

# Walking tour focuses on Stamford development

By Wynne Parry  
STAFF WRITER

STAMFORD — A 2-mile walking tour of downtown development projects Saturday morning started with an unplanned lesson at the Government Center.

John Thomas, a resident and one of about a dozen who joined a Connecticut Trail Days tour, attempted to enter through the building's front

doors, which were locked. The only access to the building then was through the parking garage.

"This is an example of unfriendliness to pedestrians," said Robin Stein, the city's Land Use Bureau chief.

"I guess I am the only one who walked," Thomas said.

The tour focused on smart growth, a concept that favors foot traffic over automobiles.

It passed Mill River Park, the now-occupied RBS building, Metro Green affordable housing and the transportation center.

Smart growth involves concentrating development where the needed infrastructure, such as transportation and sewer, already exists, Stein said. Before the term became common, in 1977, Stamford's Planning Board put an end to

commercial development north of Bulls Head, effectively adopting a smart growth policy, he said. All major development under way or being planned is within a 15- to 20-minute walk of the transportation center.

This type of development is less costly, Stein said, and is more environmentally friendly. These projects often involve cleaning up brownfields, or

contaminated sites, and encourage walking or biking rather than car traffic.

Thomas, who runs the development-minded Blog Stamford, explained his interest this way: "You want to live in a vibrant, active place."

The tour began on Main Street, heading toward the purple bridge. After being closed to cars for seven years because of structural deterioration, the bridge is slated to be rebuilt as a pedestrian bridge. Two buildings on the north side of Main Street nearby eventually will come down, creating a park corridor to Columbus Park, Stein said.

On the other side of the bridge, he pointed out the Army Corps of Engineers' work to restore the river to a more natural state after destroying the dam. The \$7.9 million project is part of a plan to create a 26-acre park and a 3-mile greenway from Scalzi Park to Long Island Sound.

"One of our biggest challenges so far is the geese, who have forgotten they are supposed to migrate," Stein said of the Canada geese nearby. Metallic ribbons, intended to scare the birds, were hung over newly planted Spartina grass, which is intended to help restore the tidal wetland.

The RBS building on the other side of the river is the greenest building in Stamford from a sustainability point of view, he said.

Gladys Nieves, who lives on Greenwich Avenue, asked whether any development was planned to the west.

Although there are no plans yet, the area is waiting for its turn, Stein said. Nieves, who is 30, moved to the West Side when she was 7.

"So I grew up, and I got to see the changes," she said. "I am very attached to the city."

Mill River Park, when reopened, would benefit her neighborhood, she said. "It would give people a place to go, rather than just hang around."

The tour crossed Washington Boulevard — a challenging street to traverse because of heavy car traffic, development and the proximity to the trans-

portation center — and headed into the South End.

The Metro Center building, on Washington Boulevard, commands the highest commercial rents in the city, Stein said, because of its proximity to the train station. Across the street, the Manger property is a prospective spot for replacement parking when the state tears down aging transportation center parking garages. The owner, Building & Land Technology, also is interested in establishing a mixed-use development with housing and office space on the site, Stein said.

Farther south, construction on the Harbor Point development is taking place on contaminated land that once was an industrial site. No residents had to be relocated as part of the project, but after the project is finished, gentrification may pose a problem for those who live nearby.

Farther north, the Urban Transitway project is intended to create direct access to the transportation center from the East Side, Stein said. However, the transportation center itself is often congested.

"It's bad now, but it's not terrible," he said. "If it's not dealt with as the city develops, in five years, it's going to be worse."

Stein said he worries that the state is not looking at the big picture as it searches for a solution to the parking garage problem, potentially causing issues later. It has fallen to the city to conduct a comprehensive study of the transportation center, both short-term and 20 years out, which is expected to begin in July if elected boards give their approval.

A trolley car system connecting to the transportation center might become part of the overall plan, as well.

