

## Letters to the editor

### Editor:

Regarding the horrendous, current flooding in Pakistan, Islamic Relief USA states that the situation is the worst in the country's recorded history, affecting more than 17 million people and causing at least 6 million to be homeless.

"The scale of the monsoon floods is worse than the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the 2005 Pakistan earthquake and the 2010 Haiti earthquake combined."

The Islamic Center of New London, located in Groton, will shortly be sending a physician to Pakistan to help, along with medical supplies.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations office in Hartford ((860) 442-2240), is also an excellent starting point for anyone wanting to donate money or offer assistance.

This is the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. The people of Pakistan are combating a huge disaster and need our assistance.

Joyce C. Rawitscher  
Storrs

our team member, determined that nothing could be done, the rider called the sag wagon to pick her up. She explained that in the previous two years she was unable to complete the race due to bike breakdowns. She was disappointed that once again, she suffered the same fate. Just then someone called out from the house nearby.

She introduced herself as Carol, explained that although she was physically unable to ride, she still had a bike in her garage and readily offered it to the rider. Gil took the bike down, put air in the tires and adjusted the seat and off we went (thanks to you too Gil). The rider was very grateful and I am happy to report that she finished the Steeple Chase tour.

At this time, when most everything considered newsworthy is pessimistic, I felt this story was worth sharing.

Thank you, Carol for being a shining example of kindness. Your giving spirit made the day that much more special.

Monique Roy  
Mansfield Center

### Editor:

We'd like to thank all the hundreds of riders, volunteers and donors of goods, services and money that made the 19th annual Steeple Chase Bike Tour fundraiser held Aug. 21 such a huge success this year. We raised more than \$71,000 and had 401 cyclists register to ride. The Steeple Chase is sponsored by the Windham Area Interfaith Ministry and Perception Programs.

In addition to the many volunteers and donors, there are five people who made the day as close to perfect as possible. They are Margaret Gledhill, property manager for Windham Mills Business Center & TWB Properties; Susan Mostowy, EastConn; Karen Jensen, AMTA Sports massage team coordinator; Dr. Michael Babinski and the 44 Colchester Dental Group riders, and John Hankins and the 52 riders from Thread City Cyclists.

Thank you all so much; your help and support made it all work.

Ruth Gordon  
On behalf of  
The Steeple Chase Bike Tour Committee

### Editor:

## To contact the governor

Gov. M. Jodi Rell  
Executive Chambers, Room 200  
State Capitol  
Hartford, CT 06106

### Editor:

While our team was riding on Back Road in Windham during the Steeple Chase, a team member from Colchester Dental Group stopped behind us with a flat tire. When Gil,



Contributed

Standing with their awards from the annual Steeple Chase Bike Tour are, left to right, Victoria Nimirowski of the Windham Area Interfaith Ministry, Warren 'Gil' Gilmour, of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Mike Babinski, of the Colchester Dental Group, Eric Grove, Thread City Cyclists and Ruth Gordon, of Perception Programs.

# Steeple Chase raises \$71,000

WINDHAM — The 19th Annual Steeple Chase Bike Tour fundraiser held Aug. 21 raised more than \$71,000 and had 401 riders.

The Steeple Chase is sponsored by the Windham Area Interfaith Ministry and Perception Programs.

This is the fifth year that the Steeple Chase offered a corporation/cycling club/church challenge with the top three fundraisers winning a trophy.

The first-place trophy was won by Colchester Dental Group, which raised \$5,323 (trophy accepted

by owner Dr. Mike Babinski).

Second place went to Thread City Cyclists, which raised \$5,133 (trophy accepted by the President of TCC Eric Grove).

Third place went to St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church which raised \$1,495 (trophy accepted by Warren "Gil" Gilmour).

The trophies were awarded by Ruth Gordon of Perception Programs and Victoria Nimirowski of the Windham Area Interfaith Ministry.