Ann ... how about two words ... "Just great."

## Cheryl Levinskas -

*"Never give up...one door closes, another opens." — Cheryl's Philosophy.*

Cheryl Levinskas tried her hand at coaching T-Ball ... "found it amazing," (effect on the kids) and now the parents want her to continue her coaching duties next season. She seemed ready, willing and able, which adds to her other volunteer contribution as leader in the local Brownie program.

The story of Cheryl, her husband Bob, the twins (fraternal), Michelle and Robert, is one of civic involvement, camping out as

a family, and memories of when Cheryl and Bob were younger, and the admiration of their mothers.

Cheryl Allen (Clark) Levinskas is a native of Windsor. She is the daughter of the late William Clark, who retired from the Windsor Company, and her mother, Adrienne (Allen) Clark, who makes her home in Windsor.

Mrs. Clark is a story in itself ... born in Dublin, Ireland, during World War II, attended boarding school in England, and in 1950 came to the states to live with an uncle in Armonk, New York, to



Clockwise, from top left, Cheryl, Bob, Robert and Michelle Levinskas

## — Meet the Newest T-Ball Coach

await the arrival of her parents, and eventually settling in Connecticut.

Cheryl has two brothers ... Bill, who is employed by CE, and Robert, who works at Bradley ... both live in Windsor.

More on Robert John Levinkas, a local fellow, who grew up in town, went to WLHS, class of 1977, where he was on the cross-country track team and learned the fundamentals of the game of golf, as member of the links team.

Bob is the son of the late Joseph and Karoline Levinkas. Joseph was from Hartford, Karoline from Holyoke. Bob has a brother, John, who lives in town, near the home of his brother.

Both Bob and Cheryl had their first jobs locally, with Bob at Dairy Mart, and Cheryl at the Jack August Restaurant, before joining CE Controls, a division of Combustion Engineering, Inc. in Windsor. They met there and were married on October 2, 1982. They lived in Windsor for a short time, and in 1983 became permanent residents of Bob's home town.

Bob joined CE in June of 1978, worked at the controls division for over 12 years, and

today, is part of the ABB CE, in the Service Department. Bob took on another important assignment ... attending Asnuntuck Community College nights, earning two Associate Degrees in Business

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



and Liberal Arts.

As mentioned, Cheryl also worked at CE Controls for

nine years, and at Hamilton Standard for four years, and then become a full time housewife after a year at Kaman.

The Levinkas twins ... Michelle and Robert, seven years old, and second grade students at the North Street School. Both are members of their mother's T-Ball team, and when it comes to television, "Nickelodeon," has all their favorite programs.

When it comes to hobbies, for Cheryl she finds time for T-Ball and scouting. For Bob, he is into golf, fishing and hunting, with locals, such as the Berkshires and Lake Ontario in upper New York

State. Vacation time has been to the White Mountains and camping in Massachusetts. Bob is a Red Sox fan, and when it comes to TV ... "Mad About You and Home Improvement" are their favorites. The past six years, Bob has been a member of the K. of C. in Enfield.

After her first year of coaching T-Ball, Cheryl described the experience as "great", adding, "I actually enjoyed watching the kids, finding it amazing how much they had learned, as to being a team player and working together ... and the nice part, the parents wanted me back next year." She probably will be back.

In addition to the Levinkas twins, the following T-Ball players made up the team ... Melissa Morin, Jared Murphy, Katherine Skinner, Joel Weisel and Veronica Wong.

Another worthy involvement for Cheryl ... as leader in the Brownies with

her daughter Michelle. The younger Robert is a member of the town's Cub Scout program.

When asked, who they most admired, they said "their mothers." Cheryl's mother ... "For all the things she does, always there when I needed her." With Bob saying ... "The hardest working person I ever knew."

Their philosophies might sound different, however ... with Bob, "You get out of life, what you put into it," and Cheryl's words of wisdom ... "Never give up, one door closes, another opens."

With Bob and Cheryl Levinkas ... doors have been opened for them, and they took advantage of the different opportunities ... he at college, and Cheryl as the newest T-Ball coach on the block. They probably will agree ... "Discoveries are often made by not following instructions, by going off the main by trying the untried."

# Oct. 3, 1979:

## *An Ordinary Day, 15 Years Ago ...*

It was a day that began like many other days in the quiet suburban community of Windsor Locks.

Most residents gave little consideration to the darkening sky and persistent rain showers that lasted most of the morning and early afternoon. Even as the rain slackened, the wind picked up and the sky turned an eerie shade of bluish-green, most residents counted on nothing more interesting than a late-season thunderstorm.

Then disaster struck.

Without warning, a powerful tornado funnel formed and touched ground in the Poquonock section of Windsor. The tornado proceeded up Rte. 75 through Windsor Locks, claiming three

lives, injuring hundreds of people and causing nearly \$100 million worth of damage.

Within a half hour after the storm, the sun shone over the scene of the disaster as rescue workers dug survivors out of the rubble and began to assess the damage.

Fifteen years have passed since that day, and much has changed along Rte. 75. In fact the road itself, known at the time as Turnpike Road, has since been renamed as Ella Grasso Turnpike in honor of the late governor who helped coordinate relief efforts for her hometown.

The former Bradley Air Museum, which had most of its collection either destroyed or badly damaged in the

tornado, has since moved to a site near the northwest corner of the airport, and is now known as the New England Air Museum. The planes that could be salvaged after the tornado remain a part of the museum's collection.

Some of the businesses destroyed by the tornado were never seen in town again. Most were rebuilt, although many of those were later closed for other reasons. Some changed hands — such as the Koala Inn that lost its roof to the tornado and is now a Days Inn.

One thing that hasn't changed is the strong memories many current and former residents have of that day. Whether they were buried alive under the rubble, or merely walked down the road after the disaster, many residents have memories of that day that haven't dimmed during the past 15 years.

This week's "Tornado Memories" section features many of those memories, along with photos of the destruction caused by the tornado. It is a remembrance of a day that can never be forgotten.



Some airplanes in the Bradley Air Museum's collection were reduced to twisted piles of scrap metal after the tornado.

*Photo courtesy of Stanley Wieliczka*

# The Day Disaster Struck

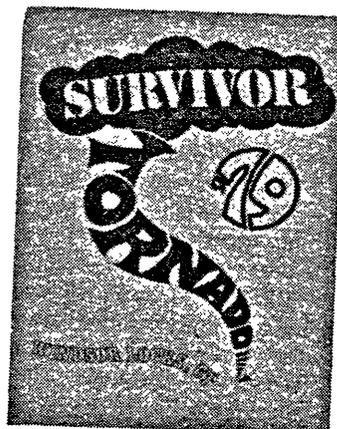


The building that housed Merrigan & LeFebvre Realty before the tornado ...



... and after the tornado.

*Photos courtesy of Merrigan & LeFebvre Realty*



T shirts commemorating the tornado were sold in town following the disaster.  
*Staff Photo by Paul Angilly*



The tornado left piles of debris surrounded by twisted and broken trees.

*Photo Courtesy of Peter Tria*

# The Day Disaster Struck

**By Jack Redmond**

Rain was in the forecast.

What happened wasn't in the forecast, or in the wildest dreams of local residents of Windsor Locks, Windsor or Suffield.

To most folks, it was just another Wednesday. The middle of the week. But that Wednesday, Oct. third, 1979, will be long remembered by the merchants, homeless, hotel guests, truck drivers, families of the injured and the dead, and just plain people who were on Route 75, that three in the afternoon, as the day the tornado hit Windsor Locks, Windsor, and Suffield.

As for me, I was lucky. At three in the afternoon I was at work (Combustion Engineering, Inc.) in East Granby. The power went off. As I looked out the windows, with my fellow employees, I recalled, to myself, the hurricanes I had experienced, but that Wednesday, the rain couldn't be been harder or the winds stronger. Naturally, work stopped. About three-thirty or so, someone figured it was about time to go home and call it a day. The sun was shining and the rain had stopped.

In my car I heard the four o'clock news and the unbelievable ... a tornado had hit Routes 20 and 75, the Ramada Inn was badly damaged. I said to myself ... (that's the way I go home.) I guess my only problem was picking up my wife at the Combustion-Windsor office. For once I drove the way my feelings said to ... straight to Route 91, off Kennedy Road and to Old County Road on to Pershing and home. We really didn't know the serious situation at Route 20 and 75.

Arrived home and immediately watched the baseball game on television. But the constant reminders on the bottom of the TV screen concerning the plight of Windsor Locks was too much for me to ignore. I wanted to be there and see for myself. My wife volunteered to stay put and if any relatives or friends called, because of the storm hitting our town, she could give them the details. (At that point we didn't know any of the details.) I would soon find out. (It was a nice feeling on my return home to find both friends and relatives

called when the bad news hit the national television screens. Even an old friend in Indiana called, and it makes one feel good.)

We live approximately a mile and a half from Route 75 and Bradley Field. I decided to drive over to Denslow Street and walk to Old County Road. As I turned the corner on to Old County, my first impression was of people walking to and from an area and they weren't sure what they saw or will see. The koala Inn on Route 75 was my first disaster in view, with broken windows, walls, glass and metal from the roof spread over its frontal area and on to Route 75. The First National Store was a sea of water for parking cars. The popular eatery, McDonald's was in darkness with the big sign on the ground in two billion pieces.

Managed to walk to the corner of Elm and Route 75. Vinny Musco's Texaco station was in ruins. I nodded to Vinny ... and he gave his usual smile. What can anyone say at a time like that? People were all over the place inspecting, watching and just being a part of a bad dream. I stopped to talk to Tommy Frechette. Dave Scotto, George and Dot Woolweaver and Eddie Katzbeck and we all shared the sorrow of the bad dream.

My inquisitive nature took over when I "sort of became" a part of the Channel Three coverage at the Musco station. The Hartford based television crew led by Gerry Toney, was there recording the events. Flying overhead the new "Sky Three" helicopter was in touch with Mr. Toney. I could see there was a problem ... where did Governor Grasso live? I volunteered the directions. (Couldn't pass up the story.) Unfortunately, the busy and helpful Governor was not at home. She was in her own helicopter viewing the area. The television reporter, who came with me and the driver, was a bit disappointed. It was my pleasure at a time when everyone was concerned. Channel Three at eleven had their interview with the Governor, so the story was completed, one way or another.