Brad Eaton, who lives near Bulls Head, where the proposed line would end, said that if a line were built, he would ride it to work.

"I'm excited to see how that develops," he said.

— Staff Writer Wynne Parry can be reached at [wynne.parry@scni.com](mailto:wynne.parry@scni.com) or 964-2263.

## Obituaries

### Death Listings

**COBLENTZ, Frances**  
104 of Stamford  
May 12, 2009  
Leo P. Gallagher FH  
Stamford

**COTE, Dorothy M.**  
97 of Stamford  
June 5, 2009  
Leo P. Gallagher Funeral Home  
Stamford

**HAUX, Helen Gilchrist**  
92 of Vero Beach, FL  
May 21, 2009  
Mass, St. Mary's Church,  
Norwalk at 10am June 12

**PRICE, Margaret B.**  
87 of Stamford  
June 4, 2009  
Bosak Funeral Home  
Stamford

**SAMAHA, Randy**  
of Stratford  
June 5, 2009  
Lacerenza Funeral Home  
Stamford

**SCALISE, Anthony J.**  
83 of Stamford  
June 3, 2009  
Cognetta Funeral Home &  
Crematory, Stamford

### Obituaries

#### ANTHONY J. SCALISE

83, a lifelong resident of Stamford, passed away peacefully Wednesday, June 3, 2009. Born March 21, 1926, he was the son of the late Frank and Mary Roina Scalise.

Anthony was a graduate of Stamford High School, and became a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps having served in World War II. He then joined the Stamford Police force and served for fifty years becoming a Sergeant Detective. Anthony was also an active member of the Eagles Club in Stamford for many years serving as an officer.

Anthony is survived by a son, John Scalise; a brother, Richard Scalise; and numerous nieces and nephews, scattered throughout the state.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his wife Patricia Klubezk' Slocum Scalise; his older brother, Gabriel Scalise; and a sister, Grace Valentine.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Tuesday, June 9 at the Church of St. Cecilia, 1184 Newfield Avenue, Stamford at 10 a.m. Interment will follow in Queen of Peace Cemetery, Stamford. There will be no calling hours. Friends may attend the Mass in celebration of Anthony.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Anthony's name to the American Heart Association, 5 Brookside Drive, P.O. Box 5022, Wallingford, CT, 06492-1822. Condolences may be expressed online at [www.cognetta.com](http://www.cognetta.com)

#### DOROTHY MONROE COTE,

a lifelong Stamford resident, died after a brief illness Friday, June 5, 2009 at Stamford Hospital. She was 97.

Mrs. Cote was born in Greenwich, October 31, 1911 and was the daughter of Daniel and Mabel Monroe. After attending Stamford High School, she graduated from the St. Joseph's Nursing School. She worked as a nurse at Wyndover Convalescent Home, Stamford Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital until her retirement in 1983.

Mrs. Cote was predeceased by her loving husband, Albert Cote and her sister, Marion Johnson. She is survived by her three children, a son, David and Sonya Bloom of Scottsdale, Ariz.; two daughters, Carol and Ed Moccia of Leeds, N.Y. and Sandra and

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Michael Hospodar of Stamford. She was the loving grandmother to seven grandchildren, Pat Moccia, Gregory (and Helen) Bloom, Kim (and Timothy)Yahn, Gary Bloom, Wendy (and Richard) Gallup, Amanda (and Troy) Finn and Kristofer (and Pamela) Hospodar. She also had 11 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Cote was a foster parent for many years. She was very proud to have 14 foster children under her care over the years.

Mrs. Cote was predeceased by her loving husband, Albert Cote; first husband, Kenneth Bloom; her sister, Marion Johnson; and grandson, Gary Bloom.

A funeral service will be held Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 10 a.m. in the Leo P. Gallagher Funeral Home, 2900 Summer Street, Stamford. Burial will follow in St. John's Cemetery in Darien.

