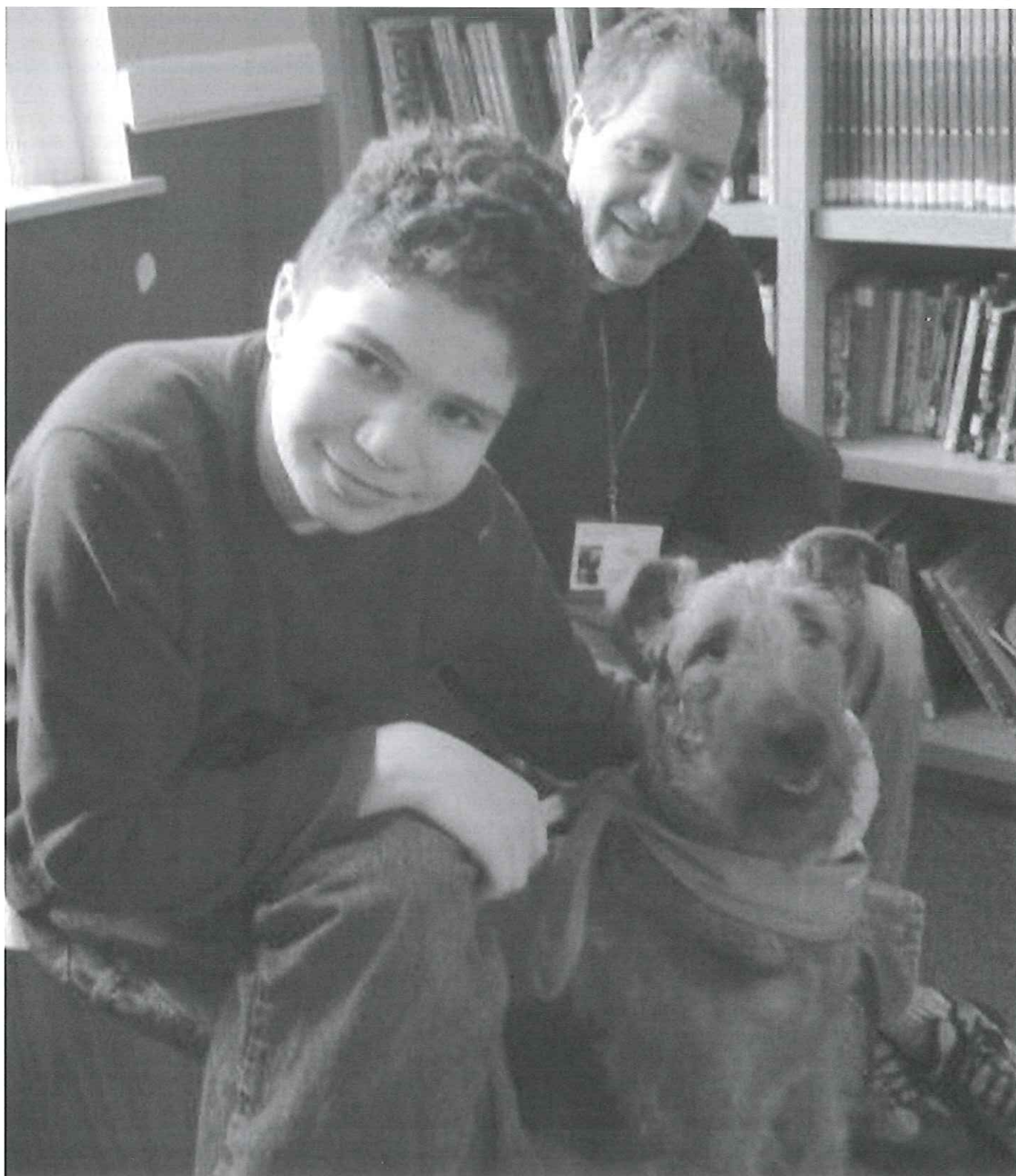


The Junior Citizen

The Newsletter of the Connecticut Junior Republic

Summer 2012



CJR Honors John Boyd and Welcomes Dan Rezende as New Executive Director

On March 31, John F. Boyd retired as Executive Director of the Connecticut Junior Republic. At a retirement celebration dinner held at Fairview Farm Golf Course on March 29, approximately 160 CJR friends and business associates gathered to pay tribute to Mr. Boyd's significant contributions to the Junior Republic and to the field of child welfare.

Speakers at the event included State Senator Andrew W. Roraback and State Representative Michelle Cook. Senator

Roraback presented Mr. Boyd with a Citation from the Northwest Connecticut Delegation of the General Assembly and Representative Cook presented a Proclamation from Governor Dannel P. Malloy, recognizing Mr. Boyd for his 36 years of service – first as Director of Programs (1976 - 1995) – and for 17 years as Executive Director (1995 - 2012). During this time, CJR grew from a program serving approximately 200 teenaged boys annually in two locations to a diversified organization serving more than 1,200 boys, girls and families in 10

locations throughout Connecticut.

Mr. Boyd's retirement was initially announced in June of 2011, by CJR Board President Anne J. Fitzgerald, and again in January when the selection of Daniel W. Rezende, as CJR's new Executive Director was announced.