On Thursday morning, my wife who hadn't seen the

disastrous Route 75, wanted me to drive there on our way to work. To tell you the truth, I never figured we would make it, but we did. At Halfway House and Old County Road I told the National Guard soldier stationed there, I was going to work and had to use Route 75. He said, if we wanted to try it, go ahead. It was not a pleasing sight at seven in the morning. It gave us a strange feeling. Twenty-four hours before we had driven the same road, like any other morning, but on Thursday, Oct. 4, 1979, destruction was in the air. We arrived at Route 20 but our adventure, if you call it that, was over. It was for the best. The businesses were gone on the Windsor Locks side, but on the Windsor side ... homes were gone.

Our view of the tornado hit that these towns was from the non-casualty side. I usually write articles about people and enjoy it ... there wasn't any joy to write this article. However, we have all been touched by the storm. Some of the victims are our neighbors or co-workers, relatives, friends, merchants we deal with on a daily basis. My own son-in-law, Frank Deshaies, of Duxbury, Massachusetts, informed me on Saturday that his cousin's home in Colonial Village and his aunt's home on Route 75 were completely destroyed. Mrs. Carole Dembkoski, who was killed by the tornado, was a former employee of Combustion Engineering in Windsor and worked in the accounting department with us a few years ago. Only our kindest thoughts and prayers go out to Mr. Dembkoski and his family, and all the residents in that area of Windsor. It was a sad Wednesday for Windsor Locks and her sister town of Windsor.

Governor Ella Grasso was "absolutely horrified," and she went to work to help where it was most needed. The pieces will be picked up, but the memories of many citizens will be long remembered of the day ... disaster hit the towns of Windsor Locks, Windsor, and Suffield.

*(Editor's Note: This article originally appeared in the Windsor Locks Journal shortly after the tornado struck in 1979.)*

# The Oliveira Family —

*“Indescribable ... an awesome experience ... “ — Rick’s reaction to the birth of their three children at home*

The story of Cheryl and Rick Oliveira is knowing how to mix their lifestyle with outside activity, be it work or pleasure.

Cheryl was an “Air Force brat,” born on a Montana Air Force base. She experienced several moves to other states, as her father’s service duty called him.

Rick, Connecticut born, grew up in Windsor Locks; however, he also experienced travel, as a veteran of the Air Force.

They met in Arizona, were married in town, and now have three active children, who are, like their parents, into a variety of things, with dad employed by the state, and mom a member and organizer of a food community co-op.

For the record, and an admirable one, their three children, Terra, Ryan and Mariel, were “home birthed,” and Terra, for a few years

“home schooled.” Rick’s reaction to this (three times) experience ... “Indescribable ... an awesome experience.” Cheryl’s comments ... “There was not much to think about (at the time) ... Terra was supposed to be born in the hospital.” Adding, “But we were fortunate ... Rick and I were trained in child birth.”

Travel aside, and other experiences notwithstanding, Cheryl has found the time to run (with Terra) in local events, which included the Dexter Dash. The kids are into soccer, Rick plays golf and basketball, and all the family engages in the art of karate.

But first, some information on Cheryl McAtee Oliveira, the daughter of Ron and Jeanette (Artlip) McAtee, now residents of North Dakota. Ron is a veteran of the air force, as a mechanic, who was from Fort Worth, Texas. Jeanette is a North Dakota native. They have two other daughters, Linda and Alisa, who still live in the “Peace Garden State,” better known as the state north of

South Dakota.

On a recent trip from Dakota to Connecticut, Ron took in the local New England Air Museum, remembering his own years in the service with the many planes displayed at the museum.

Cheryl was born in Great Falls, Montana, and in a few years, her folks moved to North Dakota. She attended school in Grafton, Maryland, graduating from the high school in 1978. At the school she was active in the drama club, Spanish club and took part in church activities. How were the winters in Dakota? ... “Well, this past winter in Connecticut made me feel at home.” In addition to Montana and North Dakota, Cheryl lived in Florida and Arizona.

After leaving high school, she attended Concoria College in Moorhead, Minnesota, where she studied environmental biology, but left after her junior year.

Now for some information on Rick ... the son of the late Edward Oliveira, and Rose (Terra) Oliveira, who today makes her home next to her son and daughter-in-law.

Rose was from Taunton, Mass., and Edward a native of Fall River, Mass. They have two other sons ... Edward of Windsor Locks and Robert of South Windsor, and two daughters ... Joy Wagner of Windsor and Robin Schosser of West Suffield.

Rick and his family settled in Windsor Locks (1962), after several moves around Connecticut, but he feels he is a native, coming here at an early



The Oliveira family

# - A Mix of Everyday Style

age. He graduated from the WLHS, Class of 1972, where he excelled in baseball and soccer. On the soccer field Rick was Dan Sullivan's goalie, when they were state champs in '72. As for his baseball career, Rick was on the state Little League champs in 1966 and later played in the Babe Ruth

were married on Oct. 27, 1984, and lived in West Suffield, Granville, Mass., and in 1986 moved to Windsor Locks.

Soon after their wedding, Rick went to work for the State of Connecticut in the Mental Health Division in Hartford, "providing services in that special field of work."

The three children of Rick and Cheryl ... Terra, 9, a fourth grader at South, plays the violin (just like her mother), her best subject is math, into soccer, and enjoys "Full House" on the television. Ryan, 7, first grade at North, also into soccer, along with Terra; and Mariel, who is five this month, a kindergarten student at North, plays soccer and joins the family at the South Windsor Karate school. Everyone is involved in scouts ... Cheryl is coordinating a volunteer program at South School.

How about Rick and Cheryl ... he plays golf at Airways and other area courses, is a member of the local Men's Basketball League, enjoys "Kung Fu" on TV, while Cheryl tends to her organic garden. This concept got her interested in food community co-op, and she has been at it for many years. A few months ago, she became involved in the local "Windsor Locks Community Co-op," which is described as follows ... "A pre-order co-op is a group of people who pool their time, resources, and buying power to purchase high quality foods at affordable prices. Members divide the work among themselves, trading their time for the lower prices." For further information call Cheryl or Carolyn Williams.

We mentioned the Dexter Dash ... that's where we first came across Cheryl's name, as one of the runners. She and her

daughter Terra had run in other races, the Bradley Run and one in Glastonbury. On young Terra: why she runs ... "I enjoy it and like to win." Cheryl's comments, "I also like to run, and also for my health and sanity." Who got her started? ... she said, "Sheila and Stanley Morris got me running, and they are the ones who started the Windsor Locks Track Club."

When asked, who did Rick most admire, he said, "Growing up in Windsor Locks, I had a lot of role models ... names that come to mind ... Brian McKeown, Bob O'Conner and Russ Matteson" (All C&K former interviewees).

Cheryl was asked the same question ... "My father," she said, "he was a real fun guy, always one to make us laugh." Any personal philosophy for Rick? ... "Love, pride and honesty." Cheryl's one word to describe Rick: "responsible." Adding: "The quality of our children's education depends on a great deal on parent's involvement."

That is their story. Rick and Cheryl might just agree ... "If you want your children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders."

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



League as an all-star.

In March of 1974, Rick went on active duty with the U.S. Air Force, with time in Texas and Michigan and on to Okinawa for two years. While in the Far East, he had leave in Japan and Hong Kong. Rick was discharged in March of 1978, and he soon after entered UConn, where he received a B.A. in psychology.

One semester was spent in Mexico, studying Spanish and living with a Mexican family. During his time at Storrs, Rick joined the ROTC, and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant. The past 20 years Rick has been in the Army Reserves, a former Company Commander, and today a Captain, as he drills in East Windsor with the Military Intelligence Battalion. In addition, Rick spent time in Arizona, where he took classes in military intelligence and also ... training as an instructor in scuba diving ... a man of many talents.

In 1983, after a short time in Florida, Rick returned to Connecticut. He and Cheryl

OCTOBER 14, 1994

## Mary Powers —

Mary Lois Powers is dedicated and very involved as a private citizen who wants people "to be aware of what goes on in their town," when it comes to neighborhood crime.

In August 1993, she began her personal crusade because of a personal experience involving a disturbance at her home. Since that night, she strongly believes "when an individual enters your property,

it is time to act,"... and she did.

Mary started the town's first neighborhood crime watch. After a year, and a monthly newsletter, her neighborhood watch "is wonderful," she said; and the neighborhood is well aware of her efforts — the support came quickly from 30 families.

But let's see what makes Mary Powers tick. Some background on this young

woman, who is a bookkeeper by day, a neighborhood watchdog by night, seven days a week.

Mary was born in Flora, Illinois, the daughter of the late Wilton Powers and Ceil Powers, who makes her home with Mary and another daughter, Helen Powers.

Mr. Powers came from Erin, Tennessee; Mrs. Powers a native of Windsor. He was a Navy veteran of World War II, and today, because of his service connection, Mary, Helen and Mrs. Powers are members of the local American Legion Auxiliary.

Mary came to Connecticut in the '60s, attending local schools, and graduated from the WLHS, Class of 1974. Helen is also a grad of the high school, Class of 1978, and is an employee of ABB in Windsor. Mary and Helen's parents had met in Hartford, as Mr. Power's job took him to different states. One job found them in Illinois, where Mary was born, and Tennessee, where Helen was born.

After high school, and a summer at Aetna, Mary decided to go south for a year, and lived in Boca Raton, where she attended business school. On her return to Connecticut, she worked a time at the Villa Rose, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (here in town) and as a bookkeeper in East Windsor for the Richard Weller Company.



Mary Powers brought the crime-fighting power of a neighborhood crime watch to this town.

## - Started the

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

# Neighborhood Crime Watch

In 1984, she joined the American Mason and Building Supply Company, and this month celebrates 10 years with the Hartford company, as

time has been in Florida, and going north to Montreal, Canada.

