

Service, Strength, Stability...

*These are the traditional hallmarks
of Ridgfield Bank and
Carnall Insurance, Inc....respected
names that share a heritage
of exemplary customer service.*

Carnall Insurance, Inc., an independent insurance agency and a Ridgfield Bank company, provides a full range of personal and business insurance products.

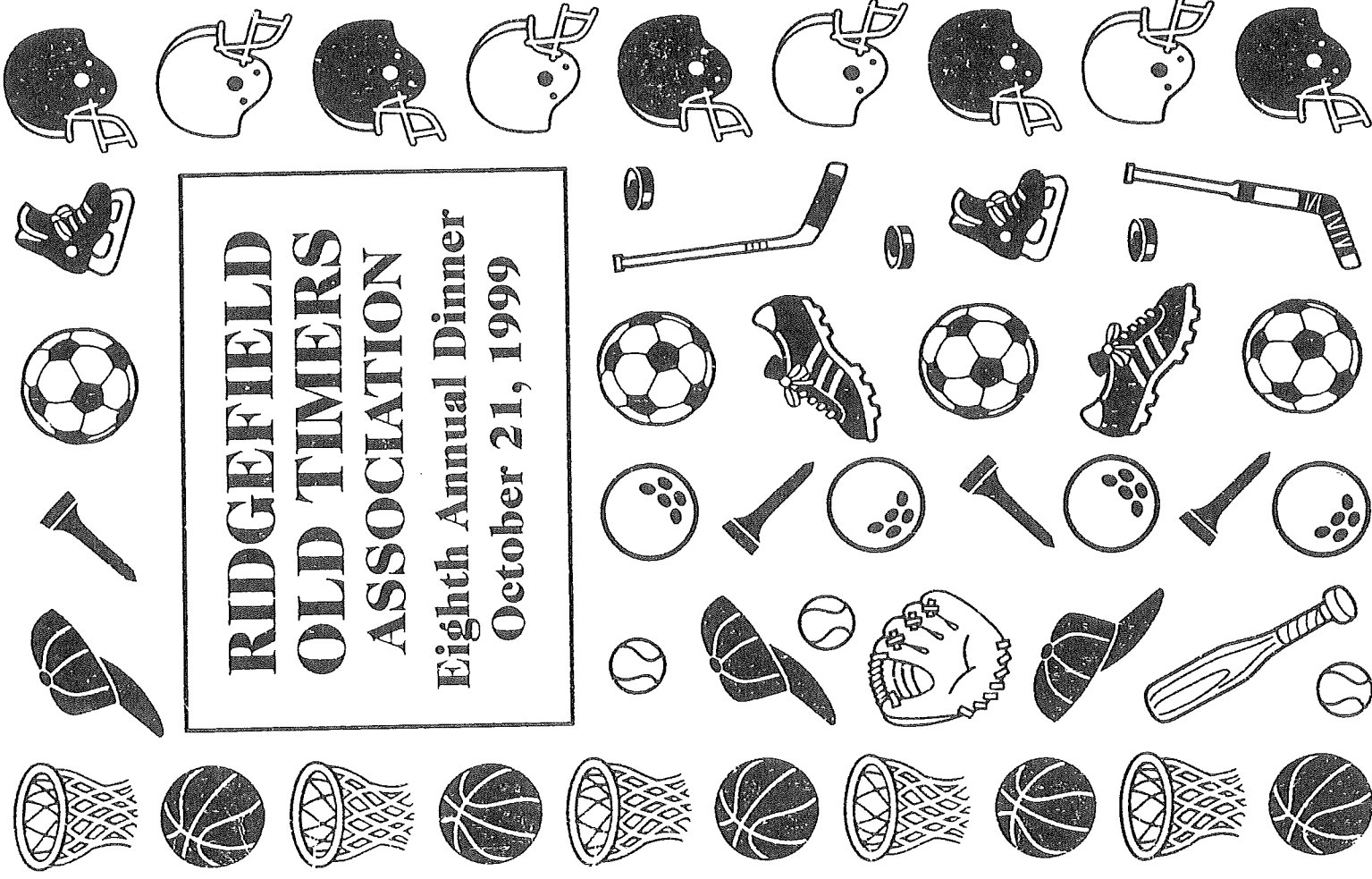
(203) 438-0404

Ridgfield Bank is the leading local independent community bank you can count on for all your financial needs.

(203) 438-6518

CARNALL INSURANCE, INC.
A RIDGFIELD BANK COMPANY

**Ridgfield
Bank**
FOUNDED 1877



RIDGFIELD OLD TIMERS ASSOCIATION

**Eighth Annual Dinner
October 21, 1999**

P A M B Y M O T O R S

WE GIVE YOU MORE!

Whether you buy or lease, you'll find the best deals on cars, trucks, sport utilities, minivans and quality used cars!

- Courteous and knowledgeable sales professionals who will address your needs
- Renown service department that gets you back on the road without delays
- Fully equipped body shop, 24 hour towing services
- Largest inventory of parts and accessories to meet your immediate needs

For over 50 years Pambly Motor's reputation for service and quality, has made us the number one choice in Fairfield County.



Pambly

SEVEN FAREED LUMINANCE THE
M O T O R S

We Only Get Better.