Friends may call in the Gallagher Funeral Home, Monday, June 8, 2009 from 4 to 8 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Heart Association.

#### FRANCES COBLENTZ,

104, entered into eternal rest Tuesday, May 12, 2009. She was a lifelong resident of Stamford. Frances retired as the Zoning Commission secretary and the Zoning Board of Appeals secretary for Stamford Mayor - Honorable Charles E. Moore. In addition to her parents, Frances was predeceased by her seven brothers and sisters. Frances lived a full and happy life. She will be greatly missed by all those whose lives she touched. A graveside service was held Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at Agudath Sholom Cemetery in Stamford. Arrangements were entrusted to the Leo. P. Gallagher & Son Funeral Home.

**HELEN GILCHRIST HAUX,** beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, passed away after a brief illness May 21, 2009 in Vero Beach, Fla., at the age of 92.

Born in Wilmington, Del., December 22, 1916, Helen was the daughter of the late Andrew and Anna Carroll Mulhare. She was raised in Baltimore, Md. and Stamford and graduated from both Sacred Heart Academy and Short's Business School in Stamford. In 1942, she found her calling as a registered nurse, and graduated from the Norwalk Hospital School of Nursing. During 47 years of nursing, her varied assignments included staff positions at St. Joseph's Hospital in Stamford, Norwalk Hospital, and Silver Hill Hospital in New Canaan; and private duty nursing for many grateful patients.

Helen married Charles P. Gilchrist, Sr., June 25, 1942 and raised their family in Norwalk while pursuing her career. She is survived by their two sons, Charles "Todd" [Terri] Gilchrist and Kevin [Anita] Gilchrist, both of Norwalk; and two daughters, Anne Fasoli Freeman and Mary Ellen Arway [Ron] Jenkins, both of Vero Beach, Fla.

After Charlie died in April 1972, she married Robert J. Haux of Fairfield, May 22, 1976. They moved to Vero Beach, Fla. together in 1989. He predeceased her in February 2003, as did his son, Rev. Robert J. Haux in November 2008.

Helen was a champion square dancer, excellent seamstress, and hosted renowned family picnics. After her retirement at age 72, her many passions included amateur genealogy, keeping current with the medical field, and taking

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computer classes at Indian River Community College. She was a longtime parishioner of St. Mary's Church in Norwalk and later, St. Helen's Church in Vero Beach, and belonged to the Widow and Widowers of Fairfield County.

Helen will be greatly missed by her 11 grandchildren, Steven [Kim] Fasoli of Trumbull, Michael [Melissa] Fasoli of Tampa, Fla., Kristin [P] Gilchrist-Wax of Norwalk, Charles "Chad" [Melissa] Gilchrist of Wilton, Jennifer [Paul] Melton, Stacey Walther, Meghan [Richard] Rice, and Caitlin Jenkins, all of Vero Beach, Fla., Corey [Donna] Gilchrist and Kevin "Skip" [Chrissy] Gilchrist, both of Norwalk and Kelly Gilchrist of Superior, Colo. Also left to cherish her memory are 21 great-grandchildren; her sister, Mary [William] Lockwood of Stamford; her brother, Edward [Kay] Mulhare of River Edge, N.J. and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family.

In addition to her husbands, Helen was also predeceased by two brothers, Francis "Bing" Mulhare and Robert Mulhare, and a sister, Anne Short.

Without question the greatest joy in Helen's life was her family. She was gracious and unselfish to all who knew her, and she will always be remembered for her extraordinary generosity. She will be missed.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated in her honor at St. Mary's Church, West Avenue in Norwalk Friday, June 12th at 10 a.m. Interment will follow in St. John's Cemetery, Richards Avenue in Norwalk. In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to the charity of your choice in Helen's memory.

#### MARGARET B. PRICE,

of Stamford, affectionately known as "Margie", passed away Thursday, June 4, 2009 at the age of 87. She was born in New York February 1, 1922 and was the daughter of the late Max Koppe and Margaret (Schmidt) Koppe. She was a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend, whose love for life was contagious to all. Margie was fun loving and the life of the party.