"The Connecticut Junior Republic has been most fortunate to have someone of John Boyd's caliber at the helm of the organization for the past 17 years," stated Mrs. Fitzgerald. "John's vision, experience and knowledge of current trends in the field

COVER

Good Friends Come in All Shapes and Sizes ... and Some Have Four Legs

Fourteen year-old Brandon has always loved dogs. At CJR's Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center where he is a student, canine friends and volunteers have helped bring out his best qualities and confidence. Thanks to a volunteer team from The Good Dog Foundation, as well as a separate puppy training and socialization program that CJR conducts with Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities (ECAD), Brandon finds it easier to concentrate on his studies and to communicate with staff and other CJR boys.

Like many special needs students at CJR, Brandon is noticeably more relaxed and communicative when he is around dogs. He enjoys interacting with them so much that his sessions with canine visitors provide an important incentive and residual assistance in his academic and vocational studies on a daily basis.

Every Wednesday, Brandon looks forward to a special visit with his good friend Tessa. Calm, good natured and always ready to listen, Tessa is a 70-pound, three-and-a-half year-old Airedale Terrier. By appearance, she is a perfect companion for a teenaged boy. Tousled and slightly shaggy, Tessa is a sturdy, easy-going dog – always excited to take a walk but gentle and dignified in her interactions with people. The adopted Airedale splits her time between

Litchfield and New York City, traveling back and forth regularly with her owners, Jake Nadler and Pamela McCann.

Tessa and Jake provide therapy dog services at CJR through their volunteer work with The Good Dog Foundation, a New York City-based organization that provides services to people in need of health care and social services, as well as educational and community facilities in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Tessa and Jake are graduates of The Good Dog Foundation's 11-week training class, which teaches dogs and handlers obedience and therapy skills so they can successfully navigate in clinical and social settings. The Airedale and her partner have experienced many volunteer assignments together and continue training on a regular basis since dogs and handlers associated with The Good Dog Foundation receive continuing assessment and must meet stringent criteria to become certified and maintain their qualification.

Brandon eagerly anticipates their arrival on Wednesday mornings, as well as his walks with Tessa across campus, past the pond and to the CJR Farm. "Tessa loves to interact with people who like her and almost everyone likes Tessa as soon as they meet her," noted Jake. "She feels very comfortable at CJR," he observed.

Jake enjoys discovering how to make the

therapy sessions effective and rewarding for both the person being mentored and the dog, and facilitating how people relate and learn. "A lot of the work done by The Good Dog Foundation volunteers is with the elderly and infirm in hospitals and nursing homes," he said. "A school is a different kind of environment and kids can be especially challenging to 'unlock.' There are no standard programs for figuring out the puzzle," he continued, "and each assignment is as different as the personalities of the kids with whom we work," he explained.

When Tessa isn't on assignment for The Good Dog Foundation, she thrives on activities that most other canines enjoy.

"Tessa loves going on hikes with Pam and me, running free in the woods and swimming virtually anywhere she can find water," said Mr. Nadler of his happy, good-natured Airedale.

Brandon and many other CJR boys also participate in socializing Golden Retriever, black and yellow Labrador Retriever, and Great Dane mix puppies for Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities (ECAD) on Tuesdays and Fridays. When asked if he would rather spend his day in class or working with the dogs, Brandon is quick to reply, "Puppies always win!"

Brandon, a CJR student, pictured with Tessa, a three-year old Airedale Terrier, and her handler, Jake Nadler. Tessa and Jake visit CJR on a weekly basis through their volunteer work with The Good Dog Foundation.

PHOTO: Hedy Barton

have been invaluable to long range planning and charting courses of action in challenging times," she continued. Mrs. Fitzgerald commended Mr. Boyd for transforming CJR into a position of leadership within the field of service-providing agencies for children and families.

In remarks at his retirement celebration, Mr. Boyd applauded the selection of Daniel Rezende, CJR's Director of Programs, as his successor and expressed optimism about the Junior Republic's future. "CJR is well-prepared and positioned to continue expanding and strengthening its programs," he said. "We have developed an outstanding team of highly skilled and committed managers and staff to build on CJR's work with children and families," he noted.

When asked what he has found most rewarding about his years at CJR, Mr. Boyd had much to reflect upon.

"I hope my legacy at CJR will be remembered for the team of highly capable professionals that I helped develop," he said. "We dramatically expanded and diversified CJR's services in Litchfield county and in sites across Connecticut," he continued.

"Ultimately, knowing that CJR has made a real difference in the lives of Connecticut children, youth and families, and has helped them become successful members of their communities, is what I have found most fulfilling," reflected Mr. Boyd.

"Leading a non-profit organization the size of CJR is very similar to running any business that faces increased and more complex regulation, as well as legal and financial challenges," he noted. "It gives me a lot of pleasure and peace of mind to know that CJR is now being led by Dan Rezende and an outstanding team of committed and talented individuals. It also pleases me that CJR has never been more financially sound, or better positioned to build on the services it provides across Connecticut."

Mr. Boyd indicated that he is looking forward to having more time to spend with his wife Colette, three children and four grandchildren. Also on the agenda are more travel, golf and volunteer activities, which include serving on the Boards of Directors of both Litchfield's Oliver Wolcott Library and the Connecticut Junior Republic. Mr. Boyd will also continue to serve on the Planning



Photo: Francine Spencer

John F. Boyd, (left), retired on March 31, and has been succeeded by Daniel W. Rezende (right), as CJR's new Executive Director.

Committee for CJR's very successful *CJR Invitational* golf benefit.