32-36 Danbury Rd. (Rt. 35), Ridgely
203-438-6231

665 Danbury Rd. (Rt. 7), Ridgely
203-438-4801

CONGRATULATIONS

DICK BELLAGAMBA
SI BELLAGAMBA
GENE LAVATORI
JOHN LAVATORI
GENE MCMAHON
HARRY PIERANDRI
CHARLIE COLES
EARL STURGES

Scholarship Recipients

Brian Reddington
Anne Webster

COPPS HILL SHELL
GEORGETOWN SHELL

A Message from the Chairman

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Ridgefield Old Timers' Association Eighth Annual Awards Banquet. Tonight we are gathered to honor six individuals from Ridgefield's past who through their sportsmanship and skill have contributed so much to our Town's athletic history. As in preceding years the Association is also honoring two well known Ridgefielders for the special accomplishments and significant civic contributions they have made to the Town over many years. Of course, there are also many Ridgefielders who are no longer with us but must also be remembered for their contributions to our community. For this reason we are honoring three such Ridgefielders with posthumous awards.

This year the Association voted to offer two scholarships each in the amount of \$1,500. This is a significant increase over preceding years and is the result of the hard work of our members and the generosity of the business community who chose to advertise in our program book. Please, when you patronize these businesses mention their advertisement and thank them for their generous support of the Ridgefield Old Timers' Association. We also wish to thank several area corporations that have supported our scholarship drive. Hopefully, this corporate support will continue to increase in the years to come.

The Ridgefield Old Timers' Association was organized eight years ago for the purpose of uniting and continuing the good fellowship that developed through sporting and athletic activities in the years gone by. Our goals were to honor worthy Ridgefielders and to establish a scholarship fund for our new scholar/athletes.

I ask those of you here tonight who share this common bond to consider joining our Association and working with your fellow Ridgefielders to further our goals.

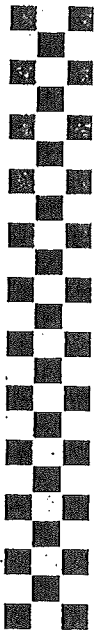
Tonight is a good time to remember loved ones who are not with us and give thanks to all who are able to attend the festivities. Thank you again for your support and enjoy the night.

Congratulations to all the honorees past and present.

Yours truly,
Jim Belote

203 438-6506

Steve's



Now Serving Pizza!
Thursday-Sunday
4PM-8PM

463 Main Street • Ridgefield • Connecticut 06877

Bissell

Pharmacy Lawrence Pearlman, Pres.

382 MAIN STREET • RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877
(203) 438-6600 • FAX (203) 438-0305

CIVIC AWARD



CHARLIE COLES

As both player and coach, Charlie (Sluggie) Coles had unlimited drive, boundless energy and enthusiasm for the game. He now joins ten other award recipients from the great R.H.S. baseball teams of 1939, 1940 and 1941. Coach "Kip" Holleran said his final two teams '39 and '40 were the best he ever coached. The 1939 team was 15-2. The 1940 team got to the state semifinals but was knocked out in a tough final game. In 1941, under new coach Norman Eichner, they were county champs. Charlie pitched some fine games for these teams. He was also on the 1940 and 1941 basketball teams and was high scorer for the jayvees in 1941.

After graduating in 1941, he worked at Bissell's Drug Store and attended Danbury State Teachers College (now WesConn) before being called into the army in March 1943. He spent two years in the Pacific and saw action in Okinawa with the 27th Infantry Division. On his return, he was Ridgefield Press Sports Editor for several years and played baseball with Ridgefield Motors.

In March 1946 he started a career at Ridgefield (Savings) Bank that spanned over 40 years including over 10 years as president and held offices in many banking associations. Active in the community, he was treasurer of the Salvation Army, Committee Chairman of Boy Scout Troop 47, Incorporator of Ridgefield Boys Club and Treasurer of the Community Center and Red Cross. In 1967 he was nominated for the Distinguished Service Award of the Ridgefield Jaycees.

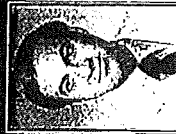
In 1948 Charlie turned to softball – the Ridgefield Athletic Association and the Northern Westchester League, where in 1950 'Sluggie' lived up to his nickname by belting 361. In 1953 he joined the newly formed Townies Softball League. In his first game he slugged a homer and pitched Hyde's to a 10-6 win over Martin's Jewelry. A few weeks later he once again hit a homer and hurled a 6-4 win over Bellagamba Burners. Charlie played in this league until 1957.

His real contribution, however, has been his dedication and hard work in the various youth programs. He was one of the organizers (and president) of the Ridgefield Little League, one of the first organized youth athletic groups in the community. He was with the Red Raider football program, managed teams in the Townies Basketball League and was a manager of Babe Ruth Baseball for older boys. Charlie spent many hours helping young athletes improve their skills.

PRECISION CORNEAL MOLDING THE NON-SURGICAL & NON-INVASIVE ALTERNATIVE TO LASER VISION CORRECTION



Dr. Alan M. Berman



Dr. Donald S. Teig

If you are nearsighted or astigmatic you may be a candidate to improve your eyesight with the revolutionary new EZM contact lens from Australia. This lens reshapes your cornea while you sleep without surgery. With a computerized corneal map, our doctors can determine during your eye examination whether you are eligible for Precision Corneal Molding.

Our practice was the first in the United States to offer this exciting new procedure to our patients. To date, over 175 patients have successfully been fitted with the EZM lens.

If you would like further information or to schedule an appointment, call our office at 203-438-5855.

FAMILY EYE CARE

96 Danbury Road • Ridgefield, CT
203-438-5855

GARY W. USHER
Licensed Optician

CLOSED MONDAYS



PHONE 203-438-7601
FAX 203-431-4968

88 DANBURY RD.
RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877

Joseph Fossi

590 Danbury Road
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877
FAX (203) 438-3064
TELEPHONE (203) 438-9938



PELHAM COUNTRY HOMES, INC.

