



## In with the New: Rotary Names Theresa Viele President

By Erica Vento

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**North Haven** - There comes a time in the year for every Rotary member to say goodbye to his or her old president and welcome in the new, but the goodbyes are not filled with tears or regret but with an exciting ceremony and fun dreams of what the next year will bring.

The Rotarians know in advance who their next upcoming president will be because throughout the year, the president elect will help plan events in order to get ready for his or her term.

"I was president for 525,600 minutes. But who's counting?" asked former president Richard Bassett with a smile. "We did a lot of meaningful and fun things this year. We worked hard and partied hard."

Although the Rotary Club knows how to have a good time, they also are essential to the town and had an abundance of different fundraising events this year.

"My favorite was the water project in India. We adopted a village and were able to give 100 families water," said Bassett. "Although Hamden Rotary thought up the idea, we were the first club to execute it."

With the success of this year, Bassett wasn't sad to hand the position to his longtime Rotarian friend Theresa Viele, who was anxious and excited to accept.

"I have been a Rotarian for 16 years; the Rotary won't stop for me," said Bassett. "Theresa is a strong person and will do a great job."

Viele said there are many events and fundraisers she is looking forward to, but her main pride of becoming president is that she is the first Rotarian named president who is also child of a former president, her mother, Sandy Carter.

"I am proud they are letting me be president. I am looking forward to working with the community, especially the high school students," said Viele. "I love when they get involved and I would like to see it happen more."

Some of the foundations and events that are particularly close to her heart are working with the Eli Whitney Foundation and its camp for sick children. She also looks forward to working closely with Peter's Rock because she grew up playing there.

"I am excited to work with Richard Branigan and the Kids for Kids, the North Haven Fair, and we have a surprise fundraiser coming up shortly," said Viele. "We want to have fun and do good, too."

Viele wasn't the only Rotarian to receive an award. The Pohoda family and Richard Branigan received the Community Service Award. Luigi Nuzzolillo and Bernadette Casella received the Paul Harris Award and Nuzzolillo also received the Rotarian of the Year award.

### North Haven Rotary Donations

North Haven Foundation, \$11,472.00; Friends of High Meadows, \$1,000; Domestic Violence, \$1,000; North Haven Library, \$1,500; Meals on Wheels, \$500; DARE Program, \$500; SDRF, \$500; Eli Whitney (EWM-Jack Viele Scholarship), \$2,500; Best Buddies, \$1,000; Relay for Life, \$500; International Buddhist Progress Society, \$1,000; Rotary International Foundation, \$2,769; March of Dimes, \$1,000; Gift of Life, \$1,000; South Asia Water Treatment, \$3,230; Lindsey DeAngelo, \$500; Bridges of Milford, \$1,000; Children Center, \$1,000; Kinship, \$500; North Haven Education Foundation, \$500; Katrina Relief, \$2,000; Big Brothers, Big Sisters, \$500.

Grand Total for the year: \$51,694