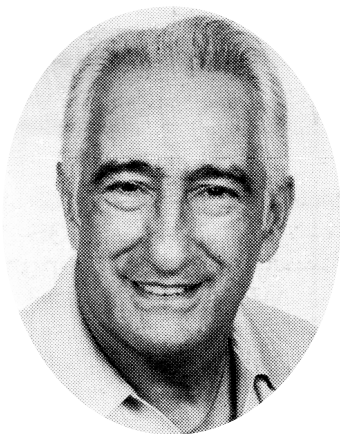


Babe Spinola



Sylvio “Babe” Spinola, from the famed sports family from the Strawberry Hill section of Norwalk, has been associated with the Norwalk American League for the past 24 years. He is currently president and was manager of the Greenberg team for 17 years. He also has served as the league’s vice president.

Earlier, Spinola made a name for himself as a baseball, football, and basketball star, primarily with the Strawberry Hill teams.

He coached and played with the Strawberry Hill baseball team from 1940 through 1942 as a youngster not yet 20 in the Intermediate Recreation League. This was before Babe Ruth leagues were in existence. Two of his young pitchers were Ray Faust and Abbie Spinola, his brother.

In 1943-’44, he played with the Strawberry Hill football team, which had a memorable scoreless tie with the talented Westport Advertisers, an older and much bigger team.

After a stint in the Marine Corps, Spinola returned to play baseball and football for Strawberry Hill through the early ’50s. An excellent batter, he turned to fastpitch softball, playing for Joe’s Restaurant in the Fastpitch Recreation League, and later for Hat Corporation in the Industrial League, into the ’60s.

He coached the St. Joseph basketball team in the of Greenberg’s. In 1986, his league’s all-star team won the District I title and went to the state semi-finals before being eliminated.

Spinola worked at the Hat Corporation and, for 24 years, ran the S.S. Spinola Landscaping Company before becoming a postal worker. Married to the former Alice Horan, the couple has three sons and lives at 1 Wolfpfit Avenue, Norwalk.