

#### SCOUTING REPORT

Joe Fremont, with actors and crew members from his movie *Through Different Eyes*, standing in front of the Community Center, a possible shoot location.



# Lights, Camera...

## RIDGEFIELD IS READY FOR ITS CLOSE-UP

Joe Fremont peers through the lens of his digital movie camera as a location scout and actors Sacha Iskra and Xavier Santiago converse on the steps of the Community Center. "That's perfect," Fremont mutters to himself. "This will be the dean's mansion," he explains. "The gardens behind the Keeler Tavern can act as the exterior of the dean's mansion—a little movie magic there." He looks around, shouts a few things to the crew, peers at his list, and continues: "There's a scene that calls for a nice restaurant—the Quilted Possum is the name in the script. We hope to film that at Bernard's."

Fremont has written and is directing *Through Different Eyes*—a film about college kids dealing with ethnic issues. He spent the latter part of the summer shooting at an Ivy League campus and rolled into Ridgefield, where he lives, with his crew to scout locations. "There is not another town that captures the essence of bucolic New England,"

Fremont says. Much of the film takes place on a college campus, so the scenes shot in town have the appearance of being on or near campus.

Fremont describes *Through Different Eyes* this way: "It is a coming-of-age film about a bunch of divergent characters, from completely different backgrounds and ethnicities, who

have three things in common: They're on their life's path; they know themselves; and they're about to find out just how wrong they are." Of course mention "college campus" and "movie" in the same sentence and people immediately think *Animal House*. "This movie works off the premise that college students have greater priorities than sex and getting drunk," Fremont explains. "We deal with sensitive issues that kids deal with in school. It talks to kids as if they are intelligent."

Fremont is still seeking additional financing to complete the project and a distributor to release it to the public. Still, he moves on. The crew spent late September and early October doing exterior scenes around town and hopes to do the interior shots—at the Community Center, at Bernard's, and elsewhere—during the early part of winter. "People in town have been very accommodating," Fremont says. "In fact, we're hoping to get Rudy Marconi and others to actually be in the movie." ■

~Geoffrey Morris

RIDGEFIELD  
from the field