



State Sen. Robert J. Kane and State Rep. Sean J. Williams, both R-Watertown, recently hosted a tour of the Capitol in Hartford for dignitaries from Cercemaggiore, Italy, who traveled to the United States to visit the Cercemaggiore Club in Watertown. From the left, are Kane, Lt. Gov. Michael Fedele, Cercemaggiore Mayor Gino Mascia, Consigliere Regionale Michele Petraroia, the Rev. Angelo Abbondandolo, Williams, Angelo Marino and Peter D'Abate.

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# Visitors from Italy tour state Capitol

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REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

**WATERTOWN** — A contingent of dignitaries from Cercemaggiore, Italy, got a behind-the-scenes look at the Capitol in Hartford last week, courtesy of Sen. Robert J. Kane, and Rep. Sean J. Williams, both R-Watertown.

The guests were in Watertown to visit with members of the local Cercemaggiore Club. During the visit, Kane and

## Sister cities strengthen ties

Williams hosted the group's visit to the Capitol, and introduced the visitors to Lt. Gov. Michael Fedele, who was born in Minturno, Italy.

Many residents of Cercemaggiore have settled in the Greater Watertown area. In 1974 they established the Cercemaggiore Club at 550 Sylvan Lake Road.

"It was a pleasure to show our visitors around the State Capitol and to introduce them to Lt. Gov. Fedele, who speaks fluent Italian," Williams said. "I hope they enjoyed their visit as much as we enjoyed having them."

Cercemaggiore is now a sister town to Watertown. Last weekend the mayor of

Cercemaggiore, Gino Mascia, was presented with a key to the town during a ceremony at the Grand Oak Villa.

The southern Italian town has about 4,200 residents. Thousands of its residents have come to live in the Greater Waterbury area, enough to establish the local community club. Besides their trip to Hartford, the visitors saw Foxwoods Casino and Ellis Island in New York. They also ate lunch with Waterbury Mayor Michael J. Jarjura.