



The Junior Citizen

The Newsletter of the Connecticut Junior Republic

Spring 2011



CJR Opens New Residential Program

CJR Opens Family Support Centers in Meriden and New Britain



Photo: Danyell Jackson

A family enjoys holiday festivities at CJR's Family Support Center in Meriden.

In November of 2010, the Connecticut Junior Republic opened two new Family Support Centers in Meriden and New Britain. The new Family Support Centers serve boys and girls, 11 to 17 years of age, who are referred by the courts.

CJR has operated a third Family Support Center in Waterbury since 2008. Under the direction of Program Director Ana Flamengo, this Family Support Center has developed into a model for others in the State. All of the Centers are funded by the Connecticut Judicial Branch, Court Support Services Division (CSSD) and are voluntary multi-service, "one-stop" programs designed to help boys and girls and their families stay out of the juvenile court system.

Early intervention services, including screening and assessment to determine family dynamics and strengths, educational advocacy, family mediation, resiliency skills building, and individual, group and family-based programs are provided. Recreational activities and respite programs, as well as supplemental services, are also provided, as appropriate.

"The primary purpose of our Family

Support Centers is to help children and families who need guidance and assistance," stated CJR Executive Director, John Boyd. "We want to ensure that families have the resources and support they need to keep kids safe," he said.

The Junior Republic's Family Support Center in Meriden will serve 75 children and families from the Middletown - Meriden region annually and is located at One Colony Street. CJR's Meriden office has a staff of five, headed by the Program Director, Danyell Jackson, M.S.W. She has worked for CJR for 10 years, most recently as a clinical social worker at CJR's Center for Assessment and Respite (CARE) residential program for girls in Waterbury.

CJR's New Britain Family Support Center will serve approximately 87 young people and families annually and is located at 29 Russell Street. The staff of six is headed by Program Director Gigi Valentin, who has been employed by CJR for 11 years, most recently as a therapist at CJR's Waterbury MST Program.

"We collaborate with families to create a plan for the services and goals that we will be working on while they are in our pro-

gram," said Ms. Valentin.

"Our educational consultants have the knowledge to advocate for our families within the schools," added Ms. Jackson.

"The Connecticut Junior Republic is committed to helping young people solve their problems so they can be constructive and contributing participants in their homes, schools and communities," explained CJR Director of Programs, Daniel Rezende, MSW, LCSW. "The boys and girls who are referred to our Family Support Centers are at-risk of running away, truancy, breaking school rules, and acting out," he said.

"We also deal with bullying," stated Ms. Valentin. "We get the bullies and those who have been bullied. It is a huge issue," she reported. Both CJR's Meriden and New Britain Programs are operating at capacity.

According to Ms. Jackson, CJR's Family Support Centers provide "wrap-around" services. "Many of the youth and families referred received no services at all or are not engaged in services at the time of referral. We help them re-engage and then provide oversight to be sure the parents are following through so the family's needs are addressed," she said.

Anticipated outcomes for youth helped by CJR's Family Support Centers include decreased court involvement, improved educational and family functioning, increased resiliency and improved community connections.



CJR's New Britain Family Support Center.

COVER

A student who resides in Roberts Cottage on CJR's Litchfield Campus proudly displays a bass he caught in the CJR pond at the beginning of the fishing season. Many of CJR's young men enjoy fishing for the first time while in residence at the Connecticut Junior Republic.

Photo: Francine Spencer

CJR Celebrates Opening of New Residential Program in Litchfield



Photo: Francine Spencer

Boys enrolled in CJR's new residential program are pictured above. They reside in the newly-renovated Roberts Cottage and are referred from communities throughout Connecticut.

A new residential program opened on CJR's Litchfield Campus in November. Eight young men are now living in Roberts Cottage, which was renovated and refurbished last year with the assistance of the Litchfield Aid of CJR. These youths benefit from the outstanding educational, therapeutic and recreational resources that CJR can provide on its rural Litchfield campus and are referred from communities throughout Connecticut.

The new evidence-based program serves approximately 24 youths annually and is the first residential program in the nation to use Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) in its treatment model.

CJR Executive Director John Boyd indicated that the program provides a full complement of treatment, education, recreation and aftercare services and that all phases of care are family-focused.

According to Program Director Monty Sabolcik, the program is designed to decrease recidivism, substance abuse dependence and to increase stability and overall family functioning by providing evidence and research-based interventions. Each young man and his family receive intensive family therapy during the time that boys are in residence and

following discharge from the program.