"Attention To Detail Is Our Trademark"

JOHN J. MAGGIO
President

Better Homes Real Estate

12 GOLF LANE
RIDGEFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06877

(203) 438-9611
Cell (914) 217-4575
E-Mail: mag830

Fax (203) 438-9613
Pgr. CT Toll-Free (203) 289-6492



FELICE AUTO RESTORATION

JIM FELICE

**20 SPRING STREET • SOUTH SALEM, NY 10590
PHONE (914) 763-5081**

DICK BELLAGAMBA



Dick Bellagamba grew up in town and graduated from Ridgefield High School in 1956. A three-letter man, he was co-captain of the RHS baseball, basketball and football teams in his senior year and received the Outstanding Senior Athletic Award from the Knights of Columbus.

Longtime Ridgefield teacher and coach Paul Fako remembers Bellagamba as a dependable, determined and competitive player with a lot of hustle. "He was a pleasure to coach," said Fako, his former basketball coach. Bellagamba played guard in the 1956 basketball game in which Ridgefield lost the state championship to Bristol on a last-second half-court shot.

Former-RHS teammate and Old Timers' Award recipient Fred Mazzi remembers Bellagamba as a good athlete who was a team leader. Mazzi recalled Bellagamba's backfield performances as a quarterback, fullback and halfback on RHS's six-man football teams, saying, "He was a good runner with leadership qualities."

However, according to Mazzi, Bellagamba's best sport was baseball, where he played both shortstop and pitcher. He was a good hitter and fielder and, as demonstrated by his no-hitter against Abbott Tech in his sophomore year, he knew how to pitch.

Bellagamba's abilities did not go unnoticed outside Ridgefield's borders. In his senior year he was recruited by New Britain State Teacher's College, now Central Connecticut State University, to play baseball. Electing a more challenging opportunity, he chose to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps prior to commencing his undergraduate education. He subsequently graduated from Pace University cum laude with a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice and administration. In 1962 he joined the Ridgefield Police Department as a patrolman. By the time of his retirement in 1996, he had been promoted successively to detective sergeant, lieutenant, captain and major, and received six Exceptional Service Awards.

Bellagamba's service to the youth of Ridgefield did not end when he left the station house. His exceptional commitment to Ridgefield's youth is demonstrated by his many years of service as a coach with Pony baseball, Little League, Pop Warner Football and travel basketball teams. He also coached the Ridgefield Nighthawks American Legion baseball team and the Byron Athletic Club of the National Amateur Baseball Federation. The latter went to the national championship finals two of the five years he coached.



Anna Lossius
Vice President
Branch Manager
Ridgefield Branch

Fleet Bank

Mail Stop: CT FD B76A
90 Danbury Road
Ridgefield, CT 06877
203-894-3724
Fax 203-894-3726
anna_lossius@fleet.com

C. William Welch
President



Welch Inc
Eighty Grove Street
Ridgefield CT 06877 4104
Tel 203 431 3400
Fax 203 438 6023
Email welchinc@aol.com

GEORGE M. COHAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

COHAN & KULAWITZ
402 MAIN STREET
RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877

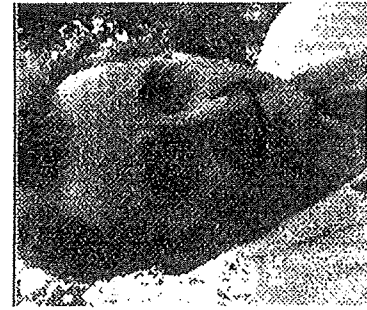
(203) 438-9663 X 1
FAX (203) 431-6178

Dario and Francoise

Fine Furniture Restoration

From Moulding to Carving

622 Main St Ridgefield 431-6900



SILVIO "SI" BELLAGAMBA

Duckpin bowling was one of the sports that dominated the local sports scene years ago, and Silvio "Si" Bellagamba was the best of the bunch. For that, and for his other sports activities including tenpin bowling and softball pitching, he will be one of the guests of honor at the Ridgefield Old Timers Dinner.

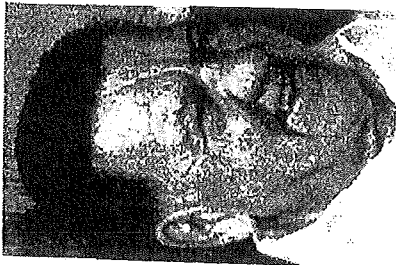
Like most of the bowlers back in the old days, "Si" started out as a pinboy at the Recreation Lanes behind Bissell's Drug Store. At the same time, he was a member of the eighth grade team in the school league, and it wasn't long before he took his talent to the "majors," the town league as a member of The Ridgefield Press team.

His association with The Press is a story in itself. "Si" justifiably claimed for years to own the longevity record for employment at The Press. In fact, he noted he actually began working there before the Nash brothers, Karl and John. When he was only 12 years old, Mr. Thayer gave "Si" the job of helping remove printed paper from the press machines, and he stayed there over 30 years. He progressed through a variety of positions. Most of the time, when asked what he did there, he would jokingly answer, "I ran the newspaper." And that wasn't far from the truth.

His ability on the lanes got the attention of all the other bowlers, most of whom would stay clear of "Si" when it came to money matches. One person who did notice his ability was Charley Troccoli of the Park Avenue Grill team in Danbury. He quickly signed "Si" up as his team's anchor man for the team that won the Danbury city championship several times. In those days, money matches between area teams were quite common and the toughest to take was when "Si" led the Park Avenue team to victory over the Ridgefield team that included Leo Pambianchi, Alex Santini, Malo Bedini and others. He then joined forces with Danbury's great leadoff man and money bowler, Ricky Ragaini, to take on bowlers from Danbury, New Milford, Norwalk, Westport and more. The game of duckpins has changed considerably since, and averages have soared but "Si's" 141 was in a class by itself.