Mary watches the news programs, such as "20/20" and

"60 Minutes," plus "Home Improvement" and "Seinfeld."

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

Accounts Receivable Collection Manager.

In addition to her crime watch endeavors, Mary is involved as a member of the National Association of Women in Construction. Elaborating, she said, "It is an organization of women only, which include bookkeepers, owners, all individuals in any type of construction work." Adding, and most important, "One of our main goals is raising funds in providing young students (boys and girls) scholarships for those intending to make their career in construction industries." She has been associated with NAWIC since 1986.

When it comes to personal hobbies, Mary enjoys working in her garden and arts and crafts, which includes flower arrangements. When it comes to outdoors, Mary is into water skiing and swimming. Vacation



Spectator sports include the Red Sox and football's San Francisco 49ers, mostly due to meeting and knowing a relative of Bill Romanowski, who is from Connecticut. (For the record, Mr. Romanowski is now with the Philadelphia Eagles).

Politics, to a point, have been an interest to Mary, but she admits to "Not voting regularly until two years ago, because there were no candidates that impressed me." Mary said she is an independent voter and maybe someday, may decide to become involved in local politics.

Back to the "crime watch," ... back in July of this year, Mary met with First Selectman Victor J. Puia, Sgt. Roger Tharaldson, and other town officials for discussion on other areas of Windsor Locks that may desire to become a part of a neighborhood watch. Mary said ... "Pesci Park is one area being considered," according to people who live near the

park. For further consideration, according to Mary ... "The Elms and Elm Corners."

Mary keeps her neighbors up-to-date on many issues concerning the following: "Our Police Department... the media ... television news, etc.," by way of her monthly newsletter called "The Crime Watch Corner," distributed by her and her sister to the neighbors. The newsletter also includes the police reports in town, provided by the Windsor Locks Journal.

Who has had the most influence on Mary? ... "My mother ... the way she brought us up, we received a good education, a good life with her steady guidance."

#### Epilog

Mary Powers deserves credit for organizing her own neighborhood watch. She realizes the many problems ahead, and a lot of work by communities are needed.

I came across words by famed writer Erma Bombeck, that seem to fit ... "More than any other topic of conversation these days is the state of the world and its people. What's happened to us? Our cars have alarms and clubs on the steering wheel. Our doors have dead bolts and are lighted up like nuclear sites. We're afraid of other adults and their children. We all want our old world back, but we don't know how to get there." Mary doesn't have all the answers, but it's a start.

OCTOBER 21, 1994

## Michael Bracken -

*"My father taught me if you want something in life, you have to work for it, and speak up in what you believe ..."* — Michael Bracken Jr. on his father's influence.

Webster says ... "Enigma ... n. One that is puzzling, ambiguous, or inexplicable."

Michael Shelton Bracken Jr. is none of these disruptive

dictionary words. Oh, maybe to some ... but after an interview and his explanation as to his years as local fireman and policeman, he's not a puzzle, just a man who that, in his own words, is "outspoken."

Michael, known to his polite department colleagues, as "Mickey," is a native of Windsor Locks. He is the son

of Michael S. Bracken Jr. and Shirley (Crosby) Bracken. Michael Sr. came from Hartford, Mrs. Bracken is of Windsor Locks. Michael has a brother, David of town; three sisters, Maureen Zavisza of Suffield, Dawn Bonetti and Janet Bracken, residents of Windsor Locks. Michael Sr. is a veteran of the postal service in West Hartford, and will retire in January of 1995.

More on Michael Jr. ... he is a grad of WLHS, Class of 1980, but said he was too active to be in sports at the Raider School, as he joined the Windsor Locks Junior Fire Department at the age of 16. In October of 1980, he became a regular member of the town's fire department, and today is still on the active rolls. During his high school years, Michael applied for military service with the Air National Guard. He wanted to be in "aircraft rescue," but there were no openings.

He combined his duty as fireman with several jobs, after two years at the Hartford State Technical School studying electricity. He worked for Roncari Industries Inc. on their farm for two years, another two years at the Passport Restaurant under owner Frank Sutula, then drove a wrecker truck for Standard Auto Body.

In November of 1981, he had joined the local police department as a supernumerary.



Michael S. Bracken Jr. is a local policeman again, thanks to a settlement reached between his attorneys and the town.

# - Police Officer and Fireman

The following scenario is what transpired from August of 1987, over a six year period before Michael's case against the Police Department was settled.

years, Michael had this to say ... "They were lost years." However, he realized this happened in his life "for being outspoken and standing up for my rights."

Today, he feels justified.

In those years, he returned to

not a hunter or fisherman, will not eat game or fish, but I do enjoy target shooting, and have a gun collection."

He has his own motorcycle, "I'm a fair weather rider only." When vacation comes, he usually likes to travel to the Cape or Old Saybrook, "anyplace where there is water." His next investment will be a boat. He enjoys football and seeing the Whalers play. Television for him means "no 'Cops' program, but I do watch 'Court' on cable ... I have had a lot of court procedures."

Did he have a favorite saying, ... "Don't believe anything you hear, and only half of what you see." His personal philosophy ... "Treat me the way you want to be treated." When it came to admiration and influence, Michael said, "It would be my father ... he taught me if you want something in life, you have to work for it, and speak up for what you believe."

## Epilog

With the interview over, Michael gave me a pamphlet on the Windsor Locks Police, IBPO, Local 523, with its motto ... "Serving the Community since January 1, 1918." Michael has been a part of that service.

Included in the pamphlet, some words on "risks." I choose one line that fits Michael ... "But risks must be taken, because the greatest danger in life is to risk nothing."

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

In August of 1987, the Windsor Locks Police Department had two full time



openings. According to Michael, "The department's previous practice was to hire from within the department." Adding, "I was passed over."

He eventually brought suit against the Windsor Locks Police Department, the town of Windsor Locks and Chief Harry Carroll, who Michael said, "was responsible for me not being considered for the two openings."

Michael was terminated from the department, but the courts eventually ruled in Michael's favor. He said, with "My attorneys and the town of Windsor Locks ... a settlement was made out of court." Michael Bracken is now a part of "case histories," in this type of labor and civil action.

Looking back at the six

Standard Auto to drive a truck, worked for a meat distributor in South Windsor, and was a professional ambulance driver in West Hartford and Hartford. Michael as a member of the Windsor Locks Police Department had become an emergency medical technician, and over a three-year period was a volunteer Lions Ambulance driver.

Today, Michael has his seniority back with the local police department. After his favorable ruling by the courts, he was required to attend the Police Academy in Meriden for 16 weeks.

In addition, Michael is still a local volunteer fireman and had this to say ... "Being a fireman for 15 years, it's a good organization, but in years to come, because of restraints on the department, it might have to go to a full-time paid fire department."

On a more personal note ... Michael is a member of the Suffield Sportsman Association, admitting, "I'm

# June Hartford-Alley -

*"Dare to be great ...  
excellence for every child..."*  
— June Hartford-Alley's  
favorite saying

In February 1994, June Hartford-Alley assumed the role of Superintendent of Schools for the Town of Windsor Locks.

The Westerly, R.I. native knew as a young student in elementary school, "I wanted to be a teacher." This intended career role was inspired by a Catholic nun, in Stonington, Conn., where June grew up.

June (Capalbo) Hartford-Alley is the daughter of the late Thomas Capalbo Sr., who came to Rhode Island at the age of 2 from his homeland of Italy. He became an attorney in his adopted country, and practiced law until his death in 1986.

June's mother, Leona (Prescott) Capalbo, was a New Hampshire native, and today, resides in Westerly. June has a brother, Thomas Jr. of Westerly, two sisters, Beverly O'Keefe of Stonington and Marcia Hanoian of Warwick, R.I.

June graduated from Stonington High School, Class of 1953, going on to the University of Rhode Island, where she planned to be a high school teacher. Her majors were English literature and secondary education.

However, in June's junior year in college, she met her future husband, Bradley Hartford, who lived in Westerly, had attended Suffield Academy, and a graduate (like June) of the Rhode Island University. Her teaching career was put on hold.

They were married in Rhode Island, and soon after, Bradley went into the Navy pilot program in Florida, where his bride joined him.

Bradley spent 10 years in the Navy, and after leaving the service, joined United Airlines, with June and Bradley moving to Easton, Conn. Their five children grew up there and attended the Easton public schools.

Mr. Hartford was killed in 1972, the result of a traffic accident. June looking back, said, "It was 15 years after our wedding ... and (for me) it was time to start my teaching career (her second) ... the first being having our five children."

The five children of Bradley and June ... Bradley Jr., an

engineer, grad of UConn, married, lives in Rhode Island with his wife and two children. Michael, an engineer, University of New Hampshire, lives in Florida with his wife and their three children. Kristen, University of Rhode Island, school social worker, married, she and her husband reside in Mississippi with their three

administration.

She was then named school principal of the Sharon (Conn.) School (K-8th grade), for a three-year period. In the same school district, June was named assistant superintendent of schools for the next three years. This was followed by five years as superintendent of schools in Orange, Conn.

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

children.

Steven, an attorney, Fairfield University, resident of Rhode Island, with his wife and child, and another expected this month. Carolyn, University of Rhode Island, lives in "Little Rhodney, Ocean State," and is in the retail business.

Their mother's new career ... it began at the elementary level, which she found to be ... "How teachers learn from this beginning." June was in Monroe, Conn. for 10 years, and during that time earned her masters in Reading/Language Arts at the Western Connecticut State University.

Her next position was as reading consultant in the same (Monroe) school district. In 1984, June earned her Certificate of Advance Studies at Fairfield University in school



Windsor Locks Superintendent of Schools ... and she has found the town ... "A wonderful place, wonderful people and children and have enjoyed it immensely."

Let's return to 1975 ... June met William Shaw Alley of New Rochelle, N.Y., where he grew up, calling it "New Rochelle, by the sea." They had met at a discussion group, and on Feb. 6, 1976, June and William were married.

They lived in Easton, then Sharon; when June took her new job, they moved to Windsor Locks. William was a Navy Band member during World War II, in several theaters of operation. He is a professional trumpet player, and his entire life has been in the automotive business as a consultant.