"I will miss the day to day challenges of the work and the wonderful Staff and Board I have had the opportunity to work with, but I'm very pleased to continue my association with CJR as a volunteer," he said.

Dan Rezende, who became Executive Director of the Connecticut Junior Republic effective April 1, has enjoyed a busy and productive spring. "We just learned that CJR has been awarded two new program contracts," he said. "The first is to open a new cottage for boys on our Litchfield campus; the second is to open a new Family Support Center in New Haven," he said. Mr. Rezende indicated that these projects will significantly increase the size of CJR's staff and budget.

Mr. Rezende's overall goals as CJR's new executive director include expanding the Junior Republic's education programs, particularly the roster of vocational opportunities; providing a growing continuum of service for any child or family served by CJR; and implementing more evidence-based program models, which have shown great promise for enhancing school attendance, and performance, as well as other improvements. "I want to apply the motto of our innovative Multi-Systemic Therapy Program — *Whatever it Takes* — to everything we do at CJR," he said.

"Dan Rezende is recognized as a major

force behind the Junior Republic's successful growth and program diversification by CJR's Board of Directors, members of our staff, the community and by representatives of the many agencies we work with," stated Mrs. Fitzgerald. "We believe that he is ideally suited to lead CJR in a time of unprecedented challenge and opportunity," she continued.

Mr. Boyd expressed strong support for his successor. "Dan Rezende is highly respected for his ability to bring professionals and the community together to make services work for children, youth and families," he said. "His dedication, passion and commitment to the mission of the Connecticut Junior Republic are always present," he continued. "Dan's strength-based approach to working with youth and families and developing talent within the organization will be extremely important as CJR evolves and develops to meet the needs of those it serves," he added. "I look forward to working with Dan as a member of the CJR Board of Directors and congratulate him on this well-deserved appointment," said Mr. Boyd.

Mr. Rezende earned his bachelor's degree in Applied Social Relations from Eastern Connecticut State University and a master's degree in social work from the University of Connecticut. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), he resides in West Hartford with his wife, Wendy, a registered nurse, and their daughter, Elena.

Now and Then - Michael Stango - CJR '91 - 92



Photo: Francine Spencer

Chef Mike Stango (in black shirt) pictured with three student "assistants" from CJR's Litchfield residential program.

Over the years, CJR students have enjoyed the cooking and mentoring of many chefs. Since the 1940's, three of these chefs were actually alumni of the Junior Republic. Like CJR alumni Ed Bradley and John Kuscinkas, Michael Stango has followed a path back to the Junior Republic as a professional chef working in the same kitchen where he assisted as a student years ago.

Michael Stango was hired by the Connecticut Junior Republic as a full time chef in 2010, approximately 20 years after he left CJR as a young man. His unique qualifications for the position included his experience as a student in the Republic's residential program, from 1991-92, as well as the training and knowledge he had gained through his education, military service and work in the field as a chef and caterer.

When Mike Stango left the Junior Republic in 1992, he returned to high school in his hometown of Waterbury. After graduating, he attended Paul Smith's College in Paul Smiths, New York, where he enrolled in the Culinary Program.

After a year at Paul Smiths College, Mike met his wife Lori and joined the Navy. By March of 1997, Mike Stango was working on the submarine USS San Juan, where he served 140 enlisted men and officers four meals a day. Chef Stango left the Navy in 2003, after 7 years of service. He resumed civilian life and

his career in food services management.

In 2010, he learned of a new position at the Junior Republic. Mike applied, went through the interview process and was hired as CJR's new chef.

Chef Stango's experience as a student in CJR's vocational program helped him develop an interest in culinary arts. His first trade class at CJR was the auto shop. After the second week, however, he was struggling with his choice. At that time, Mike was given the opportunity to enroll in the culinary arts program with instructor Emily Mullen. He found that he was much happier working in the kitchen. He enjoyed producing a tangible product, as well as the creative outlet that is part of food preparation. "The end product is what you create," Mike explained. He also took pride in being able to meet challenging deadlines.

Mike Stango had finally discovered his niche and continued to excel in culinary arts. He was proud of his newly discovered skills and enjoyed developing them as he worked with Ms. Mullen in the CJR kitchen. This sense of pride helped him get on the right track and realign his life. It also helped him learn to make better decisions in emotional moments.

One of the activities that Mike particularly enjoyed while a student at the Junior Republic was camping. He recalled that CJR's three-day, thirty-mile hikes tested his physical endurance, mental stamina and helped boost morale. He and the other boys learned to work as a team and depended upon one another to get through the experience. It also gave them an opportunity to get to know each other

and to learn the true meaning of "no man left behind." Mike Stango learned many important lessons while he was a boy at CJR, and describes these experiences as transformational.

"My social skills definitely improved as a result of my experience at the Junior Republic," said Chef Stango. This, he feels, made a significant difference in his life. As a youngster at CJR, he also developed the ability to work with an eclectic group of individuals, including people of various ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and diverse personalities.

Chef Mike understands the kinds of challenges that young people encounter growing up. He can relate to their problems and enjoys helping CJR students sort their worries out as he teaches them his craft. For Chef Stango, being able to give back to others has helped him come full circle. He is pleased that CJR does so much to help kids become successful. "Youth today receive the support they need to help them get ahead at the Junior Republic and to overcome any adversity they face," he said.