He didn't get a chance to do much bowling while in the Army Air Force as a member of the Red Ball Express from 1942 to 1945, but he never lost his touch and returned to his winning ways on the lanes and on the softball diamond. Since Wargo ran the Merchants softball team, and did the pitching, "Si" did most of his pitching in Mount Kisco.

JOHN LAVATORI



As one Old Timer explained the awards" we aimed for a double and hit a home run by honoring John and Gene this year". John was born in 1917 in a home behind what is now the American Legion headquarters on North Salem Road at Titicus. The family later moved to a two family home at 24 Bailey Avenue, the site where I now have my office. John's father ran the Ridgefield Ice Company and as John explained he could never fool around in school. His

father delivered ice to all the teachers and would ask how his boy was doing. John attended the Titicus and East Ridge elementary schools and the East Ridge High School. He played both baseball and basketball for Ridgefield High. His basketball teammates included "young Squash" (Reno Travaglini whose family also lived at 24 Bailey Avenue), Jim Bacchiochi, Janaile Severini and Harry Bennett. During his baseball years at RHS John played right field with teammates Joe Tulipani, Dan Mahoney, Jimmy Romeo, Janaile Severini, Jim Bacchiochi, Ray Roche, Jim DiOrto, Jim DeLuca, and George Rockwell. While expressing support for today's educational and recreational programs, John remembers a different time for Ridgefield athletes. "We played basketball in the Town Hall because the East Ridge School didn't have a gymnasium and the baseball field behind the old high school was very different from what we see today. First, we had to rake it and lime it ourselves after school and before we played. There was also that slope in left field.

John's father saw the writing on the wall when refrigeration came to Ridgefield. Going into partnership with Mario Girolmetti, John's father converted the ice house into a tavern (which was later converted to a restaurant) called Nanny's Grill. John worked as the bartender as well as with every other job the family business required. John's peers, however, were constantly trying to expand their sight of vision beyond the confines of Ridgefield. Altero "Chick" Ciuccoli and Primo Baldaserini enlisted the services of Percy Humphrey, Mrs. Mary Olcott's chauffeur, for their road trips to Westport. One evening Chick, escorted by Westport belles, Mary Bellucci and "Bubbles" Tedesco, walked into the Lavatori's restaurant. Referring to Mary, John recounted "I fell in love with her as soon as she walked through the door". Not long after, the careless Chick approached John to drive to Westport. John took a romantic hard line and told Chick that if he didn't have Mary as his date he wouldn't provide transportation. The end result was John and Mary and Chick and Bubbles traveled as partying couples until John married Mary in 1940.



GENE LAVATORI

If you are relatively new to Ridgefield and don't know Gene Lavatori, you must be transiting through town. The former owner of Nina's Restaurant and Catering, Gene's Fine Liquors, and the Green Door Motel, Gene currently serves as guardian of the gate at Ridgefield Supply. Although Gene is being honored with a Sport's Award at the Eighth Annual Ridgefield Old Timers Association banquet on October 21 st, his services in town could easily be the basis for our Civic Award. (Gene has already been honored with the Kiwanis Citizen's Award, the Ridgefield Boy's Club Award and the Little League Award.)

Gene grew up in Ridgefield in the thirties and forties and remembers the old Ridgefield Boy's Club on Governor Street as his second home. His memories include the Club's summer swims at Robert's Pond (where according to Gene, Lou Bellagama saved him from drowning), boxing matches downstairs, and, of course, Club Director, Ralph Crouchley, keeping everyone on the straight and narrow. Voted by his class as the "Best in Sports", according to classmate Natalie Serfilippi, Gene was the life of Miss Burdick's sixth period class and was also voted the "class dreamer."

An All Conference Athlete during his years at Ridgefield High, Gene lettered in baseball-playing short stop, second and third, as well as in basketball where he played forward and, in his senior year center. Gene also lettered in football in his senior year playing backup quarterback. Pat Vozzo, a teammate who shared the 1951 RHS Athlete of the Year Award with Gene, remembers him as a great athlete who was relaxed and even tempered on the court and in the field, characteristics Gene has never lost over the years. In addition to Pat, Gene's RHS teammates included Charlie Rich, Bob Stolle, Freddie Romeo, Bob Kehoe and the Elliot brothers, Bill and Bob. During games, however, Gene's eyes were not always on the ball. A pretty RHS cheerleader, Joyce Vunck, captured Gene's attention. "It was love at first sight for me." After graduation and a two year stint in the Service, Gene returned home to Ridgefield and married Joyce. Together they raised five children, Cheryl, Stephen, Dave, Gary and Laura.

Many will remember Gene from his years of service as an official State basketball referee or from his many years of playing softball and basketball for the Ridgefield Townies. Others remember his many years of community involvement. Gene has served as a Director of the Ridgefield Boy's Club and as President of the Italian American Club.

Congratulations! 1999 Ridgefield Old Timers

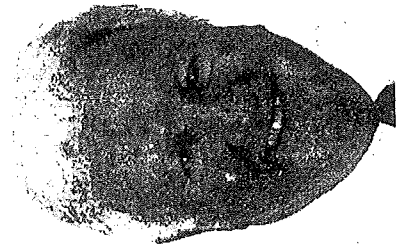
Your participation in & enthusiasm for sports in Ridgefield has added a wonderful page to our Town's proud history.

Thank you from your fans at

HOMESTEAD REALTORS

"the respected name in Ridgefield/Redding Real Estate"

Jack Baldaserini, Owner/Broker
10 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877
(203) 438-2651



GENE MCMAHON

Gene was Ridgefield High School's All League Star catcher and a member of Ridgefield's two championship baseball teams during the 1945 and 1946 seasons. The Ridgefield teams, coached by Ray Eppoliti, won two "down to the wire" games for the league championships, first against Darien in 1945, and a 1-0 season ending game against New Canaan.

