



# Chapel West News 7/08

## The Yale Update



1140 Chapel Street

The Yale Alumni Association (AYA) has joined the Chapel West District with a new office located at 1140 Chapel Street in the building that formerly housed the Three Chimney's Inn. The AYA provides a

channel for communication between the alumni and the University, and oversees the direction of alumni organizations and programs.

This will be a second office for the AYA whose main location is at Rose Alumni House on York Street. Twenty-three of AYA's forty-nine member staff will operate out of the new Chapel Street office. The building has benefited from a full interior renovation, which preserved the building's historic features such as the sweeping wooden staircase and stone fireplaces. In addition to staff offices, the building now features meeting space as well as satellite desk space for visiting alumni to use during campus visits.

According to **Carolyn Claflin**, AYA's Deputy Executive Director, "This new location will aid us in better serving the Yale alumni community. We're delighted AYA is growing and expanding its presence as a new neighbor in the **Chapel West District.**"

Editor's Note: **Chapel West is excited that the University has chosen our District to expand its Alumni Association operations.** We will be more than delighted to assist them in their transition. Good Luck to Yale AYA.

## Meet a Commissioner

A historic yellow Colonial house built in 1858 at 1204 Chapel Street houses the busy Dental Implant and Periodontal Practice of **Dr. Ronald Delfini**. Dr. Delfini first came to Chapel St. in 1983, purchasing and remodeling the historic building on Chapel St. He has been an active member of the Chapel West Special Services District since its inception in the early 1980's. A pleasant surprise in the parking lot behind his building is his array of flowers. He takes as much pride in being the "**King of the Zinnias**" as he does in being a dedicated doctor.

Dr. Delfini grew up in Hamden and graduated from Hopkins. He then went to Lehigh University and did his dental degree at Georgetown University. He also did his periodontal training at Georgetown as well as Bethesda Naval Hospital. He has practiced periodontics in New Haven since 1972 and has taught at Yale for over 20 years. Dr. Delfini is a Periodontist with most of his practice devoted to Dental Implants. Dr. Delfini feels that implants are a true miracle with the technology to allow him to replace missing teeth with teeth that function and look as good as the original. He has a commitment to keep his

patients out of dentures and has successfully treated hundreds of people who once had dentures and now have teeth that stay in.

**Dr. Delfini** resides in Branford with his wife Marcia. He has 2 children and 5 grandchildren. When he's not practicing on Chapel St. he is an avid tennis player and golfer.



Dr. Ronald Delfini

## Tidbits by Vin Romei

**I was thinking....** To write with a broken pencil is pointless!!! Group W. Bench owner, **Raphael**, is entering his 40th. year on Chapel St. He has 3 wonderful grandchildren, Connor 2-1/2 yrs, Torrin 2yrs, and Julian 1-1/2 yrs old. They keep him hopping. He calls them the three **Kings.... Eddie Donuts**, (Dunkin Donuts) maintains the flowers in our new pot in front of the store. "He waters them every day". They look great.... Soon Yale will be finished with the re-hab of the Architectural building and **Michael Onofrio** from James Camera will be bored. He calls me three times a day to complain about the trash bbls. being full in front of his store.... **Jose**, one of our cleaning crew members has lost over 10lbs by sweeping sidewalks & curbs! Anyone wanting to lose weight can sign up.... **Did you know that when the smog lifts in Los Angeles U.C.L.A....**

*We're always interested in new stories and "tidbits." Call 787-3000.  
—Vincent Romei*

# HASSETT

**Lt. Ray Hassett** is the New Haven Police District Manager for the Chapel/Dwight/West River Neighborhood. During his time in this position, he has always been a strong supporter of the growth in the Chapel West business district. "I pride myself in being a good problem solver and a strong communicator. I try to make myself accessible to all", Ray says. "**HASSETT**", as he is sometimes affectionately referred to around the neighborhood, believes that crime is part of the fabric of any city and being prepared may save you the embarrassment of becoming a victim or possible injury.

**"Be aware when you're walking.** Look at people's faces. Most victims are picked because they are not paying attention. If something, or someone, doesn't look right to you, get out, walk away, or move on and you should be fine." For occasional crime tips, stay tuned to further editions of the Chapel West newsletter.

**HASSETT** started his assignment to Chapel West in 1998 as a Sergeant and was promoted to Lieutenant in 1999. It is a clear measure of his success that he has not been transferred. The District appreci-

ates this continuity and we keep **RAY** in our cell phones. The District Management Team is always in touch with the Chapel West Commissioners and they work on many projects together over the course of a year.



Lt. Ray Hassett

## Meet your Neighbor...The Mini Mart



Varinder and Tejinder Singh

This month's 'meet your neighbor' profile is about **Tejinder Singh** and his wife **Varinder Singh** who own and operate the Chapel Mini Mart at 1182 Chapel St. Tejinder and Varinder moved to New Haven from New York in 1993 and shortly after that (1995) opened their own business. After 13 years at this location, things are going well. Tejinder believes that there could hardly be a better location. He gets such a large cross-section of customers that you may have to wait in the fast moving line. Local businesses, construction workers, Westville commuters, students, and local residents from all surrounding blocks patronize this business.

You might define this business as a grocery store. The Singh's appear to carry

at least one brand of anything you can think of, similar to a supermarket. One quick visit and you will only be able to remember some of it. Groceries, housewares, non-prescription drugs, fruit, magazines, newspapers, beverages of every kind, ice cream, lottery tickets, magazines, Western Union service, umbrellas, hot coffee, cigarettes. Who knows what else?

**Despite the small space available** Tejinder is talking about remodeling to gain a little more efficiency and a facelift. The District will participate by arranging a **City of New Haven facade grant**, a dollar for dollar match of up to \$2,000, for any expenditures on improvements to the exterior of the building that meet the program guidelines.

## Around the District

**Renovations and Rehabs** are continuing to flourish. The Architectural School building and the Hotel both hope to be completed by Late August. The **Gannon** building is finished and it really came out nice. **Howard Hill's** funeral building is well on its way. **Est, Est, Est**, is remodeling by moving the entire restaurant to the front of the building and preserving the original walls inside. They have also added a new oven. Should be very attractive. The Mini Mart and Dunkin Donuts are in the planning stages of remodeling. **Chapel West** is continuing to come alive with activity.

**Pro Park** is taking over management of the Parking lot on the corner of Chapel and Howe. They will install a validation system for local merchants and also display signage that promotes **Chapel West** as well as the parking lot. Good luck to Pro Park. We are in the early planning stages of a **BEAUTIFICATION** project that will place temporary works of Art throughout the district. We have been in the process of identifying possible locations for their display. We will keep you informed as we move along. We have been getting raves for our **new planters and the flowers** contained therein. Next spring we plan on purchasing more planters to complete the District. They look great!!

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT...

We are having our **2ND ANNUAL COOKOUT** on Tuesday, August 5th from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. It will be held in the Parking Lot on the corner of Chapel and Howe. We'll have a tent and traditional cookout fare prepared by our local Restaurants.

**YOU'RE INVITED...**