RESNICK, SELMA

DJB 9-13-96

SELMA "MITZI" RESNICK, 65, of 15 River Farm Rd., owner and operator with her late husband of G.S.R. Vending Co. for 30 years, and recently employed in sales and delivery at Rainbow Bakery, died yesterday in Rhode Island Hospital. She was the widow of Gilbert "Gibby" Resnick.

Born in Providence, a daughter of Mary (Kaplan) Fishman of Cranston and the late Daniel Fishman, she lived in Cranston for 37 years.

Mrs. Resnick was employed at the State House as an executive secretary to former Secretary of State, Dennis J. Roberts. She was actively involved in politics and was a member and officer of the Young Democrats.

She worked at local polling places in Providence and Cranston for many years. She was a member of NARFE, the DAV, the APWU Ladies Auxiliary and the AARP.

Besides her mother, she leaves a daughter, Rhonda Godfrey of North Kingstown; a son, Steven Resnick of Cranston, and a grandson.

The funeral service will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St., Providence. Burial will be in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

RESNICK, Selma "Mitzi" (Fishman)

September 12, 1996. Beloved wife of the late Gilbert "Gibby" Resnick. Residence: 15 River Farm Rd., Cranston. Beloved daughter of Mary (Kaplan) Fishman, Cranston and the late Daniel Fishman. Beloved mother of Rhonda Godfrey, North Kingstown and Steven Resnick, Cranston. Devoted grandmother of Grady. Funeral Service 11 a.m. Monday at MOUNT SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL, 825 Hope at 4th Sts. Relatives and friends are invited. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to RI Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals or to any local animal welfare organization. Memorial Observance at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Godfrey, 60 Edgar Knock Rd., North Kingstown Monday 4-9 p.m.

PJB - 9-13-96

Cranston woman dies of burns from car fire

■ Selma E. Resnick, 65, of Cranston, was found lying beside her burning Volvo on vacant riverfront land off Pier Road.

By ARIEL SABAR
Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

EAST PROVIDENCE — A 65-year-old Cranston woman died at Rhode Island Hospital yesterday, three days after her car burst into flames on vacant land bordering the Providence River, police and hospital officials said.

Selma E. Resnick of 15 Riverfarm Rd. was taken by rescue to the hospital at 1:45 p.m. Monday after police found her lying semi-conscious beside her burning Volvo on the riverfront land off Pier Road, police said. She was admitted to the trauma intensive care unit in critical condition, with severe burns on her arms, legs and face, and died at 1:06 a.m. yesterday, hospital officials said.

State Fire Marshal Irving Owens said yesterday that his office is still trying to determine what caused the fire. An initial investigation, however, suggests that it may have been sparked by an accidental malfunctioning of the car's fuel line, said Capt. Joseph Broadmeadow, head of the East Providence police detectives division.

Broadmeadow said he believes that foul play is highly unlikely, but said he hasn't ruled it out.

It remains unclear why Resnick drove onto the sprawling site, which is being developed by the Providence & Worcester Railroad Co.

Resnick apparently entered the P & W property by driving through an open gate at the end of Pier Road, police said. As she neared the shoreline, the tires on her car apparently lost traction on the muddy ground, police said. She apparently pressed the accelerator, spinning the car's wheels in a futile effort to get out of the rut, police said.

At some point, the car caught fire, sending up a plume of black smoke that could be seen from as far away as Route 195 in Providence, police said.

Resnick apparently climbed out of the car and fell to the ground beside the driver's door, police said.

A passing motorist reported the fire to police. East Providence firefighters and a Providence fire boat extinguished the blaze, police said.