William is the golfer in the family, with June the skier,

In February of this year, June Hartford-Alley became the

## — Superintendent of Schools

downhill, in Vermont, out West; she said, "Utah and Connecticut." June enjoys reading, mostly education and history, swimming in the ocean, and walking the beach. Vacation for June and William has been south to visit two of her children, and also the New England states.

When it came to spectator sports ... June proudly said, "My favorite team, the Windsor Locks Raiders." As to her favorite type of music ... classical, and when the television is on, it's probably a movie or the news.

When asked about memberships in organizations ... she belongs to many educational, to name a few: American Association of School Administrators, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, Connecticut Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, and the Northeast Coalition of Educational Leaders.

Some comments and observations by the superintendent ... Students of yesterday and students today?... "Today the world is so complex, certainly more problems than in the past." Biggest crisis facing the Windsor Locks School System ... "To try to find a good balance between funding and to insure students that they have a quality education ... the PTO, it's been wonderful, would not survive without their help ... but we

must get business more involved in order to capture the resources of the community." Adding, "We must find the way to manage today's information, everything is changing, we must keep up with today's technology."

June was asked who she most admired ... "My father, very intelligent, hard-working, devoted and honest, he was the oldest of nine children, and was their mentor."

Her personal philosophy ... "People can be happy together, helping others, hard work, that's what success is all about." Her favorite saying ... (on all her notes) ... "Dare to be great ... excellence for every child."

### Epilog

June Hartford-Alley, our new superintendent of schools, a lady easy to talk to. In January of this year, June was asked to write about her different views ... and so on ... part of her views were as follows: "I believe that it takes everyone in a community to serve its children and families well. We need to get back to neighbors helping neighbors, and teach our children to care about one another and for their community. Good citizenship is learned mostly by example. It takes a whole village to raise a child."

And June Hartford-Alley feels she has found that village.



In February 1994, June Hartford-Alley assumed the role of Superintendent of Schools for the Town of Windsor Locks.

# Jim and Therese Loughran –

*“Learn where God is trying to lead you...” —Jim’s philosophy of life.*

Jim and Therese Loughran met in the first grade at St. Mary’s School ... both graduating from WLHS, Class of 1977, going their separate ways to the Peace Corps; Jim serving in the Pacific Ocean, and Therese in Paraguay, South America.

Their paths did not cross again until the spring of 1991, when Therese was serving an internship at the Johnson Life Center in Springfield, where Jim was working.

They began dating that summer, and were married on June 20, 1992.

Jim graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University with a degree in Psychology, Therese from UConn with a degree in Human Development and Family Relations.

Their individual stories are of advanced education in critical fields of human behavior, but maybe fate was the decision maker with their eventual meeting and wedding at St. Mary’s, certainly near the school where they first met as young classmates.

Jim is a native of Windsor Locks, of the Loughran clan; Therese, a native, of the Gebhart clan. These two young, active, socially-involved citizens are the only members of these two prominent families still residing in town. They agreed, “We came from large families, we grew up here, excellent memories, and keeping the name of Loughran and Gebhart still in Windsor Locks.”

The principals in this story

... James Joseph Loughran, the son of the late James Loughran, who passed away in 1988, and Ann (Duwan) Loughran, who now makes her home in the South Bend area

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



and Mark.

I had interviewed Jim and Ann in June of 1976. He was a veteran worker at Cigna, a native of Dallas, Texas, and a grad of Boston College. Ann came from the Boston area. They had seven children, and today, five reside in South Bend, actually in Granger, one son in St. Paul, Minn., and as mentioned, Jim sticking with the old home town.

A short update on Ann’s children ... Tom the oldest, Notre Dame grad (PhD), he and his wife Lisa have three children. Tom first taught at a college in Portland, Ore., and today teaches at Trinity High School in South Bend.

Mike, a University of Indiana grad, lives in St. Paul with his wife Mary and their two children. Ann Marie is married to Tim Pingel, and they have two children. Ann Marie is a grad of St. Mary’s College, located on the Notre Dame campus. Mary and Chris Rose also call the South Bend area their home, and they have three children.

John and Shiela Loughran have one child, he’s a Notre Dame grad. Mark, the

youngest, went to school in Windsor Locks up to the eighth grade. When his mother and others moved to Indiana, he continued his education and now attends Holy Cross Community College. Jim said all his brothers and sisters, except Mark, are graduates of the WLHS, and the boys played Little League in town.

Now for the Gebhart clan ... there are seven children (not counting Therese) of George and Rose Anne Gebhart ... Rose Anne, Mary, Elaine, Tina, George, Steve and Martin.

Rose Anne, married to Greg Harry, one child, lives in Meridian, Idaho. Mary and Ross Ramirez have one child, live in Las Vegas, where Mary is a school principal. Elaine is married to Barry Zaugg, and lives in Enfield with their two children. Tina and Steve Boyer live in Florida, as does George and Denise. Steve and Mary, with their child, and closer to home is Martin and Kathy, and their two children, living in Somers. That makes 20 grandchildren for Ann Loughran, and George and Rose Ann Gebhart ... quite a family. Asked Therese, what about holidays? ... “We take turns.”

Back to the main characters ... Jim’s high school years were spent playing sports ... with freshman basketball, JV baseball, and during the summer months he attended soccer/basketball camp at Suffield Academy, under his high school coach, Mr. Dan Sullivan.

After graduation from Eastern, Jim joined the Peace Corps, saying, “I wanted to gain a new experience and to grow.” He traveled to the very Far East to Micronesia (island

## - 1st Grade to Peace Corps

group in the Pacific Ocean, east of the Philippines and north of the equator). During the two years and three months' experience, mostly in physical education for the inhabitants, he did manage to travel to Guam and Japan. Looking back to that time... "I was also learning the language and customs, serving most of my time on the island of Kosrae."

On Jim's return to the states and Windsor Locks, he went to work in Deep River, at the Catholic Reform School, dealing with delinquent young people at Mt. St. John's for two years.

Jim then attended graduate school at Springfield College, where he earned his masters in Psychological-Physical Counseling. In 1988, Jim joined the Highland Day Treatment in Springfield (a part of the Johnson Life Center Building), working as a psychiatric counselor. That's where Jim is now employed, which he said ... finds rewarding, "I do learn a lot, and enjoy helping people."

Therese (Gebhart) Loughran, daughter of George and Rose Ann (LaChapelle) Gebhart ... her folks came from Hartford, but consider themselves natives of Windsor Locks, as they grew up here, raising eight children. For many years, Rose Anne was a registered nurse at Bickfords in town. George was a local carpenter, and now they enjoy retirement in Florida.

Therese was also active at WLHS sports ... on the track and cross-country teams. She went on to UConn, earning her degree, and later her master's in social work. Then she was off to the Peace Corps in Paraguay for a three-year period, and her memories ... "I learned a lot, and actually



**Jim and Therese Loughran met in the first grade at St. Mary's School, and were eventually married two years ago.**

enjoyed their simple life style."

On her return to the states, Therese went to work at the Neighborhood Center in Hartford for a six-year period. Today, Therese is a social worker at Hartford Hospital in the Pediatrics Clinic, for the past four years.

Jim and Therese realize ... all work and no play ... as they are involved, for Jim, in ice hockey on area ponds, with Therese enjoying the outdoors, hiking and camping with Jim. At home, she's the cook in the family, tends to the garden,

and works crossword puzzles. Jim reads a lot ... religion/psychology. But would you believe ... he's still a Red Sox fan, enjoys classical music and rock and roll music of the '60s and '70s. Television is not on their priority list.

Vacation time might be camping in New Hampshire or enjoying the Cape, and many visits to relatives from Las Vegas to Florida. They have been to the Bahama Islands, and a very special trip to Ireland. Jim and Therese first lived on Main Street and

ACTIVE / page 6

*Continued from page 5*  
have been at their present home since September of 1993.

On the local and church level, Jim is a member of the St. Mary's Parish Council, and member of the Association of Christian Therapists. He is also involved in the CYO program at St. Mary's.

Therese was asked to describe Jim in one word ... well, Therese had the following four ... "dedicated, true, loving and compassionate."

They both agreed, as to whom they admire ... "Our parents ... strong family ties, and strong marriage bonds." Therese's philosophy ... "Look for the best in people." Jim said, "Learn where God is trying to lead you."

### Epilog

Jim and Therese Loughran ... if one word describes this friendly and concerned couple ... it's dedication. Their young lives have already been geared to helping others, as Jim so eloquently stated.

Playwright Neil Simon wrote ... (and it seems to mirror Jim and Therese) ... "I firmly believe that if you follow a path that interests you, not to the exclusion of love, sensitivity, and cooperation with others, but with the strength of conviction that you can move others by your own efforts, and do not make success or failure the criteria by which you live, the chances are you'll be a person worthy of your own respect."

# Stanley & Shelia Morris —

*"Live each day on purpose ... — Dr. Stanley L. Morris' philosophy of life.*

With his newly-acquired Doctor of Ministry degree, Dr. Stanley L. Morris has high aspirations for establishing a "conservative bible college" in the next two years, being located in Bloomfield.

His wife, Shelia (Cryan) Morris, always the faithful worker with her husband, in their International Bible Translators, Inc., also has high hopes, to participate in the Boston Marathon.

Certainly with diverse goals, Stanley and Shelia, two talented individuals, with different backgrounds, but with faith enough to be very successful.

Background on these interesting local residents since 1983 ... Stanley L. Morris, born in Oklahoma City, OK, the son of the late Homer Morris, who came from Illinois, spent 20 years in the Air Force, and according to Stanley, "was inspired by Charles Lindbergh and consumed by aviation," in the late '30s. His father joined the Canadian Air Force, then with the advent of World War II, became a member of the U.S. Army Air Force, being discharged as a Lt. Colonel. Stanley said his father was flying planes at the age of 47. He had served in the Pacific theater of operations during the war.

Stanley's mother Pauline (Hom) Morris is still a resident of the Oklahoma City area, where her only son grew up.