When he is not managing the kitchen at CJR, Mike enjoys spending time with his family, including wife, Lori, and four children, Shiloh, Nathan, Paige and Erin. He is very grateful for the love and support they provide. In his rare moments of leisure, he enjoys playing golf. "It's great," he said. "You're out there with the birds. It is the complete opposite of being in a busy kitchen," he reflected.

Chef Stango was interviewed for this article by CJR Development Assistant, Francine Spencer.



Mike Stango pictured in 1992, welcoming guests to CJR's D'Assern Dining Room.

CJR Receives \$35,000 Grant from Alcoa Foundation to Develop STEM Program

"Collaboration with an expert in the field has been critical to the success of this project," stated Mr. Obst. He noted that the implementation of a STEM curriculum also fulfills a major part of the goal statement that was created at the time CJR's Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center was accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges in August of 2010.

"The STEM curriculum will empower the faculty to provide CJR students with the most effective and productive learning environment, and will also ensure that we are using best practices and in the forefront of national trends in providing at-risk and special needs young people with a competitive education," he said. "CJR's STEM curriculum will also support workforce development programs for students while they are enrolled at the Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center and will help them meet their post-secondary education and employment goals," explained Mr. Obst.

"As the world evolves, so do the skills needed to participate in the economy of tomorrow," said Yvette Saxer-Perez, manager, human resources, Alcoa Howmet in Winsted. "To prepare our next-generation workforce for these rapid changes, our schools must engage students in meaningful curriculum that is delivered by well-trained instructors," she continued. "This grant will help brighten the future prospects of a sometimes forgotten group of students and strengthen our community's ability to compete in the global marketplace with an expanded pool of technology-savvy workers."

Alcoa Foundation is one of the largest corporate foundations in the U.S., with assets of approximately \$436 million. Founded more than 50 years ago, Alcoa Foundation has invested more than \$530 million since 1952. In 2010, Alcoa Foundation contributed nearly \$20 million to nonprofit organizations throughout the world, focusing on promoting environmental stewardship, enabling economic and social sustainability and preparing tomorrow's leaders through education and learning.



Photo: Steven Fix

A CJR student proudly presents his prototype for an energy efficient vehicle, created as a part of a STEM project at the Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center.

The Connecticut Junior Republic has received a capacity building grant of \$35,000 from the Alcoa Foundation, one of the largest corporate foundations in the United States. The grant is being used to develop and implement a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) curriculum for the at-risk and special needs boys served by CJR's Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center in Litchfield.

Through this two-year grant, CJR has been able to engage Central Connecticut University (CCSU) Professor Patrick Foster as a consultant, along with graduate assistant Alan Riggs. Dr. Foster and Mr. Riggs specialize in developing STEM programs and are working with CJR instructor Steven Fix, who has been assigned to serve as CJR's technology teacher and on-site STEM coordinator. Dr. Foster provides oversight, guidance and support in the development of the STEM curriculum. As on-site coordinator, Mr. Fix serves as the liaison between the consultant and CJR teachers and administrators, and fa-

cilitates the practical and ongoing development and integration of the STEM curriculum into CJR's special, vocational and alternative education programs.

According to CJR Director of Education and Student Services, James Obst, the development and integration of the STEM curriculum also includes the creation of assessment tools that are aligned with the Connecticut Frameworks, a revised Common Core of Learning endorsed by the Department of Education, as well as with the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT).

As a part of the grant project, the STEM consultant will provide four training workshops for CJR teachers and staff to ensure that technology is integrated into CJR's academic, vocational, enhancement and independent living lesson plans. The funds awarded by the Alcoa Foundation grant will also ensure that CJR students have the opportunity to study ethical issues and responsibilities relating to technology, as well as the privileges and opportunities associated with its use.

65th Open House Day

ANNUAL

To Benefit the Connecticut Junior Republic

July 14, 2012 10 am - 5 pm (rain or shine)

The 65th Annual Open House Day Tour to benefit the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) will be held on Saturday, July 14. Conducted by the Litchfield Aid of CJR, an organization dedicated to the support of the Connecticut Junior Republic, the 2012 tour features five well-appointed homes in the center of town. Nearly all of the houses on the tour are within walking distance of the town Green and Litchfield's famous historic district. The tour also includes the Litchfield History Museum and Tapping Reeve Law School, as well as additional points of interest.

A luncheon of seafood salad or smoked turkey breast on a croissant, served with pasta salad, fruit cup or brownie for dessert, and iced tea, will be available at the Connecticut Junior Republic for \$7 per person.

Open House Day festivities will begin with a preview tour and cocktail party on Friday, July 13, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$100 per person and must be purchased by Friday, June 29. Participation is limited and prompt reservations are advised. Featured homes on the 2012 Litchfield House Tour are highlighted below.

2012 Media Sponsor **Litchfield**
MAGAZINE
A HOME WITH SOUL MAGAZINE

The Edson L. Perkins House



Edson L. Perkins was an early owner of this central chimney colonial home built during the Federal-era in 1796. Features include a state-of-the-art kitchen, a breakfast room with tongue-and-groove pine paneled ceiling and tiled floor, and a huge wrap-around deck which encircles the west side of the home. The original plank-sided carriage barn with a sliding door is attached to the southwest corner of the house. One of the oldest maple trees in Litchfield is located in the backyard.