Gene was a starting catcher for the high school baseball team during the three seasons between 1944 and his graduation from RHS in 1946. He also played football for RHS. During his RHS baseball career, Gene caught for Dino Cingolani, Jim Richardson, Dan Fischialetti, Al Biagiotti, Jim O'Keefe, Lou Girolmetti and Romeo Petroni. Ridgefield Old Timer, Frank Lancaster, remembers Gene as a "great catcher" and a "peach of a guy". Gene's baseball and football teammates from the 1944-46 seasons included many well-known Ridgefielders, Allie Frulla, John Sturges, Al and Fabio Biagotti, Bob Carboni, Joe Zandri, Mario Scala, Walter Boyce, Si Lavatori, Gus Montanari, Ed Green, Rodney Anderson, Jim Lee, Harold Mead, Jim Costanzi, Tom Kelly, Joe Moylan, Harry Zandri, Bernie Leighton, George Miller and Harry Dotson.

Following graduation from RHS, Gene attended Michigan State University where he received his Bachelor's degree in 1950. After serving in the Army between 1950 and 1952, Gene continued his community involvement in athletics by coaching Little League, Pony League and Pop Warner teams.

Gene joined the Saga Corporation where he received numerous awards for his financial results. However, former teammate and now Connecticut Superior Court Judge Romeo Petroni, remembers Gene's earliest foray into the business world. Gene and Romeo apparently shared a paper route from Main Street to Titicus. Although payday was Saturday, the rewards for the week of toil never found their way to the Ridgefield Bank. According to Judge Petroni, Gene and Romeo spent the week's largesse, in one shot, on cream sodas and Fig Newtons.

Congratulations
and
Best Wishes
to the
Ridgefield Old Timers
Honorees
Tom and Jane Belote

HARRY PIERANDRI

Harry Pierandri was the first Ridgefield High athlete recruited by and given a scholarship to play in an NCAA Division I sports program. As longtime Ridgefield Athletic Director and former coach Bob Marks described Harry's accomplishment, "getting into Boston College on a scholarship put RHS on the map . . . we then went on to win five straight WCC championships".



As defensive halfback for the B.C. Eagles, Harry's teammates in the mid to late sixties included some of the Division I's most talented players (Brendan McCarthy, who went on to play with the Green Bay Packers, Bob Hyland, also with Green Bay and the New York Giants, John Fitzgerald, an All Pro with the Dallas Cowboys, and Fred Willis, the All Pro Houston Oilers). Harry's collegiate competitors were similarly impressive (Franco Harris - Penn State, All Pro Pittsburgh Steelers, Larry Csonka - Syracuse, All Pro Miami, Greg Landry - U Mass, Detroit Lions; Floyd Little - Syracuse, All Pro Denver Broncos).

Harry is a native Ridgefielder who graduated from RHS in 1964 after lettering four years in football and basketball and two years in baseball. Voted "Best All Round Athlete" by his class, Harry's athletic career in town reflects the change that Ridgefield was undergoing in the late 1950's and early 60's. Organized sports for youths began to replace sandlot games. Red Raider football, under coaches George Fasiolo and Peter Yanity, Little League Baseball under Coach Patty Vozzo and Commissioner Joe Brunetti, and St. Mary's elementary school basketball provided the early training for a group of Ridgefield youths who later formed the nucleus of RHS championship teams. As teammate and RHS All State athlete Julius "Bugsy" Santini described the change, "It was a different period for Ridgefield. We had just left nine man football for the eleven man league. As kids we had all grown up together in a small town playing organized sports, no one wanted to stand out, and we just started to win and win." And win they did. Harry's 1959 Red Raiders team rolled up a 9-0 season and went on to play the Youth Appreciation Bowl in the Orange Bowl in Hialeah, Florida. Along with Harry in Hialeah were Raider teammates Bugsy Santini, Joe Egan, Rudy Marconi, Jack Baldaserini, Rick Karwoski, Mike Ryba, Biff Nash, Ray Phelan and Allen Tiburzi. As first baseman for the Ridgefield Little League "Aces", Harry's team won consecutive championships in 1957 and 1958.

CONGRATULATIONS

RIDGEFIELD OLD TIMERS

HONOREES

AND

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

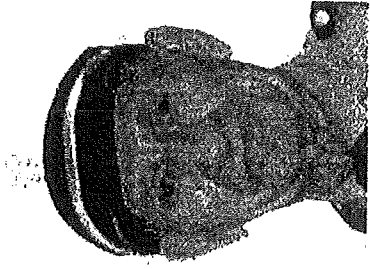
FROM

A FRIEND OF TOM CLARK

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

EARL STURGES

A lifelong resident of Ridgefield, Earl was one of only three firefighters who have served the Town with more than 50 years of active service. Born at home on Haviland Road in 1910, Earl attended Ridgefield schools and worked as a painter most of his life. He joined the Ridgefield Volunteer Fire Department as soon as he became eligible at age 21. "You were exempt from the poll tax if you volunteered." At the time, the Ridgefield Volunteer Fire Department had three companies, Hook and Ladder, Hose and Engine.