Stanley remembers well his high school days (Class of 1958) and before as a young boy ... being active in the 4-H program, with his own Jersey cow, taking part in the local soap box derby,

achieving National Honor Society membership in high school, running for president of his class, but losing to the football captain.

Looking back, after high school, "I had no idea as to my future." Here received a scholarship to Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, where he spent only one year in "how a dairy farm was run." He decided this was not his course of action, as far as

life." He still was in search of more education and in 1973, received his masters in linguistics from Hunter College in New York City.

From 1973 to 1980, a period where he lived and worked in the state of Texas, then eventually moving to Unionville, Ct., where he continued his pursuit in organizing the International Bible Translators, Inc., operating from his home.

Now enter Shelia — they met in Maine at a Christian singles retreat. Some background on Shelia ... the daughter of the late Jack Cryan, who was from Lowell, MA, had worked in the local factories, and at the Mental Health Center. Shelia's mother, Jane (Matthews) Cryan was from County Mayor, Ireland. She came to the states at the age of nine, and her family settled in Lowell. Today, Mrs. Cryan resides in Chelmsford, MA, where Shelia grew up. For the record, Shelia was proud to say, her parents, over the years, raised literally hundreds of foster children, which was a very important part of their lives.

Shelia graduated from Lowell Catholic High School, Class of 1962. She sadly remembers at that time, sports were not available to girls. Shelia has two brothers, Tom of Denver, John lives in Mass., and two sisters, Mary Jane, who is presently living in Rome, Italy, and had lived in Russia for a time, and Kathy who resides in Chelmsford.

Shelia wanted, at an early age, "to be a social worker." After high school, she spent a year as volunteer in Elkhart, Kansas, at a Catholic mission. She returned to Lowell, to work at the Welfare Department of that city. In 1966, she received a degree in social work from D'Youville College, in Buffalo, N.Y.

For a period of 15 years, Shelia has been a social worker

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



a career.

Even at an early age, Stanley was more interested in the Bible. He said he took the best course of

action, he entered Oklahoma Christian College, and graduated in 1963, magna cum laude, his major, the Bible, with a minor in Greek.

His next move was to enter graduate school (for the next five years) earning a Master of Divinity at the Harding Graduate School in Memphis, TN. He did manage to serve six months on active duty with the Air Force and in 1966, completed his reserve status.

Next move for Stanley Morris ... with these words ... "I wanted to attend a Jewish school." The year was spent at the Hebrew University in Cincinnati, Ohio. It was now time to put his education into practice ... he said, during the interview ... "I was always going east," and he did, to New York City to take a job with the American Bible Society as editor of the Translation Department, for the next four years, which he said, "The happiest time of my



From left, Stanley, Shelia, Rebecca and Emily Morris

(medical) at hospitals and nursing homes in Connecticut. Today, she gives her attention to Stanley's bible organization. However, she has found the time to teach, in what she calls workshops (various locations) in "Becoming Totally Fit ... Physical, Spiritual, Social and Intellectual."

Stanley and Shelia were married on Feb. 13, 1982, and lived in Unionville until 1983, when they moved to Windsor Locks.

The six children of Stanley and Shelia ... Mary Beth Dahlstrom, Robert, Kathy, Erin, Emily and Rebecca. Mary Beth and Jonathan Dahlstrom live in town, with their son Christian, only grandchild of Stanley and Shelia.

Robert lives in Dallas, Texas, is a 1984 WLHS grad, was in the class musical "Anything Goes," and member of the school's

football team. Kathy lives in Los Angeles, WLHS Class of 1987, was in "Bye Bye Birdie," and currently very involved in a television and movie career in Hollywood, has appeared in several TV shows and in commercials.

Erin is a student at Colorado College, a 1991 WLHS grad, member of "Vocal Motion," played basketball and track, soccer captain, and was class secretary all of her four years at the Raider school. Like her brother and sister before her, Erin was in "Guys & Dolls," her class musical.

The youngest in the clan ... Emily and Rebecca. Emily is in the fifth grade at South, and Rebecca a first grader at North. Both girls are active in soccer and the scouting program, and run with their mother.

Back to the man in the bible

translation business, and the runner in the family. Actually it's a running family, Stanley has run and the little girls have joined their parents in the exercise. Stanley admits, "Shelia is the faster." He also plays basketball in the town's men's league and is a bowler of note. Speaking of bowling at Bradley ... Stanley was instrumental in getting the famous singer, Pat Boone to sponsor one of the many ABC bowling tournaments at Bradley, back in 1985. Stanley proudly said, "Pat's a friend of mine."

They find the time to root for the Miami pro team in football (Shelia) and Stanley is a Dallas fan. The television is limited to the news program and they have been too busy the past few years to take vacations.

Shelia's real passion has been running ... Dexter Dash, Bradley

HE'S / page 14

*Continued from page 12*  
5-K, and Santa's Run in Glastonbury, with Emily and Rebecca running along side of their parents. Shelia admits ... "The older I get the faster I get," and in a year or two, will run the 50 to 59 class and someday, run in the Boston Marathon.

Stanley's real passion has been the Bible ... for over 20 years, he has been involved in the translations of the Bible, from Greek and Hebrew to "The Simple English Bible."

Now for a history lesson

... Stanley said, "Since the invention of the Gutenberg printing press (the Bible was the first book printed from moveable type) 85 percent of all Bibles are printed in English."

He continues to work and prepare Bibles into other simple language format. He is now working on the Old Testament, from Hebrew, and has already completed the New Testament, from Greek.

From the Introduction ("The Simple English Bible")  
... "achieving understanding

from Scripture is a worthy goal, but a far more important aim is to apply what we learn from Scripture to our daily lives. That is the ultimate translation!"

When Shelia was asked who she most admired ... "Stanley, when he puts his mind to something, it gets done." One word to describe Stanley, Shelia said is, "Determination." With Stanley ... "It is Jesus ... when (I found him) he came into my life." Stanley's personal philosophy ... "Live each day on purpose." Their favorite passage from the bible ... Romans 8:28 ... "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God."

#### Epilog

Stanley and Shelia Morris ... their story of education, physical and mental fitness, and the translation of the Bible into many languages. To them it is a labor of love ... and the following words by the late Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, probably describes their life in proper perspective ...

"Those who are working for the acquiring of a fortune, or to enjoy life, or maybe to exist, will approach work from an entirely different point of view than the man or woman who works for God. The peculiar characteristic of the latter is that when he or she renders it all he or she may not indulge in any self-complacency as if he or she had done anything extra-ordinary or deserved any special commendation, for everything that is done belongs to God."

## He's Translated Bibles

### for 20 Years

# A World of Nursing, Insurance,

*"A lot of work (hectic at times)...(but)I always wanted two boys and two girls ..."* — Lisa Pepin on their four young children.

Albert Paul Pepin is into insurance as a programmer. He and Lisa (Skinner) Pepin, the registered nurse, both emphasize exercise, walking and running, and admit...raising four children makes for a busy schedule, and a lot of satisfaction.

Al is from Windsor, Lisa a Torrington native. They came to Windsor Locks in 1992, saying ... "We know a lot of people (here), heard of the good school system, and (reasonable) taxes."

Lisa always wanted "two boys and two girls," and her personal goal of motherhood came true, with Sarah, Tyler, Allison and little Conor, filling their home with joy and activity; and they both agree, "A lot of work, hectic at times," but it doesn't take long to see that Al and Lisa enjoy their role as parents.

Al grew up in Windsor, the son of Joseph and Gloria (Lemieux) Pepin. Both came from Hartford and now reside in Windsor. Joseph was an old-time milkman for 30 years for Sealtest, and retired after another four years as custodian in the Simsbury School system.

Al has three brothers ...

Roland who lives in Ohio; Donald and Roger, who reside in Windsor; and two sisters, Debbie of Enfield and Sharon of Windsor.

Al graduated from Windsor High School (Class of 1967), where he played soccer and baseball. Speaking of baseball,

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



Al has a connection of sorts with the Windsor Locks 1965 Little League World Champs ... his cousin, Dennis Dakin was a member of that local team that made history.

With his enthusiasm in sports, Al "wanted to be a coach," however, things sometimes have a way of changing your life around, and his career took a different path. He joined the Hartford National Bank for a four-year period, and remembers saying ... "It was a job." He then attended Ward Technical College (Part of the University of Hartford), and tried his hand at electronics; and in 1983, he earned an associate degree.

More schooling was on Al's agenda ... he went to Morse School of Business, where he actually found his career ...

computer programming. Today, after 12 years, Al is at Traveler's Insurance, now as a database administrator.

Now for the mother of his four children ... Lisa is the daughter of Robert and Anne (Travers) Skinner, both from New Britain, who now call Torrington their home. Robert retired from Northeast Utilities four years ago. Lisa has a brother, Christopher, a policeman in Torrington.

Lisa is a grad of Torrington High School (Class of 1983), and she was also into sports ... soccer and track, and in the classroom she made the National Honor Society.

She went to the St. Francis School of Nursing, and in 1986, received her cap as registered nurse. Today, the young lady in white is at St. Francis Hospital ... and where? ... a very familiar area ... the delivery room.

Lisa and Al met through one of Lisa's friends at the nursing school. They were married on Feb. 13, 1988, first living in East Windsor, and then moving to Windsor Locks in 1992.

The four children of Lisa and Albert ... Sarah, 6, first grade at North. Sarah enjoys painting at school, and watching "Full House" on television. Tyler, 4, is in nursery school at "Happy Times," in Enfield. His favorite TV program is "Power Rangers." Allison, 2, and brother, Conor, 1, are faithful

# Running and Children

fans of "Barney." Who is the disciplinarian in the family? ... "daddy."

As for sports (for Al and when time permits) ... playing basketball in the town's "over 35 gang," he was an active softball player in the Insurance League, and Windsor's fast pitch. He hasn't forgotten his coaching dreams; the past 10 years, Al was involved in youth soccer in Windsor, and now is a coach with son Tyler's team in the town's soccer program.