The Frederick Barnard House



Frederick Augustus Porter Barnard (1809-1889) was the tenth president of Columbia College (now Columbia University) in New York City, from 1864-1888. In 1880, Barnard and his wife Margaret McMurray, built this majestic Colonial Revival home, utilizing oversized six-over-six windows, multiple bay window extensions and twelve-foot high ceilings. A bright, airy floor plan was created. Diamond-paned Gothic style windows and a built-in leaded glass mirrored china cabinet highlight the dining room. Maintaining the original brick fireplace, servants' staircase and butler's pantry, a renovated kitchen is functional and stunning.

TICKET INFORMATION

For House Tour information, please contact the Junior Republic (860) 567-9423, Monday - Friday, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Tickets may be obtained prior to the Tour for \$30 each by writing: Litchfield Aid of CJR, P.O. Box 214, Litchfield, CT 06759. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your check or money order, payable to: *Litchfield Aid of CJR*. Tickets for the Preview Tour and Party and the Saturday House Tour may be ordered through the event website: www.litchfieldct.com/cjr/tour.html, using VISA or MasterCard (MC). Debit cards are not accepted. Tickets will be sold on the day of the Tour for \$35 each for adults and children. (No charge for infants.) Advance orders for the Saturday tour must be received by Friday, June 29. Ticket orders received after this date will be held for pick-up on July 14, at the ticket tent on the Litchfield Green. Ticket sales and information will be located here.

The Thompson Monroe House



This elegant Colonial Revival home was built in 1844, and sits on 5.3 acres. The house has been remodeled and enlarged by many subsequent owners, with added wings and bays more than doubling its original size. The offset entrance is sheltered by an extremely well-defined revival pediment portico with Ionic columns and a coffered soffit. The second floor features a circular-headed gable and window with a Gothic style upper sash. The original built-in book shelves and window seat in the library/music room, add character and charm to this home.

The Carriage House



Originally, 47 North Street was the home of Major Benjamin Tallmadge (1754-1835), the chief intelligence officer for George Washington, and later (1792), Litchfield's postmaster. In 2007, the 4-acre property at 47 North Street was divided, creating the current 2.25 acre parcel on which this house stands. In 2010, the current owners combined and transformed all the elements of this carriage house home for today's comfortable living and the 21st Century. Designed for entertaining, the open layout creates an airy and breezy feeling highlighted by a great room and oak wood floors. The large custom kitchen with graphite granite countertops elegantly coordinates with the charcoal Italian porcelain tile flooring. The bead-board ceiling in the first-floor children's room is one of the remaining original architectural details.

Westwind



Built in 1939 for Elizabeth Hamlin, this classic dormered Cape-style house was built far back from the street and had a view of Bantam Lake when the land to the west was open fields. Many improvements have been made over the years, and include a new kitchen, new bathrooms, and living space over the garage. Crown molding and the arched doorways with keystones in the front hall, and the living room mantle are original, as is the Dutch door from the dining room to the screened porch. Renovated bathrooms feature wall tiles typical of the original house's period.

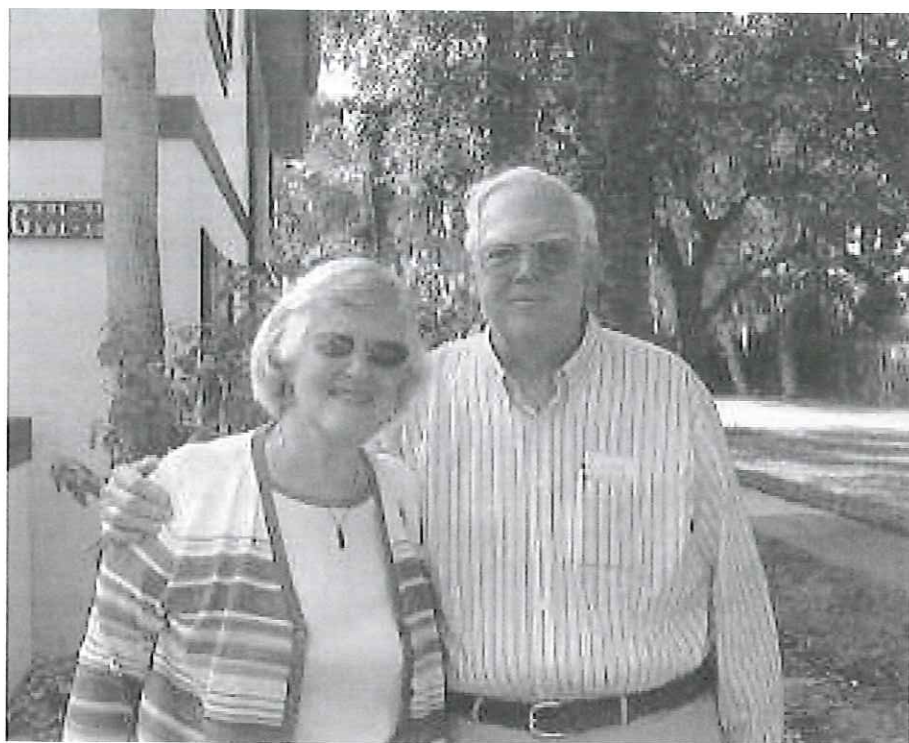
The Kingsbury Bull House



The 2012 Preview Party will be held in the gardens of the Kingsbury Bull House, located in Litchfield's Historic District. One of the most elegant and gracious mid-20th century Colonial Revival estates in Litchfield, The Kingsbury Bull House is situated on 11 acres. The four section 1937 main house is a diverse adaptation of a Federal estate. Over the past nine years, the present owners meticulously restored the neglected, overgrown landscape to its original design. The rebuilt grape arbor is flanked by the home's bushes of original azalea and blueberry, which continue to bloom and fruit today.