The boys attend school at the Junior Republic's Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center in Litchfield and benefit from the highly individualized education that CJR provides for its students. They are particularly enthusiastic about being able to select from eight vocational electives.

According to CJR Director of Programs Daniel Rezende, the four-month program allows boys to make developmental changes, while providing time for them to put into practice what they are learning at CJR during home visits.

"Our partnership with parents is vital to each young man's success and we involve and support our students' parents from day one," he stated. "We also help link them with support and family therapy when their sons come home," he continued.

And how are the new students fitting in on the CJR campus? According to Mr. Sabolcik and CJR's Director of Education, James Obst, the integration of residential students into the population of day students has been extremely successful and positive.

"A lot of thought went into the best way to integrate our day and residential students,

and we have been very pleased by how our students here supported the plan," said Mr. Sabolcik. He also credited Mr. Obst and the School staff for contributing significantly to the smooth transition.

"Everyone has benefited because our residential students have modeled a lot of positive leadership and maturity," he noted.

Adam, age 18, completed the program in April and is currently employed in a full-time maintenance position. "All the staff were respectful and would do whatever they could to help," he stated.

"CJR allows you to participate in classes that teach strong work ethic and real job skills," said Chris, age 17. He also found it helpful to share problems with other students to learn how they had resolved them.

CJR's Litchfield residential program is funded by the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Judicial Branch and referrals are made by the courts.

"The Connecticut Junior Republic was honored to be selected to provide this program for the young men and families who can benefit from these services," stated Mr. Boyd.

CJR Expands Programs in Danbury and Torrington

Significant program expansions have recently occurred at CJR's community programs in Danbury and Torrington. The Danbury program expanded its offices to accommodate the greater number of boys and girls being referred to its *Youth Equipped for Success (YES!)* Program and now serves approximately 100 young people annually through its *YES!* and Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) Programs. During 2010, CJR also began providing Family Support Center services to youth at its Danbury and Torrington locations.

CJR's Torrington Program has expanded four times since opening in October of 2009. More than 200 boys and girls are now served in this location annually through the *YES!*, MST and SAFE (Success Always Follows Education) Programs. The Junior Republic's Torrington office serves boys, girls and families from communities throughout Litchfield County.

In the Same Boat: Partners in Fishing and Philanthropy

Featuring Buel Society Members David and Audrey Mordavsky



Photo: Courtesy of David and Audrey Mordavsky

David and Audrey Mordavsky, pictured on December 30, 1966, while fishing on Lake Burberry in Tasmania.

When they aren't out fishing for "the big one," David and Audrey Mordavsky can usually be found together – enjoying their many shared interests and caring for their immaculate and meticulously constructed house in Manchester.

From the carefully tended yard to the shiny, polished hardwood floors and the expansive living room with its massive stone fireplace, high ceilings and comfortable "fishing lodge" ambience, the Mordavsky's home showcases both the interests and the talents of its owners, as well as their appreciation for quality. The house reflects these qualities for good reason: Dave Mordavsky built it himself in 1965. Since Mr. Mordavsky is a retired industrial arts instructor, it comes as no surprise that his house is sturdy, well sited and perfectly maintained, inside and out.

The Connecticut Junior Republic is one of Mr. and Mrs. Mordavsky's special interests and has been among their favorite charities for many years. While the Mordavsky's have been well-acquainted with the Connecticut Junior Republic since about the same time that they were married in 1963, David Mordavsky's initial introduction to CJR was as a boy growing up in Manchester. It was at that time that he became friends with a teenager he remembers as "always having a chip on his shoulder."

"This boy was a few years older than me and lived on the other side of town," recalled Mr. Mordavsky. "He was sent to the Junior Republic and after returning home, he always spoke about his experience at CJR very positively. I was 14 or 15 years old and we would sit and talk about it," he continued.

Years later, when Mr. Mordavsky became a vocational instructor, he met Ronald Morse, CJR's former Director of Education. At the

time they met, Mr. Morse was CJR's woodshop instructor. The two men shared a passion for vocational education and belonged to many of the same trade organizations. Through their association, Mr. Mordavsky worked with Mr. Morse to develop a five day educational conference for industrial arts instructors from towns throughout Connecticut. Held every summer for a number of years, the program attracted the participation of approximately 100 teachers from schools throughout Connecticut.

"We would have vendors come in and demonstrate their equipment to the group, and it also exposed instructors to the resources available at CJR," he said. Mr. Mordavsky was very impressed by the Junior Republic and particularly by the scope of the vocational education program.

