

Business Briefs



Wednesday, 26 August 2009 12:03

Orthopaedic surgeon appointed

Henry A. Backe Jr., M.D., an orthopaedic surgeon at Orthopaedic Specialty Group in Fairfield, recently received two appointments, one locally and the other nationally.

Dr. Backe was elected to the Medical Executive Board of St. Vincent's Hospital, and has been named vice president of the Eastern Orthopaedic Association (EOA).

He has served as treasurer of the EOA for the past three years, and now he has been elected the 2nd vice president and will serve as the association's president in 2012. The EOA, which includes the entire East Coast of the United States, fosters the discussion and teaching of orthopaedic methods.

Dr. Backe has practiced in Fairfield since 1993 and as a surgeon at Orthopaedic Specialty Group since 1999. He specializes in hand surgery, joint replacement surgery, and sports injuries related to the upper extremities. He is on active staff at Bridgeport Hospital and St. Vincent's Medical Center.

New chairman of AWWA

John J. Herlihy of Fairfield, Director of Water Quality and Environmental Management at Aquarion Water Company, has been elected the new chairman of the Connecticut Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA).

Herlihy recently marked his 35th anniversary with Aquarion. In addition to the AWWA, he is secretary of the Kiwanis Club of Bridgeport. He also has had a long involvement with Special Olympics as a soccer coach, and he helped to found Alpha Home, a shelter for the homeless in Bridgeport.

Aquarion Water Company, based in Bridgeport, serves nearly 600,000 people in 36 communities throughout Connecticut. It is among the seven largest investor-owned water utility companies in the U.S., and the largest in New England.

The AWWA is a nonprofit scientific and educational organization founded in 1881 that is dedicated to improving drinking water quality and supply.

Eminent domain case

Fairfield attorney Jay Skelton teamed up with Farmington attorney Bart Halloran to win a \$28 million judgment against the State of Connecticut. The judgment was entered Wednesday, July 29, 2009 in the Superior Court Clerk's office in Danbury, on behalf of their client Rock Acquisition Limited Partnership against the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation.

The case involved a 13-year eminent domain battle by Rock Acquisition Limited Partnership against the State of Connecticut for just compensation for the taking of a 108 acre parcel of land being operated as a rock quarry in Brookfield. The parties negotiated for several years prior to a lawsuit being filed in 2005. The case culminated in a month long trial in September, 2008. Final arguments in the case took place on April 13, 2009 and judgment was entered last week.

For more information or to schedule an interview, call Attorney Jay Skelton, at work 203-371-4568 or cell 203-913-8516.

Virtual tour