

Neighbors



•Good Times.....page 13

•Southington Scene.....page 16

•Sports.....17

Our Friends

— Faces in the Crowd —

Larson, seniors discuss health care, Congress



Tammi Knapik

Kevin Rollins

Live and learn

Each week we interview a 'regular person' like you for our Faces in the Crowd. This week we meet student and grocery clerk Kevin Rollins.

How long have you been connected to Southington?

My whole life.

What do you like about the town?

I like the restaurants in town.

What is your favorite movie?

"Anchor Man." I think Will Ferrell is hilarious.

What is the best piece of

advice you have ever received?

Learn like you're going to live forever, but live like you are going to die tomorrow.

If you could meet anyone in the world, who would you like to meet?

Peyton Manning. He is the greatest quarter back ever.

By **TERRY BARTON**
CONTRIBUTOR

Area seniors, in a visit with the state's U.S. Representative John Larson (D-1st District), left no doubt that the health care bill and the slow pace of Congress are their prime concerns.

Delayed for 40 minutes before arriving at the Bristol Senior Center, Larson praised Korean and other war veterans before launching into his defense of the health care issue and his denunciation of the Senate.

When one audience member questioned the claim that the proposed health care bill would give more for less (money), Larson countered with a report from Reuters news service that \$700 billion is spent annually "in waste, duplication and fraud in our health care delivery system". He said all of this

would be eliminated under the health care proposal but gave no specifics.

The questioner wanted to know why nothing has been done about this "waste and fraud" for the last 30 years and was told that "there are powerful lobbies" in Washington.

If adopted, the health care bill would not be effective until 2013, Larson said, but some provisions would start immediately, including the elimination of the pre-existing conditions provision, a statement that drew heavy applause. Remarking on the pre-existing tenet, Larson said that women, simply by virtue of their ability to bear children, are said to carry a pre-existing condition.

One of the veterans said when he returned home from World War II more than 70 years ago,

then-President Harry Truman was proposing a health care program. "I'll be 84 tomorrow," the speaker said, "and I have yet to see the Promised Land."

Larson said the Senate is holding up 264 bills that have passed the House. The tactic is their cloture rule which requires a vote of 60 members to cut off debate. He said these bills "are bottled up by those who want to block the president's agenda".

He spoke about the need for adoption of health care for many reasons, including the economy. "Health care delivery costs account for 20 per cent of our gross domestic product," Larson said, "exceeding every other country in the world. The closest is Switzerland with 10 per cent, but unlike us, Switzerland covers every single one of their citizens."

There was much heat generated when one speaker claimed the bill is not available on the internet and others agreed but Larson and his staff members disputed this and said everything has been on the web since July. Larson decried false press reports and said there is no truth to rampant charges members of Congress do not pay income taxes or contribute to the Social Security program and that there will be death panels and arrests for failure to join the health care program.

In response to a question on his support of rail transportation as opposed to the busway, which he supported early on, Larson said he favors both. He said intermodal means of transportation must be the way to go. He held that "the state has not aggressively pursued those grants."

St. Dominic Church to showcase women of the Bible

St. Dominic Church is sponsoring a dramatic presentation, Women of the Bible, on Tuesday, March 9, from 7:30-9 p.m.

Professional actress, Anita Gutschik, will portray three fascinating women of the Bible in a heartfelt way that makes their stories seem relevant today.

Come bear witness to their struggles as Anita recounts their family sagas, shares their hopes and fears, and reveals how



Martha

their faith in God impacted their lives.

Discover how these women from the past provide lessons for the present and hope for the future.



Sarah

This event is not limited to just women. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

In the event of inclement weather on March 9, please check



Sinful woman

WFSB Channel 3 snow listings.

If "St. Dominic Church-event postponed" is listed, this presentation will be rescheduled to the March 15.

NOW OPEN

THURSDAY KARAOKE
\$2 Bud Drafts

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE RUST
3/5

SATURDAY 3/6
ERAN TROY DANNER
\$3 Well Drinks

OPEN 7 DAYS

1169 Meriden-Wtby Tpk
RTE 322 • Exit 28 off I84
PLANTSVILLE
860-863-5963

#1 REASON TO CALL US
WE ONLY DO BATHROOMS

HAVE YOUR BATHROOM PROFESSIONALLY REMODELED IN JUST ONE WEEK.

FOR AS LOW AS **\$5450.** NOT reglazed or mold hiding liner **FREE EST.**

START MONDAY FINISH THAT FRIDAY
Includes: new water resistant sheetrock & taped, new tub & walls, toilet & seat, vinyl or ceramic floor, vanity & marble sink, all faucets, medicine cabinet & light. Installation included approx 5x8.

HAVING TROUBLE GETTING IN AND OUT OF YOUR HIGH BATHTUB JUST TO TAKE A SHOWER?? AS LOW AS **\$2950** **FREE EST.**

Replace that old high tub with a 5' WALK-IN INTERLOCKING WATER TIGHT SEAL SHOWER...
45 Years Sheetrock patching, faucet & plumbing included. One day Installation!

SUMMA CONSTRUCTION SERVICES L.L.C.
1482 Mer.-Wtby Rd., Southington, CT
Licensed & Insured Over 40 Yrs. Experience **CALL (860) 628-0073** Family Owned & Operated Lic #00203526

Here, FIRE is good

2009 Readers' CHOICE

Named BEST PIZZA in Southington 3 YEARS IN A ROW '07-'08-'09

An upscale pizza restaurant with a warm and rustic atmosphere.

- Full Bar with 18 Beers On Tap
- Take Out Available
- Open 7 Days a Week Serving Lunch Sat & Sun
- Personal & Big Screen TV's in Tap Room
- Wood Fired Wings and Specialty Sandwiches
- Over 20 Unique Specialty Pizzas
- Accommodate Private Parties

860 620-1234

Wood Fired Pizza and Tap Room
"The only thing warmer than the pizza is the atmosphere!"
44 Center Street • Southington

HOURS:
M-TH 4PM - 1AM,
FRI 4PM - 2AM,
SAT 11:30AM - 2AM,
SUN 11:30AM - 1AM

Let us show you our Wood Fired Taste

FREE SMALL CHEESE PIZZA with purchase of any large specialty pizza. Expires 2-28-10

www.thefireplacect.com

CONTRACTORS INSURANCE

LIABILITY \$450-\$500 PER YEAR
1 million/2 million coverage

PAYMENT PLANS:
\$250
DOWN & INSTALLMENTS

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR CLASSIFICATION

Save 1/3 to 1/2 • INSTANT CERTIFICATES
ALSO AVAILABLE: MEDICAL - AUTO - WORKER'S COMP.

Busy or Broke Now - Tear Out & Save For Later

Associated Insurance Services
106 West Main Street, Plainville • (860) 793-9601 • (800) 382-0549

ALL-PRO COLLISION REPAIR & SALES

"SOUTHINGTON'S FINEST AUTO BODY"

Bill Romaniello, owner

Collision Repair Experts •
All Makes and Models •
Custom Paint •
Corvette Specialists •

971 S. Main St., Plantsville, CT 06479 • 860-628-0200
Fax 860-628-0333 • all_pro_collision@att.net
www.allprocollisionrepair.com