Earl joined the Hook and Ladder and, subsequently, served the Department in every rank including Chief. At a 1983 dinner honoring Earl's 50 years of active service in the Department, then Fire Chief Richard McGlynn called Chief Sturges "our firemen's fireman who is always the first guy at the door at a fire". At the same dinner then First Selectwoman, Liz Leonard, asked "How do you say something to someone who has given 50 years of his life to an ideal". However, many said a lot in his honor. Ms. Leonard presented Earl with a special citation from Governor O'Neill. State Rep. Martha Rothman presented a citation from the Connecticut Legislature. John Mooring, representing the State Fire Chief's Association presented a special certificate, and President Ronald Reagan sent a personal letter of congratulations from the White House. Don Ligos, also a Volunteer Department Chief who is also being honored posthumously at the Eighth Annual ROTA dinner, summed up Earl's 50 years of service as a firefighter and concluded by saying that "Earl to this day responds to a fire just as quick as he ever did."

During his career as a firefighter Earl saw some of the worst fire calamities in Town. He was on hand at the 1943 Steele Roberts fire when an oil burner malfunction led to the destruction of that very large residence. He also fought in the 1946 Stone Crest Estate fire on North Street when for lack of equipment and a mobile water supply, the estate burned to the basement. He was almost killed fighting the Meisner estate fire on Peaceable Street when he and Jack Leary were trapped in the basement when leaking gas from a tank was ignited by hot coals from a coal burning hot water heater. The gas, floating on the water, exploded injuring Earl and Jack Leary before they were able to escape through a basement window.

We Salute the
"Youngest" Old Timer

TOM CLARK

His Friends

at Robert's Pond

Orlan · Lipp · Lawrence

- POSTHUMOUS AWARD -

ALAN CROWLEY



Allen Crowley grew up in Ridgefield and played baseball and basketball for RHS until his graduation in 1942. Allen was an extremely talented athlete who played on the memorable 1940 Hilltoppers Squad which Clifford Holloran described as the best team he had ever coached. As the pitcher, Allen was instrumental in winning league games enabling RHS to make the State semifinals. Although Ridgefield appeared to be a sure winner in the semifinal game against Bristol, several freak occurrences took away that victory in a 3-2

loss in extra innings. Nevertheless, the team ended its 1940 season with a 15-2 record. In addition to Allen, members of the 1940 team included: Robert Fossi, Thomas Shean, Lloyd Paris, Charles Flynn, Charlie Coles, Charles Cogswell, Faust Verna, Tony Ciotti, Primo Zandri, John Forcelli, Tony Del Biondo, Vinnie Petrini, Evo Principi, John Tulipani, Alfred Tulipani and George Stolle.

After high school Allen devoted his adult life to the U.S. Air Corps for 27 years.

*Congratulations
to
Ridgefield Old Timers
from
Ridgefield's Oldest Jeweler!*

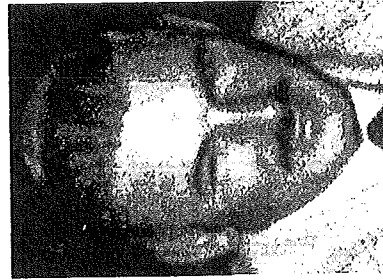


Craig's Jewelry Store

WILLIAM D. CRAIG
CERTIFIED GEMOLOGIST APPRAISER
394 MAIN STREET
RIDGEFIELD, CT
438-3701

- POSTHUMOUS AWARD -

DON LIGOS



Don Ligos, former Chief of the Ridgefield Volunteer Fire Department, and well-known member of the Ridgefield community, was born January 29, 1935 in New Jersey and attended Our Lady of the Valley school in Orange, NJ where he played basketball. He also was active in Boy Scouts, and attended the Boy Scout Jamboree in Valley Forge, PA, where Harry Truman was the speaker. Although a New Jersey native, Don's attachment to Ridgefield commenced early in his childhood

where he spent his summers in Ridgefield with his aunt and uncle, the Dick O'Keefe's. After graduation in 1952, Don moved to Ridgefield. Don was an active member of the Ridgefield Volunteer Fire Department, joining the Department in June 1957 and serving as Chief from 1968-1974, and again from 1980-1982. Assistant Fire Chief, Jim Belote, remembers Don as being a model volunteer fire department member who inspired a commitment to the Department. Volunteer Chief, Chris Santini, echoed similar feelings, "Don represented the best aspects of volunteerism and served the Department with absolute distinction." Don was also a member of the Ridgefield Townies from the early 1950's, a member of the Holy Name Society, and a member of the Old Timer's Association. He was involved in town government as well, serving on the Parks & Recreation Commission from April 30, 1962 to July 1, 1970. Don also was a Cubmaster from 1973-1975, and a Little League Umpire.

Don was married to Ridgefield native, Pat Girolametti, on Sept. 19, 1959 at St. Mary's Church. They have four children, Kathleen, James, Kevin and Karen.

Don worked for A. Serfilippi & Sons, and Morganti, Inc. He was also a member of Local 478, Operating Engineers Union, and served as a steward.

While on the Townie's basketball team he played with Art Dingee, Bob Stolle, Dick Bellagamba, Dudie Mead, Gene Lavatori, Tom Foley, Al Janeski, and Evo Bellagamba. He also bowled for the Ridgefield Merchant's League for Ridgefield Brake & Alignment.