Please note: The grounds of the Kingsbury Bull House are open only for the Preview Party and are not part of the Tour on Saturday.

Celebrating a Full Life - Teaching, Learning and Giving Featuring Buel Society Member: Pastor Maryellen Muller



Ellen and Bill Muller pictured in Port Charlotte, Florida, in Spring of 2011. They enjoyed a yearly "migration" to Florida for several years.

Long before she was ordained as a Lutheran pastor in 1986, Pastor Maryellen "Ellen" Muller realized that she got tremendous pleasure from helping others. Throughout her life she has reached out to fellow human beings – whether in assimilating and continuing her family's well-established traditions of charity; through helping the most challenging and disadvantaged students in her classes as a teacher; by enabling students to realize their potential and providing the means for them to attend college; by giving her bright, highly detailed paintings to local organizations; or by including organizations, such as the Connecticut Junior Republic, in her estate planning. Giving of herself to help others has always been one of the most important parts of Pastor Muller's life.

Charity began early for Pastor Muller, who grew up in Queens, New York. "As a small child during the height of World War II, I observed that my mother always made a substantial sandwich for people who came to the door," she said. "I

learned that we should never let anyone go hungry." By the time she was 12 years of age, Ellen Muller was already committed to volunteer work.

"My first job after high school was teaching swimming in the summers of 1957 and 1958," she recalled. "I had a 98 percent success rate in teaching kids to swim at the high school," said the former "Teacher of Swimming in Vacation Playgrounds," with a smile.

After graduating from the University of Connecticut, Pastor Muller continued her career as a teacher, married and had two children. Early on, she discovered that helping underprivileged students was the most rewarding part of her work.

"I taught home economics, including cooking, sewing, flower arranging, child care, family relations and personality. "I also taught posture," she said, and explained that in the 1960's, this involved having students walk up and down the stairs with a book on their heads. Always willing to go the extra mile, Pastor Muller brought her husband's MG sports car to school and used it to teach her students how to enter and exit an automobile gracefully.

When she taught at Great Neck High School in New York, Pastor Muller found that she had two types of students: very bright and affluent teens who were taking home economics as an elective for fun; and less affluent young people. "I was especially drawn to the latter students," she said. "I wanted them to like home economics and to do well," she explained. "Many did well in home economics but not in their other classes," she said. As is the case with CJR students who make progress in their vocational classes, Pastor Muller found that achievement in home economics often boosted the performance of her students in their academic classes, as well.

Inspired by a female pastor she had heard speak, Ellen Muller entered Union Theological School in New York in 1973. She was divorced during this time and became reacquainted with her high school sweetheart, Wilhelm "Bill" Muller, shortly thereafter. Bill was a teacher, too and it was a "match made in heaven." They soon married and Ellen relocated to Connecticut.

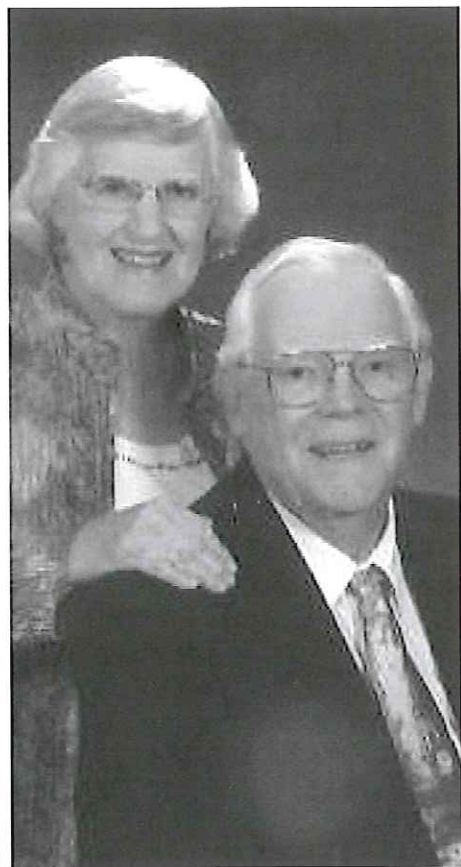
Bill Muller was a teacher at Torrington High School and adopted the two children from her previous marriage – her son, Paul, now a Colonel in the United States Marine Corps, and her daughter, Lynn, a physical therapist with a doctorate degree. Mr. Muller taught at Torrington High School for 35 years and became chairman of the English department, overseeing 22 teachers. Pastor Muller became assistant pastor at Saint Paul's Lutheran Church in Torrington and went on to other positions, becoming an interim pastor – a position she liked very much because it invariably involved helping a church resolve problems and issues – and then moving on to the next challenge at another church.

Mr. Muller grew up in Torrington and was familiar with the Connecticut Junior Republic. He loved the annual Litchfield House Tour to benefit CJR and attended regularly. When Bill and Ellen attended the House Tour and luncheon at the Junior Republic for the first time together, Pastor Muller was immediately captivated by the students and CJR's rural campus – particularly the agricultural program.

"I was very excited when I discovered CJR and its work with at-risk and troubled

youth," she recalled. As a former teacher, Pastor Muller felt an immediate connection to the mission of the Junior Republic. She was touched by her experience for personal reasons, as well. A graduate of the United States Naval Academy, her son "had his moments" as a teenager, and Pastor Muller was well aware of the challenges of raising young men.