Mr. Mordavsky's exceptional commitment to vocational education can be charted from the Bachelor's and Master's degrees that he received from Central Connecticut State College in Industrial Arts Education. He was named a Distinguished Technology Educator in 1997 by the International Technology Education Association and was an instructor and Department Head at RHAM High School in Hebron for 18 years. He also served for many years as a technology education consultant to the State Department of Education until his retirement in 1992.

While Mr. Mordavsky was building his reputation as a vocational instructor and technology education consultant, Audrey Mordavsky was developing her own resume of accomplishments.

The first graduate of the Manchester Memorial Hospital School of Radiology, she worked for Manchester Radiologists for a number of years and became a certified technician with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.

David and Audrey Mordavsky have been fishing partners longer than the 48 years they have shared in marriage. They enjoy an avid interest in trout and salmon fisheries and operate a business that offers the latest in innovative fishing technology. Together they have fished Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania, as well as Ireland and Scotland, and many other destinations closer to home in Connecticut.

Mr. Mordavsky is an Aquatic Resources Educator and he and Audrey have assisted the State of Connecticut's Department of Environmental Protection for many years in monitoring the State's lakes, rivers and fisheries. Working out of their specially equipped 17-foot Grumman Superfish boat, the Mordavsky's have collected information about salmonids in Connecticut for nearly 40 years. State officials liked Audrey's simple data form so much that they used it as the basis for their own data collection documents!

Given their serious interest in fishing, it comes as no surprise that one of David and Audrey Mordavsky's first gifts to the Junior Republic was made expressly to stock the CJR pond. The annual stocking of the pond and associated fishing derby remain a CJR tradition to this day and delight boys of all ages, many of whom are enjoying the activity for the first time as students at the Connecticut Junior Republic.

Mr. and Mrs. Mordavsky also understand the value of vocational education in helping at-risk, special needs and troubled young people, and in 2003, they made the decision to include the Connecticut Junior Republic in their wills. Given their estate plans, the Mordavsky's were delighted to see CJR open a new residential program in November.

"It was monumental," said David Mordavsky. "We have nothing but the highest praise for the work of a dedicated administration, the teaching staff and facilities and the resources that CJR provides for troubled youth," he continued.

Knowing that their legacy will help provide a vocational education for youth is extremely important and meaningful to Mr. and Mrs. Mordavsky. "We believe that it is critical that life skills such as vocational education be taught to children at a crucial age," said Mr. Mordavsky. "The Junior Republic is truly serving a group that desperately needs, and benefits from, the mission and goals of the organization," he stated.

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

Ms. Hedy 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.



Photo: Hedy Barton

David and Audrey Mordavsky pictured at home in November, 2010. The Mordavsky's home reflects a lifetime interest in fishing and enjoying Connecticut's aquatic resources.



**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.

64th Open House Day

ANNUAL

To Benefit the Connecticut Junior Republic

July 9, 2011 10 am - 5 pm (rain or shine)

The 64th Annual Open House Day Tour to benefit the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) will be held on Saturday, July 9. Conducted by the Litchfield Aid of CJR, an organization dedicated to the support of the Connecticut Junior Republic, the 2011 tour celebrates the Aid's centennial year and features five well-appointed homes, as well as an additional historic building. Most of the homes and building are within walking distance to the center of town 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 8, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$90 per person and must be purchased by Friday, June 24. Participation is limited and prompt reservations are advised. Featured homes on the 2011 Litchfield House Tour are highlighted below.

The Farmer's House



Built in 1840, this house was purchased by Joseph W. Goddard in 1883, when developing his estate. The house was used initially by the Goddards' farmer, and as a caretaker's cottage by subsequent owners of the estate. The house fell into a state of disrepair before it was rebuilt and renovated by subsequent owners. Set on 3.7 acres, this home features beautiful landscaping, a family room with radiant floor tiles and many other modern conveniences, while retaining the charm and traditional aesthetics of the 1800's.

The MacLaren Walcott House



Built in 1894 on land formerly owned by a dairy farmer, this residence features a carriage house that has been remodeled as a guest house. The original barn belonging to the property is now a residence. Transitioning from Victorian to Colonial Revival this home was a seasonal country house with many guest rooms for the original owners. Features include a pineapple doorknocker on the central entrance door, a symbol of hospitality; French doors from the living and dining room to the porch; and fireplaces in the living room, dining room and library.

TICKET INFORMATION

For House Tour information, please contact the Junior Republic (860) 567-9423, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. 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, made payable to: *Litchfield Aid of CJR*. Tickets for the Preview Tour and Party and the Saturday House Tour may be ordered on 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 24. Ticket orders received after this date will be held for pick-up on July 9, at the ticket tent on the Litchfield Green. Ticket sales and information will be located here.