When all the kids are fast asleep ... Lisa will pick up a novel for her reading enjoyment. Family vacations are usually at Cape Cod or up in Old Orchard Beach in Maine.

Al follows the Red Sox ... and when it comes to TV, he was a fan of "Hill Street Blues," and today, it's "Home Improvement" and "Seinfeld." Lisa, the nurse, is a fan of "Chicago Hope" and "ER," and she does find them "realistic."

When it comes to running ... Al has been into running the past five years, which includes the local "Dexter Dash." During his lunch hour at Traveler's, Al will run (daily) three to five miles. Why does he do it? "I guess you would say, it's a form of stress relief, and of course the exercise." He intends to run the Dexter and Bradley 5-K in the future. "I probably will not run the Boston Marathon," he said with a smile.

Lisa is the "walker in the family," with a routine of walking with her neighbor Linda



The Pepin family

Mailman, strolling the neighborhood three times a week; maybe "a road race in the future, but walking," she said.

When asked who they most admired ... Al said, "Growing up I would say baseball's Pete Rose." Lisa said, "My aunt and uncle, Tom and Ginny Walsh, now of Nashua, N.H., they had three children, but always found the time for each other." Lisa's personal philosophy ... "Everything happens for a reason." A few choice words by Lisa on Albert ... "A very

committed man to the family, and takes his responsibility very seriously."

## Epilog

Al and Lisa Pepin ... find "time for each other," even with their enjoyable "hectic," time with the four young ones. A few items that may apply ... "Mealtime is when the kids sit down to continue eating." And, "Parents can plant magic in a child's mind through certain words spoken with some thrilling quality of voice, some uplift of the heart and spirit."

## The Dustins Call their

The story of Ken and Mary Jane Dustin is one of family togetherness ... their three active children, an active dog, coaching, Mary Jane with years at Airborne Express and Ken in the automobile business.

The Dustins have been residents of Windsor Locks since 1978, and find it just "great." Both Ken and Mary Jane are graduates of East Windsor High School (class of 1970), where they met, and have been "sweethearts" ever since.

Kenneth Craig Dustin was born in Springfield, lived in Enfield and for a time in Windsor Locks (leaving in 1964), to move to the other side of the river. Mary Jane is a native of East Windsor, and sometimes is call "MJ."

Ken is the son of the late Lester Dustin, who retired as a guard at the Enfield State

### Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND

Prison. Ken's mother, Grace (Sandone) LaMore, now lives in Pennsylvania. Ken has a brother, Gary, of South Windsor and two sisters, Debbie, of Enfield and Kathy, of South Windsor.

In high school, Ken was a member of the track and field team, but worked at odd jobs during most of the high school years, and sports, at that time was not a high priority.

Mary Jane (Trombly) Dustin is the daughter of the late Kenneth Trombly, who was retired from Suburban



Propane, and was an East Windsor native. MJ's mother, Helen

(Dalton) Trombly, was from Fitchburg, MA, and now resides in East Windsor.

Mary Jane comes from a large family ... two sisters, Sandra, who lives in Windsorville, Jackie in East Windsor, and three brothers ... Dick in sunny California, Ken in Dedham, MA, and Jim, her twin, in East Windsor.

She was active at East Windsor High, as a member of the Student Council, on the Class Book Committee, and as her "high school sweetheart," worked after school hours. Soon after graduation, she went to work for Airborne Express, now located on Ella Grasso Turnpike. Today, with 25

## Adopted Town Just "Great"



**The Dustin family**

years service, she is their customer service manager.

Ken has been in the "auto business all of his life," starting with Chorches in town (15 years) and the past 10 years in Windsor with Scully Motors Inc. (on Route 75). Both of his auto positions have been classified as "doing about everything" and today, he is service manager for Chrysler Plymouth.

Ken and Mary Jane were married on Sept. 7, 1974, lived in East Windsor and then in 1978 moved to their adopted town of Windsor Locks.

The three children of Ken and Mary Jane ... Marcie, 13, who is in the eighth grade at the Middle School, enjoys "reading at school." Her

favorite TV show is "Beverly Hills 90210", she's "a good student, a member of the Student Council," according to her proud parents. Marcie is very involved in sports ... soccer and softball.

Then we have the twins ... Kenny and Katie, 10 years old, who are in the fifth grade at South, with Kenny active in Little League and soccer. Katie, "the girl in the family," enjoys "Full House" on TV, her favorite subject in school is math, same as Kenny. Kenny is a big fan of the New York Yankees and Don Mattingly.

When it comes to hobbies for their parents ... Ken is very into golf at Millbrook and Airways ... his cousin George Sandone is the owner

of Airways in Suffield. Ken played a lot of basketball for years, until an injury stopped his participation. Mary Jane "plans to take up golf," and admits "her biggest job is raising the kids."

The Dustin family is big Hartford Whalers fan and at one time was a season ticket holder. Ken and Mary Jane have their own television favorites ... "Seinfeld and Murphy Brown."

Back to sports ... Ken has always "loved the game of softball," played in Enfield, with Mary Jane says ... "If it was Sunday morning, I would say, 'Daddy is playing softball,' and the kids and I would all go to the games." Ken coached Marcie, when she played softball, and when Kenny took up T-Ball, his dad was there for him.

With the holidays ... Thanksgiving last month, and now Christmas in a few weeks, for the Dustins it will be a "family affair."

Mary Jane was asked who she most admired ... and said, "I would say my mother, a hard worker and for putting up with six kids." When asked for one word to describe Ken ... she said, "sincere." Ken's personal philosophy ... "Hard work and dedication."

### Epilogue

For the Dustin family, Windsor Locks is just "great", and they have certainly become a part of the school and sports scene. Ken and Mary Jane might just agree with the following ... "The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence."

# Cutler

"My main hobby ... photographing our son's (sports) career ..." — Bob Cutler

The night we interviewed Bob, Carol and Jason Cutler, was the evening after the Windsor Locks High School soccer team beat Cromwell in the Class "S" tournament semi-finals.

Their son Jason has been on Dan Sullivan's team for four seasons, as well as the school's basketball team.

Jason's dream of being a member of the Class "S" championship came true on the Saturday of that week. It was the second time a member of the Cutler family played in a state championship. Allan Cutler played in the school's 1990 soccer championship. In addition to Jason, Sean Claffey, Brian Maltese and Eric Barthel of this year's team all had older brothers who were teammates on the 1990 winning state championship team which captured the win against Ellington.

Jason and Allan's folks were known as true blue Raider fans. Robert Henry Cutler is a Thompsonville native. He is the son of the late Marjorie (LaGrange) Cutler, who was from Enfield, and Sumner Cutler of Thompsonville. Bob's dad still resides in Thompsonville, and has now retired from his job at Pratt & Whitney.

Bob has a brother called William who lives in Stafford, and a sister Ruth Ann, who lives in Enfield. William works as a principal at Fermi High School.

Bob graduated from Cheney Tech in 1970, and later took up the trade of an electrician. He has been a faithful employee of the Travelers for more than 20 years. Bob also spent six

years with the Air Force reserves at Westover, after spending

six months in Texas.

Carol

Richardson Cutler is an Enfield native, the daughter of the late Kenneth Richardson. Carl's mother, Connie Tower, was from Sanford, Maine. She came to Connecticut for employment reasons, met her future husband and now resides in Windsor. Carol has a sister, Betsy, of Manchester.

Carol's worked a year at Combustion Engineering Inc., and two years at Traveler's, before becoming a full time housewife and mother to their two boys, Jason and Allan.

Bob and Carol met "by way of introduction of friends," when they were both in high school. Carol is a graduate of the Enfield High School, Class of 1971.

They were married on Oct. 6, 1972, lived in Enfield for a year, before moving to Windsor Locks in 1974. They commented on their adopted town. "We really like Windsor Locks, the small town atmosphere, and you feel comfortable here," they said.

Their 19 year old son Alan is a graduate of the Windsor Locks Highschool Class of 1993. Alan excelled in soccer and baseball. He began his baseball career in the town's Little League program, and went on to high school to play baseball and soccer. He is currently attending Eastern State, where he is studying environmental sciences. His parents refer to him as "a boy who enjoys the outdoors."

Their year old son Jason,

also known as Jay, is a highschool senior. He has had

four years of varsity soccer and basketball

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



His favorite sport is basketball. His favorite food is pasta.

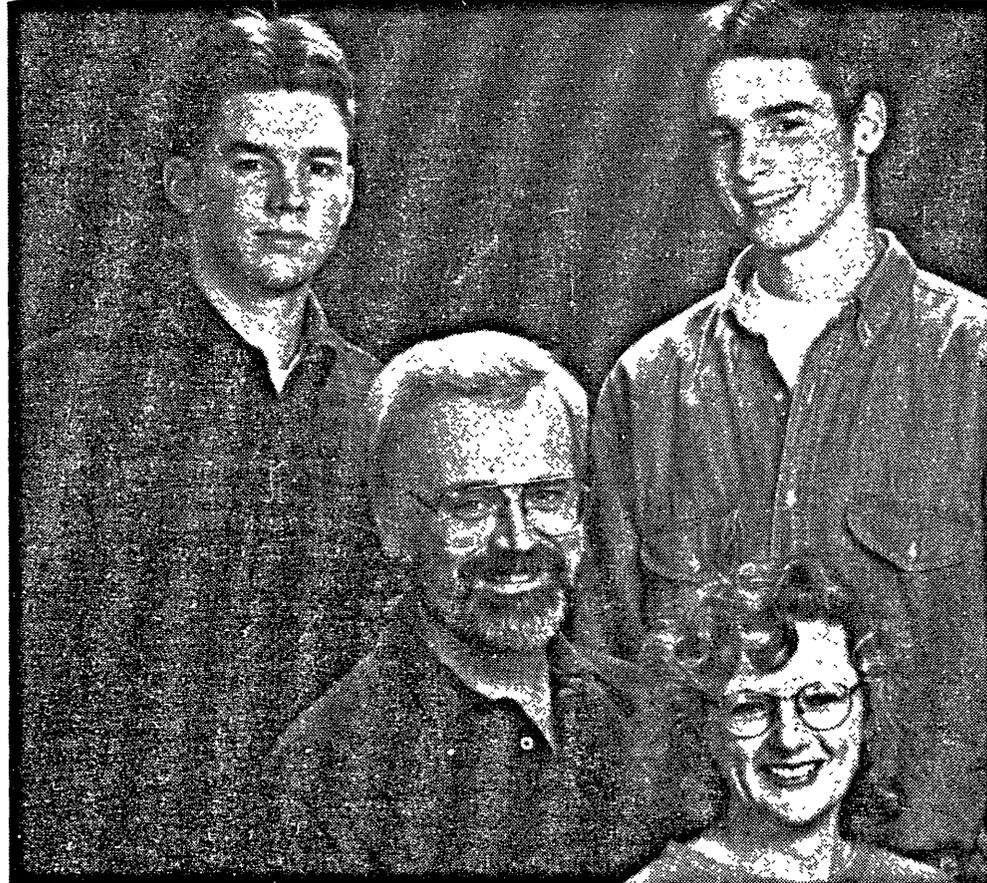
Jason started his Little League career in T-Ball, and continued right up to the senior division. He, like Allan, is a lefty, with first base his diamond position. When it comes to favorites in pro basketball, he's a Michael Jordan fan. He still follows the Chicago Bulls and Yankees in baseball, and is a big fan of both pro and college basketball.