"The 'Western Tribe' of my mother's family grew up on a farm in Nebraska. Experiencing the farm at CJR through the students' tour made me feel connected to them," she explained. "I liked the idea of helping young people – CJR has top notch facilities and staff – and I was impressed by the range of experiences offered to the students," she continued. Pastor Muller was particularly impressed by the Junior Republic's culinary arts, athletics and art classes and the fact that activities were used as privileges to motivate students. "There was so much to keep the boys busy and happy. I felt that CJR's style of operation was the way to raise kids," she said.



Bill and Ellen Muller pictured in a photograph taken for the directory of the First Lutheran Church in Andover, MA.

The Mullers enjoyed 34 years of marriage together and retired to New Hampshire before Bill Muller became sick and passed away in a matter of just a few weeks. Prior to his illness, the Mullers had carefully selected – together – five of their favorite charities to include in their estate planning.

"My inclination has always been to give significantly to a few," stated Pastor Muller. "We picked five organizations and CJR was the first one we came up with," she said. "My husband taught for 35 years – we were from families of educators," she explained. Pastor Muller cited her father as an influence in her charitable giving. "My parents saw a lot of poverty during their lifetime. My father was a principal and would always help teachers with their estate planning to ensure that their spouses would receive their pensions," she said.

Reflecting on her career, Pastor Muller stated, "I still like teaching – preaching *is* teaching," she noted. "My husband believed in the Connecticut Junior Republic very much," continued Pastor Muller, "and keeping CJR in my will is a memorial to us and what we believe in," she said. "We never had a lot of money," she said, "but you feel like Rockefeller when you are making gifts to charity – you feel so good, so rich, and so blessed. You feel wonderful!"

Have you considered including the Connecticut Junior Republic in your will or estate planning?

The Buel Society recognizes those who have included CJR in their estate plans. For more information, please contact:

Ms. Hedy L. Barton
Director of Development
Connecticut Junior Republic
550 Goshen Road
P.O. Box 161
Litchfield, CT 06759
(860) 567-9423 ext. 252
Email: hbarton@cjryouth.org

If you believe that the work of the Junior Republic is important, please consider including CJR in your estate plan. Your legacy will ensure that the Junior Republic can continue to help at-risk and troubled youth become contributing members of society.

Here are ten suggestions to consider in leaving a legacy to a charitable organization such as CJR:

1. See your legal or financial advisor about your will or estate plan.
2. Prepare a will. If you don't let people know what you want done with your belongings, others will decide for you.
3. Leave a gift in your will for the non-profit organizations that you feel strongly about.
4. Consider your assets carefully. Gifts to charity of stocks, bonds, real estate, certificates of deposit, savings bonds and other items of value, may provide tax savings.
5. Remember loved ones by making memorial or honorary bequests to charities.
6. Use a life insurance policy for a gift and name your favorite charity as the beneficiary.
7. Use retirement funds to leave a legacy to charity. When given to heirs, these are often the most highly taxed assets in an estate.
8. Ask your professional advisor about how gifts to charity (including charitable gift annuities) can reduce taxes to your estate.
9. Celebrate your legacy and consider informing the charity of your gift so your vision and generosity can be recognized.
10. Encourage your family and friends to leave gifts to charities, such as the Junior Republic, in their wills.



**LEAVE A LEGACY®
CONNECTICUT**

This organization is a participant in LEAVE A LEGACY® CONNECTICUT, a statewide public awareness effort to promote charitable giving through wills and estates.

CJR Students Participate in Internship at Waterbury's City Hall Cafe



CJR students Ben and J.P. (center) pictured during their internship at City Hall Cafe with City Hall's Head Chef, Darrin Burr (left) and their CJR Chef-Instructor Kirk Palladino (right).

For six months last year, two CJR students participated in an internship at a highly regarded Waterbury restaurant. Jean Paul, otherwise known as J.P., and Ben, are enrolled in CJR's Success Always Follows Education (SAFE) Program in Waterbury and have participated for more than six years and five years respectively. During this time, each young man has been a student in the culinary arts component of the Junior Republic's SAFE after school and work-based learning summer programs. The two boys have worked diligently and honed their skills under the guidance and instruction of CJR Chef Instructors Michael Louchen and Kirk Palladino, who work with the students in CJR's Waterbury culinary arts class.

One of several vocational areas that students can become involved in while they are in the SAFE Program, the culinary program is conducted as an after-school program and throughout the summer as a work-based learning program, thanks to generous support from the American Savings Foundation.

Based on their experience and consis-

tant quality performance, J.P. and Ben were identified as high-achieving students and selected for internship positions at Waterbury's City Hall Cafe last year. Arranged by Chef Palladino and CJR's Community Organizer for the SAFE Program, the internships gave Jean Paul and Ben the opportunity work in a professional kitchen from June through December of 2011.

During their internship, the boys worked from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, Mondays and Wednesdays, under the supervision of City Hall Cafe's Executive Chef, Darrin Burr.

According to Chef Burr, City Hall Cafe had worked with interns in the past, but never students from the Junior Republic. "We had hosted college level interns from the Lincoln Technical Institute in the past but the CJR students were the youngest we've ever had at the restaurant," explained Chef Burr, noting that the restaurant had never before taken on interns who were still in high school.

