

Wethersfield LIFE

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program teaches basics.
Story, page 56. Photo
by Steven Frank.

**Harold and
Theodora Niver as
Mr. and Mrs. Gillette.**
Story, page 24. Photo
by Wayne Sassano.



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Neighbors

Have cape and pipe, will travel

Meet Mr. and Mrs. Gillette — Harold and Theodora Niver

by Joyce Rossignol

Visitors to Gillette Castle this summer and fall sometimes found their hosts at home. William and Helen Gillette, also known as Harold and Theodora Niver, were there to greet them.

Sherlock Holmes is the Nivers' hobby, which is why they are also interested in the actor William Gillette who played, who was, Sherlock Holmes on

the stage for 30 years.

This July, the Nivers visited Gillette Castle on the occasion of William Gillette's birthday. One of the guides told them they were looking for somebody to dress up as the Gillettes.

No problem. Harold and Theodora Niver already had the costumes, and they were ready to show up that very weekend as Mr. and Mrs. Gillette. Now "it's almost like we actually own the castle,"

Mr. Niver said.

"The guides have a lot more knowledge about the castle than we do, but we have learned many things about William Gillette," he said.

"A friend of ours is writing a book about him and through networking we found another gentleman who is also writing a book. They have been more

The Nivers, page 26