Jason's commented on this year's high school basketball team. "It should be a good year for the Raiders, with last year's starters all coming back." Jason's plans to continue playing basketball after high school at college. His college choices include Keene State, Westfield State and the University of Sacred Heart.

Their father's main hobby is "photographing their sports career." even though they are involved in sports, they try to find time for civic affairs. When we first called for a night to interview "... a Board of Education meeting was on and they were going to be there. They follow the actions of the board, especially during the recent budget hearings. With Carol saying, "We want to know what's going on."

Carol is a member of the Municipal Resource Recovery Committee. She emphasizes comments that were stated in

## Two Soccer Champions



the annual report. "For the recovery and conversion of solid wastes into forms of energy or reusable materials, the authority is dedicated to making recycling work at all levels in town."

In addition, for three years, Carol has had a clothing consignment shop in partnership with Ann Barthel, and they called their shop "The Right Stuff." Ann also sells Avon products. She is interested in education, the South Street PTO, and has worked as volunteer in the library. In the Little League program, Carol was secretary

of the auxiliary for several years.

Bob and Carol were asked for their philosophy of life. Bob said, "Be honest, work hard and let the chips fall where they may" As for Carol, she said, "The Golden Rule." Carol's description of Bob, "He is understanding and diplomatic." Did they have favorite sayings? You bet. Carol's, "God put me on the earth to accomplish a certain number of things. Right now, I am so far behind that I will never die." Bob is the diplomatic one. He quotes the

Serenity Prayer. "God, grant me the serenity to change the things I can, accept the things I cannot change and wisdom to know the difference."

That's the story of Bob, Carol and their two soccer champions, Allan and Jay. Their mother had this to say. "As far as our boys are concerned, we felt that if we kept them busy they would develop interests that might keep them from hanging around looking for trouble. They are great kids. Raising them has been the most important part of our lives."

# The Mailman Family Is

Matt and Linda Mailman are both graduates of Eastern Connecticut State College, where they met, majored in environmental sciences, and now are employed at Hamilton-Standard.

However, their story is mainly centered around family togetherness, with their three children, and memories of Matt's prominence as a former star pitcher, and his early life as "Air Force brat," during his father's service time from Hawaii to Cape Cod.

Matt and Linda have been residents in town since 1982, and with Christmas Day only a short time away, celebration will be with families, with Christmas Eve in the Polish tradition, and their children, Bryan, Ashley and Emily very ready for Santa Claus.

In more detail, Matthew Drew Mailman is the son of the late Ernie Mailman, retired from the Air Force and Combustion Engineering Inc., who passed away this past July. Mr. Mailman (a native of Danforth, Maine) joined the Air Force in the early '50s, retired in 1968, with service in England, Hawaii, the Cape and in Tennessee. He then joined Combustion Engineering, retiring in 1989.

Matt's mother, Lila (Dorner) Mailman, who was from New York state, now resides in Enfield. Matt has a brother, William, of

Longmeadow, Mass., who manages a McDonald's restaurant in Southwick, Mass.

Matt was born in Plattsburgh, N.Y., on one of his dad's service assignments. His schooling began in Honolulu, Oahu, capital city of Hawaii. Talk about contrasts. Next stop for young Matt and family: Cape Cod at Otis Air Force Base; then on to Tennessee, Smyrna AFB. Upon his dad's retirement, the family came to Enfield in 1968, when his father went to work for C-E. Matt graduated from Enrico Fermi High School, class of 1975.

Matt was an outstanding athlete at Fermi, playing football and baseball. He was a pitcher on the diamond, linebacker on the gridiron. Matt's baseball career started with Little League in Enfield, and was a member of that town's Senior LL State Champs in 1973.

Matt recalled the many times he faced the Little Leaguers of Windsor Locks. He went on to the highly rated Hartford's Twilight League over a 10-year period. Yes, he said, "like a lot of kids, had dreams of playing in the majors."

Matt graduated from

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



Eastern in 1980, with a B.A. degree and pitched for the college team. He met his future

bride, Linda Trzcinski, who is an Eastern grad, class of 1978, and also received a B.A. degree. Linda had graduated from East Catholic High School, class of 1974.

Linda is the daughter of Stanley and Tina (Kalinides) Trzcinski, now of Glastonbury. Stanley is retired from Taylor-Fenn. He came from his native Poland, but due to immigration restrictions, had to live in Cuba for 13 years, before coming to his new home in Connecticut, in the early '30s. Mrs. Trzcinski was from Hartford. Linda has two brothers: Paul who lives on Long Island, and Peter of Glastonbury.

After college, Matt worked for a year at Choice-Vend, then joined C-E and LaPointe Industries, for six months at each location, followed by another year at C-E. After a year with United Technologies and Delta Industries, he returned to Hamilton-Standard in 1986 and settled

# 'Ready for Santa Claus'



The Mailman family

in their network operations department.

Linda, on the other hand, has only for Hamilton-Standard, which began in 1978, and the past decade "on a part-time," basis, time out for the children and today, senior systems analyst, saying, "It's supporting the electronic mail systems," with a few cute remarks about her "mail" involvement.

This congenial and

friendly couple were married on April 4, 1981, and lived in Enfield for a year before moving to town. Matt and Linda's three children are Bryan, 10-1/2, Ashley, 8 and Emily, 4.

Bryan is in the fifth grade at South, where math is his favorite subject. Bryan, who has two years in Little League, has moved from T-Ball into the majors and is a pitcher, like his dad. He is also into

soccer and basketball, with dad proudly describing him as "a three-letter man." Dad is also a coach on the travel soccer team with Bryan. The young man's favorite TV program is "Family Matters."

Ashley is into gymnastics. She is in the third grade at South, where she enjoys reading and art. Like her brother, she also watches "Family Matters." Little

*Mailman/page 12*

*Continued from page 11*  
Emily, attends preschool at North and, like her peers, is a "Barney" fan.

Matt, at one time, was into building model airplanes, painting still life, but doesn't have the time for it now because he's busy at work, the kids and playing some baseball in season with the over 30

gang. As for Linda's hobbies, "You would have to say my kids," adding, "I do walk three times a week with my neighbor, Lisa Pepin, around our block."

Vacations for the Mailman family are in Florida and always near the water in Rhode Island. Matt and Bryan are Red Sox fans, and very much

Whaler fans, and remember well, being members of the I-91 Whaler club up to West Springfield, several years back. As for television, it's hospital shows "Chicago Hope" and "ER."

When asked who they most admired, Linda said, "My aunt Jean Georglades of East Hartford, the sweetest and

most honest lady on this earth." For Matt ... "My mother, especially since July (with Mr. Mailman's passing) she has been through a lot, a fantastic lady."

One word to describe Matt, Linda said, "That would be honest." With Linda adding, "Appreciate your family, count your blessings."

And speaking about being honest, the Mailman children were honest and very much looking forward to Christmas. They have made their lists and didn't have to check it twice. Bryan wants an electronic game "Shaq-Fu"; Ashley wants "a miniature doll house plus Polly Pockets; and for little Emily, a doll called "Maggie Doodles."

## Epilogue

There's Matt, Linda, Bryan, Ashley and Emily, all doing their thing. The family has counted its blessings and is looking forward to the celebration of Christmas, the old way and the new. Someone once wrote, "Christmas is the day that holds time together," and we may add, also the family.

DECEMBER 23, 1994

# Wawruck Family –

The Christmas season is always a busy time around the comfortable home of Steve and Nancy Wawruck, especially with their children ... Kristen and the twins, Kim and Steven III, anxiously waiting for Santa Claus. It is the season for family togetherness.

The rest of the year, Steve and Nancy are active with family camping trips, his Air National Guard position, her new Board of Education job, his involvement with the local Credit Union ... yes, they are involved in the business of living, as with their children in school and other activities.

The father of this clan ... a native son, is Steven Nickolas Wawruck Jr., the son of the late Steven Sr., who was from Glastonbury. His mother, Ann (Mobbligo) Wawruck was a familiar face around the high school, when she was secretary to Principal Raymond Grasso. Ann is now retired, and still

lives in her hometown.

Steven Jr., better known as Steve, has three brothers, Alan (who was a subject in C&K, October 1987), now lives and works in Korea for the United States government, John in North Carolina, Dan in Baltimore, and their sister, Carol Jabal in Broad Brook.

The mother of the clan ... Nancy (Dudack) Wawruck, is the daughter of Leon Dudack Sr., who came from Thompsonville and retired from the Chandler-Evans company. Nancy's mother, "Jessie," (Zawalick) Dudack, was from Northampton, Mass. Today, "Jessie" and Leon make their home in Windsor.

Nancy has two brothers ... Leon Jr., of Windsor, Robert in Suffield, and their sister, Patricia Pawlowicz, who lives in Windsor.