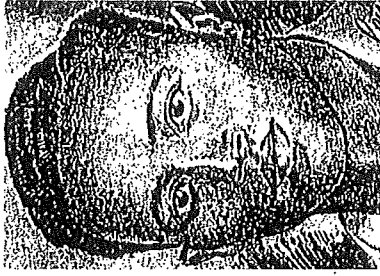
We Support Our
Old Timer's Association
and
The Scholarship Fund

Michael (Miki) Principi
Residential Builder
Remodeling

*Serving Ridgefielders
for over 20 years*

Telephone 431-4143
44 Bobby's Court
Ridgefield, CT

- POSTHUMOUS AWARD -
HAROLD HINTON



Harold Hinton was born in Charleston, South Carolina. He was brought to Ridgefield as an infant and was raised by his aunt, Ellen Holmes. Harold grew up in town and graduated from Ridgefield High in 1939 after establishing a string of track and field records that endured for years. In its 1975 centenary edition, The Ridgefield Press looked back on Harold's high school career in admiration writing, "the first track great in Ridgefield may have been the best all time runner that Ridgefield has ever known Harold

"Flash" Hilton started running for RHS in 1936 and set marks in just about every event he attempted". His specialties were the 100 and 220 yard dashes. He also excelled in the 440 long jump and high jump. Evo Principi who was one year behind Harold at RHS recalled that "He was an exceptional track man the fastest athlete I ever knew at high school". Although tabbed as an Olympic certainty for the 1939 Olympics, military service altered Harold's future. After serving honorably in the Army as a Staff Sergeant, Harold returned to Connecticut and started a successful cleaning business in Stamford. Harold remained active locally teaching skating and singing in the Serendipity Chorus. He was also a member of the U.S. Figure Skating Association.

Harold passed away in 1994 at the age of 75 leaving behind a youthful record of achievement in Ridgefield sports.

**BEST WISHES TO
RIDGEFIELD
OLD TIMERS**

**Donnelly, McNamara
& Gustafson, P.C.
Attorneys at Law**

**150 Danbury Road
Ridgefield, CT
438-6534**

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

BRIAN REDDINGTON



Unlike many young Ridgefield athletes, Brian didn't start playing Pop Warner football before moving on with the same close teammates to Junior Varsity and Varsity ball. Brian first began playing Tiger football when he went out in his freshman year, ordinarily a difficult time to start for someone who wants to play varsity ball. But as RHS football Coach Ed Coviello explained, "Brian is the hardest working kid I ever coached. He works hard but is quiet about it. He has one of the best work ethics I've ever encountered. He perseveres and perseveres. No matter where he goes or what he does in life he will work hard and be successful. You don't see many kids like that."

Brian brought all of these exemplary traits to his work at Ridgefield High School. For four years starting with freshman, junior varsity and varsity football, Brian used his energy, perseverance and inherent ability to be a well respected wide receiver and running back for the RHS Tigers. Although injured in his senior year Brian recovered to play rugby for the RHS Club by the spring of his senior year.

Brian's hardwork was not limited to the playing field. Stephanie Parker, his RHS math teacher, advised that Brian was not only a personable young man with a great sense of humor, but also echoed Coach Coviello's praise stating that Brian is a "hard working student who is conscientious and committed to excellence". This commitment was shown during his high school career when he was awarded the RHS "Excellence in Architectural Drafting Award", the "Excellence in English Book Award" in his junior year and the "Excellence in Student Design Competition" in his senior year. Brian was also accepted in the RHS Senior Internship Program where 14 seniors were selected by the school administration on the basis of their grade point averages, attendance and behavior to participate in a school sponsored internship program. Brian elected to be a student teacher at Veterans Park Elementary School. In addition to his primary sport, football, Brian's career at RHS also included weight lifting, indoor track and freshman baseball. His community service activities included four summers with the Appalachian Service Project (ASP) and a junior year at the ASP Winter Retreat. Between his sophomore and senior years he served in Lifeteen as well as in the HEART Workcamp. In his junior and senior years he was an Assistant RBA Basketball Coach and an Assistant Swim Team Coach at Westmoreland, where he also worked as a lifeguard for the past four summers.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

ANNE WEBSTER



The Ridgefield Old Timers Association gave new meaning to the old adage that "good things come in small packages" when they awarded Anne with their 1999 ROTA scholarship. Petite, intelligent and a tough competitor, Anne comes from a family of nine and has played soccer since age four. As an RHS freshman Anne played both Freshman and Junior

Varsity Girls Soccer, J.V. Softball and Premier Soccer, while filling the rest of her schedule with after school, weeknight and weekend babysitting. As a freshman she received the RHS Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Computer Keyboarding. In her sophomore year Anne played both JV and Varsity Girls Soccer on the RHS FCAC Championship teams. She also played Varsity Softball and continued her long hours of babysitting coupled with a job as a child care worker at the Fitness Center. Hard work and long hours, however, did not stop Anne from excelling at RHS. She made the Honor Role and received Certificates of Recognition for excellence in Basic Geometry as well as Child Development. In her junior year, she again starred in the RHS Varsity Girl's Soccer team and played second base for the Varsity Softball team. Her work record did not slacken and Anne again demonstrated that hard-work and intelligence was her winning formula. Anne was again on the Honor Roll and received a Certificate of Achievement in Chemistry.

In her senior year, Anne again played striker on the Girl's Varsity team and was elected Team Captain of the Girl's Varsity Softball team. She carved out enough time from her babysitting schedule to play on the Travel Soccer team this past spring while rolling up High Honors and RHS Certificates for her work in Social Studies and Baking.

Anne is attending the University of Connecticut this year where she is majoring in Human Development and Family Relations at the UConn School of Family Studies.



