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GREENWICH TIME

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STANWICH SCHOOL BUS ACCIDENT

Paul Geise, the head of Stanwich School, second from right, at the scene of an accident involving a Stanwich School bus Wednesday afternoon.



Bob Luckey/Staff photographer

14 injured in crash

Local emergency responders, and even some civilians, are quick to the scene

By Justin Pottle

More than a dozen Stanwich School students and a 74-year-old school bus driver were injured Wednesday when their bus crashed into a tree on Stanwich Road. All 14 people on board were transported to Greenwich and Stamford hospitals with a number of injuries, some serious, but none life-threatening, police said. The small bus had been traveling north along Stanwich Road between Orchard Street and Jeffrey Road toward the Stanwich School campus, when the driver swerved into the left lane for unknown reasons. The bus struck a large tree, coming to a sudden stop and causing significant front-end damage to the vehicle. The force threw the high school students inside the passenger cabin forward and pinned the driver in his seat. "No other vehicle was in-

involved in the accident," said Lt. Kraig Gray of the Greenwich Police Department. Police, fire and emergency medical services from both Greenwich and Stamford were dispatched to the accident at 3:01 p.m., shutting down a half-mile stretch of Stanwich Road as they arrived. While first responders were en route, several people who happened upon the scene stopped to offer immediate help. Lisa Abrams, a midcountry resident, was driving south on Stanwich with her baby sitter and 14-month-old son when she came upon the bus, smoke billowing from its hood, the ground strewn with backpacks. The first to stop at the scene, she called 911 and rushed to the bus. Some students were aware, but shaken up, she said. Some, it would be determined, had suffered

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Above and right, Greenwich emergency responders and Stanwich School officials at the scene of Wednesday's crash.



Online: Scan here or go to this address: http://bit.ly/1ricP97 for a video from Wednesday's accident scene.



DEMOCRATIC GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION

Malloy hosts group suing state

By Neil Vigdor

GREENWICH — As part of a group of Democratic governors suing the state — a case that could have ramifications for his re-election bid — Gov. Dannel P. Malloy welcomed his blue-state brethren to Connecticut Wednesday night for big-donor policy retreat. Malloy, who is tied in the polls with 2010 GOP adversary Tom Foley, is hosting the two-day conference for the Democratic Governors Association in Foley's hometown of Greenwich. The summit got underway with a cocktail reception at the Bruce Museum, where Malloy was joined by Govs. Peter Shumlin, of Vermont, Maggie Hassan, of New Hampshire, Martin O'Malley, of Maryland and three bus loads of "sponsors" and guests that included out-of-state lobbyists. Shumlin and Hassan are the chairman and vice chairwoman of the DGA. The association sued multiple state agencies on April 23 over their enforcement and interpretation of Connecticut's campaign finance laws, which the Washington D.C., group said could have a chilling effect on its First Amendment rights in a critical election year. The beneficiary of \$1.7 million in spending by the DGA four years ago in Connecticut, Malloy has been under intense pressure to get the group to scuttle the lawsuit. He avoided the museum's main entrance at the start of the summit, which is closed to media and resumes Thursday at the Hyatt Regency Greenwich. Afterward, a number of donors and governors reconvened in an exclusive dinner at Valbella restaurant in Old Greenwich. A request for comment was left Wednesday with Malloy's press

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1966 FITCH PHOENIX

Concours d'Elegance to auction one-of-a-kind automobile

By John Burgeson

GREENWICH — A little-known, one-of-a-kind automobile that's instantly recognizable to followers of sports car racing will be up for auction Sunday at the Greenwich Concours d'Elegance. The 1966 Fitch Phoenix, which can almost be regarded as an historical artifact in Connecticut, will be up for sale for the first time. It was built by John Fitch, a man of so many accomplishments that it's difficult to put a title in front of his name. In terms of his impact on the world, Fitch (1917-2012) is best remembered as the inventor of the Fitch bar-

The Concours d'Elegance will take place 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, rain or shine, at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park. American classics from the 1900s to present will be featured on Saturday, and imported sports, competition and touring cars will be on display on Sunday. Attendees also can board Sunseeker Yachts and America's Cup 12-meter yachts on both days. Admission is \$30 per day, or \$45 for a two-day pass, and children 12 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. Parking is free, and food service is available on site. AmeriCares is the beneficiary. For more information, visit www.greenwichconcours.com. rier, the yellow, sand-filled barrels placed in front of immovable structures along interstate highways. It's estimated that the Fitch barrier has saved at least 17,000 lives in the United States alone since it was first employed in the 1960s. Many more thousands were spared the agony of debili-

after which he was kissed by Eva Peron, the first lady of Argentina. In 1955, Fitch won the production car class of the Mille Miglia, an Italian road race, in a Mercedes 300SL, and came in fifth overall; he was the only American driver for Mercedes. "In fact, it was Fitch who had the idea to have a navigator aboard to read off the pace notes," said Rick Roso, spokesman for Lime Rock Park in Lakeville. "And his friend Sterling Moss, who drove the winning Mercedes racing car in that race, won using that plan, because it was impossible to remember every turn and bend in a



John Fitch, shown here in 1952, won the Grand Prix of Argentina in 1951, after which he was kissed by Eva Peron. His 1966 Fitch Phoenix will be auctioned Sunday.

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