Nancy graduated from Windsor High School, class of 1974, where she was an active member of a "Cultural

Club,"

with its main theme of travel,

which included trips to Puerto Rico and Portugal.

Steve and Nancy were married on May 20, 1978, after they had met at a wedding, the year before. They lived in Warehouse Point for the first three years, a year in Broad Brook, and since 1981, have been residents of Windsor Locks.

Kristen, 10, is in the fifth grade at South, with her favorite subject, social studies. She plays the clarinet, is into swimming, has a pet guinea pig, and is the "top cookie salesperson," for Girl Scout Troop 561, as a member for five years.

The twins, Kim and Steven

## Cabbages & Kings

WITH JACK REDMOND



III, five years old, are in

kindergarten at North. Both enjoy art. Steven is into "instructional soccer," with his father as one of the coaches. Their dad's

reaction to the birth of twins ... "We were prepared ... however, it was still a shock and mind-boggling." Adding, "Yes, they are different, when it comes to personalities."

Their dad is a grad of the WLHS, class of 1970, where he was on the track team. Before high school Steve played Little League and Babe Ruth, and has been involved in the town's Little League program as minor league administrator. In 1981, Steve attended Asnuntuck Community College (nights)

## - Anxiously Waiting for Santa

earning an associate's degree in computer sciences.

Steve's employment record began locally with Choice-Vend for a year, followed by four years at Kaman, two years at the Hamilton-Standard Credit Union, and since 1979, has been working full time at the Air National Guard facilities, in Production Control. Back in May of 1970, Steve joined the guard, serving six weeks in Texas, and six months in Illinois at the Chanute AFB.

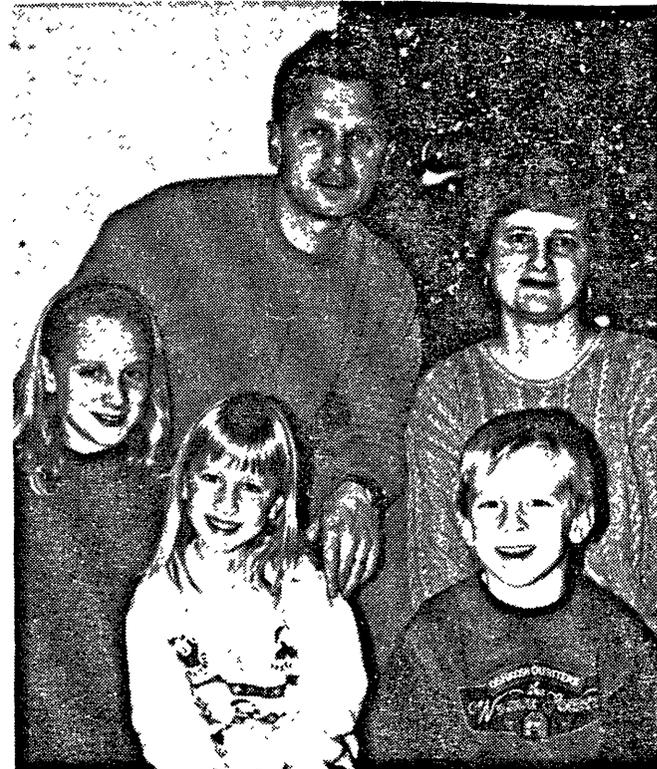
Nancy spent 11 years at Windsor's Combustion Engineering Inc., then "became a mother." She returned to the labor market with six years of nights at Lego in Enfield. Last month, when we interviewed the family, Nancy had just started with the town's Board of Education in "special services," at the high school.

How about hobbies? The Wawruck family is into

camping ... at the Connecticut shore, or the White Mountains in New Hampshire. In the world of spectator sports ... Steve has been a Yankee fan since the days of Mickey Mantle. When it comes to television ... Kristen joined her parents for "Home Improvement." Later in the evening ... Steve will catch "NYPD-Blue." Nancy's main hobby around the house is cooking. Add two very important hobbies of Steve's are fishing and golf.

In addition to Steve's so-called spare time ... he's been a volunteer at the Windsor Locks Credit Union the past 12 years. He is vice president of the Board of Directors and chairman of the Supervisory Committee overseeing the operations of the Credit Union. Steve is a member of the local American Legion and the Air Guard Non-Commissioned Graduates Association.

*Wawruck/page 7*



The Wawruck family

### *Continued from page 6*

When asked who they most admired, Steve said, "My parents; they were always there for us kids, and my mother is still there to lend a helping hand." Nancy said, "My husband ... he is very committed to his family ... and you asked, for one word to describe Steve ... devoted, to his family, job, whatever he does."

Steve's philosophy of life is: "Treat everyone as you want to be treated." Nancy's is: "Live life one day at a time, with an eye to the future."

Any favorite sayings? ... Steve: "Tell it like it is." Nancy: "That's life."

The following wishes for gifts from Santa of the Wawruck children: Kristen ... "Reading books and computer games." Kim ... "A Barbie

doll ... Super Talk." Steven III ... "A real baseball bat, not the whiffle kind."

I was going to end the story of the Wawruck family with words from the famous quote on the belief in Santa Claus. As Virginia found out ... Yes, Kristen, Kim and Steven III ... there is a Santa Claus. However, I also came across the following ... Richard Attenborough, the famed

English actor, who plays the department store Santa in the remake of "Miracle on 34th Street," was asked ... Do you believe in Santa Claus? ... "Course I do," declared Attenborough. "How else could I face my grandchildren?"

You know, he's right! Merry Christmas to All!!

# Opinion

## Wow! ... 1995 Is Just Around the Corner

The following needs repeating ... "Let us walk softly, friend;

For strange paths lie before us, all untrod;

The new year, spotless from the land of God

Is thine and mine, O friend ..."

So old friends of Windsor Locks, let's put our minds to work and attempt to conjure up what a few of the natives

may want for the new year. Remember, what another author once said ... "There are three things which are real: God, human folly and laughter. The first two are beyond our comprehension. So we must do what we can with the third ..."

• Herman True & Blaise Pascale ... Pick up an old fire truck in the new year.

• Mikalonis & Sabine Men ... Witness another great year at Riverside racing shows.

• Ruckdeschel Family ... A trip to Agoura Hills, California (near LA) to see first hand where their favorite TV show "Dr. Quinn," is filmed.

• Betty & Joe LaPierre Jr. ... A great new year to spoil your first grandchild.

• Where Have They Gone? ... Con O'Leary and Ed Ferrari

• George Hall, Dave Farr and Ed Brazalovich ... Will they live and survive without baseball in 1995?

• Walter Gale ... Our so-called old time runner, still setting the pace for his age group.

• Joe Fiore ... Forget those tall tree tops.

• Vic Puia ... Looking more like Hartford's Mayor Mike Peters, everyday, which is a good sign.

• Bob Morrell ... Good luck in the new year as head of the Teacher's Union.

• Fran Aniello Sr. ... If you could only putt.

• Phil Famiglietti ... This year pick a partner who doesn't three-putt every green.

• Mary Powers ... Continued good luck in your neighborhood watch.

• John D. McSweegan III ... A good example for all of us.

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successful new year at the Senior Center ... with the name of Reilly, you can't miss.

• Tom Quinn ... Memo to town officials ... Tom deserves "order of the Town Hat."

• A New Year ... 1995 ... It's been 30 years since the town won the Little League World Championship ... boy are we getting old.

• Seniors in Town ... You are not over the hill ... just on the back nine.

• Kay Wezowicz ... Another successful year as president of the Fire Department's Women's Auxiliary.

• Tom Unnold ... Want an American Flag ... see the hard working American Legion man ... Tom.

• Carl Schiessl III ... Successful year for the good of the town ... our man in Hartford.

• Gary LaVoye ... 1996 a long way off ... stay tuned.

• Mary Beth Gavello & Cindy Ravalese ... What would the PTO do without these two busy mothers?

• Sue Barsanti ... A smile and friendly hello ... our secretary at the town hall.

• Jan Olszewski ... Another year of scouting for our town's commissioner.

• Aspinwall & Post Families ... Bouquets in new floral business venture.

• Rita & Paul Roy ... Nice people who remember the good deeds of others for the kids.

• Cynthia Mokritski ... To continue her daily runs ... another example of one courageous lady.

• Walter and Kee Holiday ... A new year, with more travel for the Holidays.

• Rose & Mark Horan ... More involvements in re-enactment of Civil War battles.

• Millie & Si Raggio ... Still active at the Citizen Center.

• Betty Ann Reilly ... For a

# & Comment

WINDSOR LOCKS JOURNAL

- Mo Moriarty Jr. ... Keep those airline and hotel folks happy at Bradley.
- Peter Tria ... Your portraits at Town Hall ... always add class to that old building.
- Pat Boyle ... Still plenty of parking spaces ... but not in front of JJs.
- John Duffy ... Always there when your country needs you ... and all the other great guys at 337 MAS.
- John Gionfriddo ... You really haven't left ... your legacy of music to the students at WLHS continues.
- Pizzoferratos Boys ... Hope by the time you guys are ready for NHL hockey, the labor problems will be history.
- Duke Marotta ... Not only a good golfer ... but a Grand Knight.
- Dan Sullivan ... Local basketball fans are ready for a big year on the high school court.
- John Lee ... A nice man, when folks need him most.
- Scott Storms ... Speak up, they can't hear you in the back row.
- Carol Ann Janssen & June Hartford-Alley ... I've been to both of their offices, and easy to talk too.
- Ed Viggiano ... Retired, wasn't for him ... he went back to work.
- "Ike" Iacolino ... To witness another year of Greg Norman playing at the GHO.
- John Dowd, Dan Kervick & Ray Marconi ... Where would we be without these concerned citizens??? ... (Not sure)
- Charlie & Ursula Woodhouse ... Continued local AARP success in the new year.
- "Moe" Goldfarb ... Keep those jokes coming ... you make people's day.
- Donut Kettle ... It's still the place ... "Where everyone knows your name."
- Don't Forget ... Put on that happy face in the new year.
- And Last But Not Least ... Happy New Year!