The Corner Pub

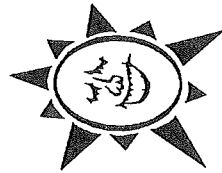
30 Grove Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877

Barbara McCarthy

431-3008

**FRESH AIR
HEATING & COOLING, LLC**

Call
(203) 746-7772



Owner:
Brian Feenan

"Take a Breath of Fresh Air"

POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

1994

Ralph Crouchly, Kip Holleran, Francis D. Martin

1995

Chuck Walker, Charles F. Ashbee, Frank E. Minnerly

1996

Lou Girolmetti, Ed & John Sullivan, John Bacchiochi

1997

Lick Santini, Red Dlugo, Bill Allen

1998

Joseph M. Venus, Art Sfondrini, Bob Stolle

PAST RECIPIENTS

CIVIC AWARD

Richard Venus ('92), Bob Tulipani ('93),
Beth Yanity ('94), Aldo Tulipani ('95)
Ferdinand Bedini ('96), Matty Pambianchi Family ('97)
Dr. Peter Yanity ('98)

SPORTS AWARDS

1992

Tabby Carboni, Lynce Carboni, Leo Pambianchi,
Tom Clark, Charlie Frattini, Joe Forcelli, John Carboni

1993

Gene Casagrande, Bob Mulvaney, Vin Petrini,
Charley Stolle, Joe Tulipani

1994

Lyman Anderson, Harry Bennett, Aldo Girolmetti,
Evo Principi, John Tulipani

1995

Peter Casagrande, Dino Cingolani, Joe Brunetti,
Ray Eppoliti, Bud Mahoney, Reno Severini

1996

Ben Bedini, Fabio Biagiotti, Jack Leary, Harold Mead,
Romeo Petroni, Janaile Severini

1997

Primo Baldaserini, Dante Brunetti, Walter Evans,
Frank Lancaster, Sr., Navio Ligi, Fred Mazzi

1998

Cino "Jinx" Balaserini, Dr. Philip Martin, Dr. Joseph Moylan,
Andy Montanari, Julius "Bugsy" Santini

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Fran Moylan ('95) Paul Baker ('96)
Walter Boyce ('98)

RIDGEFIELD OLD TIMERS - 1999

OFFICERS

Chairman Jim Belote
Treasurer Walter Evans
Secretary Sandy Warner

DINNER COMMITTEE
Vince Ciambartolomei
Bob Tulipani

TICKET COMMITTEE
Jim Mullen
Frank Lancaster

AWARDS COMMITTEE
Paul Baker
Jim Belote
Fabio Paul Biagiotti
Lynce Carboni
Frank Lancaster, Sr.
Fran Moylan
John Pierandri
Evo Principi
Barbara Serfilippi
John Tulipani

PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Tom Clark
Walt Evans
Bob Tulipani
John Pierandri

ARRANGEMENTS
COMMITTEE
Fabio Paul Biagiotti
Cynthia Biagiotti
Pat Ligos

ENGRAVING
Nutmeg Federal Savings

PUBLICITY
Sandy Warner
Tom Belote

PROGRAM COVER
Randy & Don Carboni

TICKETS
Village Printers

SCHOLARSHIP
COMMITTEE
Jim Belote
Fabio Paul Biagiotti
Joe Egan

PROGRAM

Welcome Chairman Jim Belote
Toastmaster Paul Baker
Dinner

CIVIC AWARD
Charlie Coles

SPORTS AWARDS
Dick Bellagamba
Si Bellagamba
Gene Lavatori
John Lavatori
Gene McMahon
Harry Pierandri

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD
Earl Sturges

POSTHUMOUS AWARDS
Alan Crowley
Don Ligos
Harold Hilton

GUEST SPEAKER
Dr. Tieg

SPONSORS

Edwin Allen	Dennis Duggan
James Bacchiochi	Walter Evans
Paul Baker	Cameron Eisman
Bill Berg	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fagan
Jan and Jim Belote	Joseph Fetchick
Jane and Tom Belote	Anthony Fratino, Jr.
Aldo and Gloria Biagiotti	Artie Frattini, Sr.
Fabio and Cynthia Biagiotti	John Foulds
Michael and Laurie Biagiotti	Joan and Ralph Gay
Morgan and Casey Biagiotti	Anne Girolmetti
Emma, Walter & Amanda Boyce	Vince Gugliaro
David Broadhurst	Paul Hamden
Dick Callahan	John Hastings
Lou Carbone	Ruth and Roland Hatter
Don and Carol Carboni	Fred and Anne Marie Illium
Mark Chory	Prank Jelinek
Joseph Ciccattelli	Madeline Jelinek
Norman Craig	Dr. Jeannine Jelinek
Bob Crofut	James Kehoe
Todd and Katherine Crystal	Joseph Kehoe
Kelly Crystal	Todd and Louise Kolb
Kyle Crystal	Paul and Susan Lauricella
Ryan Crystal	Jennifer, Katherine & Steven Lauricella
Debra Deakin	Doug and Louise Main
Chip and Kim Dean	James and Karen McChesney
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Dempsey	Mike McClymont

SPONSORS

Ted McCormick	Joseph, Daniel & Maggie Scalzo
Robert McDonald	David Schnieder
Bob and Dorothy Marinelli	Sonja Schuster
William Morlock	Byron Scott
Bill Morris	Roger Scott
Tim Murphy	Horace and Barbara Seixas
Abe Najamy	Dick Sell
Carmen Nazzaro	Richard and Barbara Serfilippi
Newtown Cleaners	Tom Smeriglio
John Noonan	Gary C. Smith
Thomas O'Mara	Steve S. Stack
Fred Orrico	Bill and Ellen Starbuck
Dick Pagano	Armando Torcellini
Randy Pitcher	Donald and Yoli Torcellini
Dennis Ramey, C.P.A.	Charles Trado
Bud Rigby	Joe Troy
Annemarie Roller	John and Janice Tulipani
Al Ryff	Aldo and Toni Tulipani
John Santoro	Joe and Annie Tulipani
Carl and Irene Scala	Val U Tire
Dick and Lucy Scala	Mike Venus
John and Kim Scala	Tad Ventres
Thomas Scala	Cliff Webb
Gregory Scala	Don Willet
Steve and Maureen Scalzo	Dr. and Mrs. Peter Yanity