J.P. and Ben were initially a little daunted about working in a real restaurant. "I was scared because it was something new, but they made us feel welcome," said J.P. "The first time we walked in and Chef Burr told us to do something, I was really nervous," he recalled.

Initially, the boys helped by "prepping" food,

mainly vegetables. "Then they let us help prepare the meats, and if it wasn't extremely busy, they would show us how to make something to eat," said Ben.

The boys dressed in their white uniforms every day. They got to observe how orders came into the kitchen from the dining room and were amazed to see that the process was entirely automated. Working in the restaurant as assistants to the head chef, the boys were also able to observe how a restaurant operates when it's very busy.

They described the chefs they worked with at the City Hall Cafe as "real funny and cool," and both boys were very excited when they were introduced to the owner of the restaurant. "They made us feel like family!" said Ben expressing his appreciation.

After the internship ended, the boys found that they missed working in the restaurant. "It taught me a lot of responsibility and to be on time," stated Ben. "When we get out of high school, we now have work experience – we know what it's like in the real world," he said. Both J.P. and Ben plan to stay in CJR's SAFE culinary arts program and participate in the work-based learning program over the summer.

Reflecting on their internship, the boys agreed that their experience working in CJR's commercial kitchen in Waterbury prepared them for the six month internship at City Hall Cafe. "We knew what Chef Burr was talking about because of our work at CJR," said J.P. "If it wasn't for Mr. Palladino, we never would have had this opportunity," he observed.

The boys are very appreciative about their experience at City Hall Cafe. "The food was delicious," said Ben, "My favorite was the mirepoix – a mixed vegetable soup – it was very good," he said. "Mirepoix was the first dish I made there," he said proudly.

City Hall Cafe's Executive Chef, Darrin Burr, was pleased with the boys' work ethic and commitment to the internship.

"I tried to share the skills and tools that I could offer them," he noted. "They were enthusiastic students and never missed any days," he said. "Ben and J.P. were very good kids and I would be more than willing to work with them again," continued Chef Burr. "They made a friend for life here."

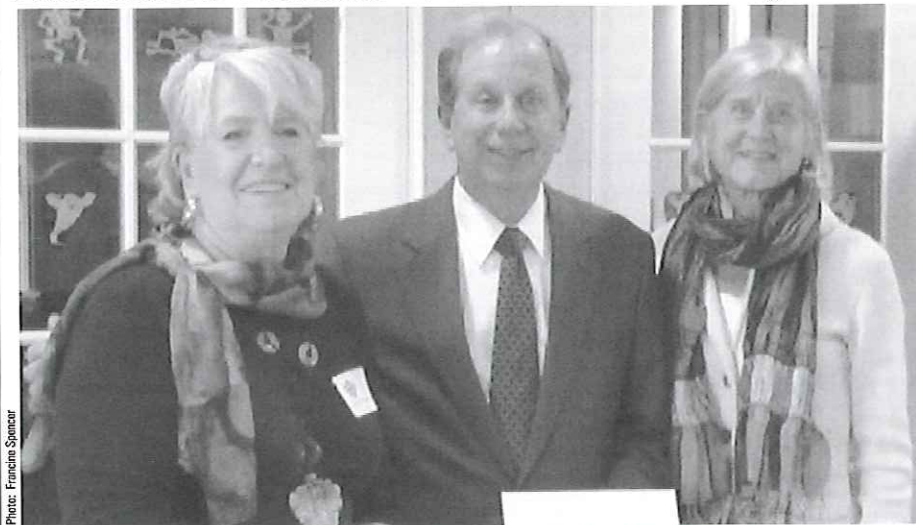
CJR Golf Benefit Exceeds \$1 Million in Net Proceeds

Held on a perfect summer day at the Torrington Country Club, the 2011 *CJR Invitational* raised \$75,000 in net proceeds. With these funds, the score card for this event now exceeds \$1 million in net proceeds raised since 1996. The 2012 *CJR Invitational* was held on June 18 with a full field of golfers.



Union Savings Bank was the \$10,000 Diamond Sponsor at the 16th Annual CJR Invitational Golf Benefit. American Savings Foundation was the Premier Sponsor. All proceeds raised through the CJR Invitational benefit the boys, girls and families served by CJR's programs in 10 locations throughout Connecticut.

Litchfield Aid Celebrates 100 Years of Service to CJR



Litchfield Aid President Bibby Veerman (left), presents checks to John F. Boyd, executive director (retired) and member of the CJR Board of Directors, and to Anne J. Fitzgerald, President of the CJR Board of Directors (right), at the Litchfield Aid's 2011 annual meeting.

The Litchfield Aid celebrated its 100th year by presenting contributions totaling more than \$56,000 to the Connecticut Junior Republic. These funds represented proceeds from the Aid's 64th Annual Open House Day Tour, as well as monies from the Aid's endowment and contributions from members.

Approximately \$52,000 of this contribution is being used to make important im-

provements to CJR's programs and facilities. A gift of approximately \$4,120 was donated for CJR's Alumni Scholarship Fund. This fund helps former students obtain a college or technical school education after graduating from high school. \$200 was also contributed to purchase books for the library in CJR's Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center.

TRIBUTES

The following tributes were received between May 23, 2011 and May 31, 2012. These contributions honor the memory of the departed and celebrate special friendships and occasions, while helping CJR transform the lives of children and families.

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