She is survived by her seven children, daughter and son-in-law, Peggy and Ray Nasta of Florida, daughters, Barbara J. Lowman of Florida, Joanie M. Calorossi of Stamford and Linda S. Ingram of Stamford; three sons and daughters-in-law, Joseph and Lisa Price of Stamford, William Jr. and Toni. Price of Stamford, and Michael and Sherrie Price of Hamden. She is also survived by 16 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a sister, Elsie Kirby of Florida; and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband, William M. Price, Sr. and a brother, Max Koppe.

Family will receive relatives and friends Tuesday, June 9th from 4 to 7 p.m. with a memorial service to be celebrated by Msgr. Peter Dora at 6:30 p.m. at the Bosak Funeral Home, 453 Shippin Avenue, in Stamford. A graveside service will be held the next day, Wednesday, June 10th at 10:30 a.m. in the Fairfield Memorial Park, 230 Oaklawn Avenue, in Stamford.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either the Allyson Rioux Memorial Foundation, 185 Minivale Rd., Stamford, CT 06907 or Challenged People in Motion Inc, 44 Stafford Rd., Stamford, CT 06902.

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The family has entrusted the funeral arrangements to the Bosak Funeral Home, 453 Shippin Avenue, Stamford. If you wish to make an online remembrance please sign our online registration book. ([www.bosakfuneralhome.com](http://www.bosakfuneralhome.com))

#### RANDY SAMAHA,

a Stratford resident passed away suddenly, Friday, June 5, 2009. He was the beloved husband of Melissa Perry Samaha; loving son of Edmond "Buddy" Samaha and Maureen Samaha; and loving father of Jake and Amanda.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Lacerenza Funeral Home, 8 Schuyler Ave., Stamford.

### Death Notices

#### TO PLACE A NOTICE

The Advocate and Greenwich Time offer obituaries and death notices. Both are paid announcements that are not verified by the newspaper.

An **Obituary** includes the name of the deceased, date of death, town of residence, survivors and funeral arrangements. It may also contain more details, such as accomplishments and hobbies, along with a photograph. A paid obituary must be submitted on behalf of the family by a recognized funeral home.

A **Death Notice** contains only the name of the deceased, date of death, town of residence and funeral arrangements. This notice is usually run on consecutive days after an obituary is published.

To appear in the next day's publication, information must be received from the funeral home by 5:00 PM weekdays & weekends.

**Funeral homes** should use one of the following formats to deliver your copy to us:

Phone: 203-964-2315

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**please call the phone above to tell us you have faxed information to us.**

E-mail: [obits@scni.com](mailto:obits@scni.com)


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Call 1-877-542-5620 or 1-877-542-6052 for details.

### Mass/Memorial Notice

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## 6 people shot in Hartford in two separate incidents

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
**HARTFORD** — Six people were shot and wounded in Hartford in two separate incidents early Saturday, and a man faces several charges related to one attack, police said.

Police spokesman Jose Rivera said officers reported hearing several gunshots at Papa's Pizza at 54 Union Place at 2:13 a.m. Saturday. Five people fled onto the street with gunshot wounds, he said.

Police arrested 21-year-old Byron Taylor, of Hartford, in the pizza parlor and charged him with assault, criminal use of a firearm, reckless endangerment and unlawful dis-

charge of a firearm, police said in a statement.

Taylor was ordered held in lieu of \$4 million bond, according to the statement. Attempts to reach Taylor were not successful.

The victims included a person in serious condition with a gunshot wound to the back. Others suffered nonlife-threatening injuries.

Earlier, a man was shot and wounded after a fight escalated into serious assault inside The Mansion night club.

The unidentified man was taken to a local hospital for treatment of a nonlife-threatening wound to the lower abdomen.

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