The Peacocke House



Built in 1868 by John and Mary Peacocke, this gracious Victorian home remained in the Peacocke family until 1920. The current owners reconstructed the two-story front porch that was removed during the Colonial Revival period. Extensive renovations include the addition of a family room, featuring a brick floor, fireplace, beamed ceilings, skylights and French doors to the bluestone patio. A side breakfast room was also added and the kitchen was completely renovated to include stainless steel appliances, glass-paned cabinetry, stone countertops and raised relief tiled backsplash. The original servants' staircase remains.

The Joshua Mason House



Photo: Stacey Matthews/William Rawls Real Estate

Built in 1800, by Joshua Mason, this Colonial farmhouse is set on spacious grounds, simply and beautifully landscaped. The deed to the land dates to the "Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Second of Great Britain." Said to have been a sheep farm, the original house then became a summer cottage known as the Palmer House until 1960. The present owners made structural upgrades, expanded the kitchen, moved a garage building and opened the grounds to more expansive views of gardens, apple trees and the new saltwater swimming pool. Highlights include a stunning enlarged kitchen and a "birthing room" with original, unusually wide floorboards.

The Thompson - Di Giorgio House



Designed in 1936 by architect Albert Hopkins Pierce (1899-1974), this home is representative of the high-quality estates built in Litchfield during the first three decades of the 20th Century, and ranks as one of the significant Colonial Revival residences on the south side of the Borough. Set on four acres, the home's original features and lovely gardens have been painstakingly maintained and restored by the current owners. This gracious residence features five working fireplaces and epitomizes the elegance and superb detailing for which the academic Colonial Revival style is noted.

The Oliver Wolcott, Sr. House



The Preview Party will be held in the beautiful gardens of the Oliver Wolcott, Sr. House, located in the heart of Litchfield Historic District. This classic post and beam, center chimney Colonial house was built in 1754, by Oliver Wolcott, Sr., on land bequeathed to him by his father, Roger, who was Colonial High Sheriff of Litchfield, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Governor of the state of Connecticut from 1796 until his death in 1797. The home has many historic features, including an orchard where the women and children of Litchfield melted down a statue of George III to make bullets for the Revolutionary War. **Please note: This property is the site of the Preview Party only and not part of the Saturday House Tour.**



Photo: Francine Spencer

Girls from CJR's Torrington SAFE Program enjoy a culinary class on the Litchfield Campus.

A generous grant of \$7,500 from the Union Savings Bank Foundation has made it possible for the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) to provide a Work-Based Learning Culinary experience for approximately 40 boys and girls, ages 11-17, from CJR's Torrington Program. Youngsters come to the

Junior Republic's Litchfield campus for culinary classes three times a week. Those enjoying the program include court-referred youth from CJR's *Youth Equipped for Success! (YES!)* and Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) programs, as well as boys and girls who participate in CJR's Success Always Follows Education (SAFE) Program. All classes are conducted after school and students earn a stipend for their participation.

The Work-Based Learning Culinary Program teaches constructive and practical skills that youth can use at home, or to obtain future part-time or full-time employment. They also develop a knowledge base and interests that they can enjoy and build upon over a lifetime. The Work-Based Learning Culinary Program also helps students improve their performance in the classroom, as vocational education reinforces the importance of academic subjects such as reading and math.

"I have really liked everything we have done," reported Steven, age 17, a student associated with CJR's Torrington YES! Program. He has participated in two eight-week sessions and indicated that working with chefs on CJR's Litchfield campus has opened his eyes to the possibilities of a career in food service.

Shelby, age 12, a SAFE student, was surprised by how much she enjoyed the culinary class sessions. "I actually loved going to culinary every week because it is fun and it gives me something to do that I really enjoy," she stated.



Photo: Francine Spencer

CJR Calendar artist Alex Drost pictured with instructors Christopher Cook (left), and Christopher Parrillo (right).

Meet CJR's 2011 Calendar Artist, Alex Drost. CJR friends and supporters have been enjoying 17-year old Alex's detailed pen and ink drawings since January. Alex has attended CJR's Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center for the past two years and began drawing fish for the calendar with encouragement of instructor Christopher Parrillo, and then enlarged the theme to include additional aquatic creatures, including killer whales. His drawings were repro-

duced and color was applied to many of the illustrations in the graphic arts class under the direction of Home School Liaison Christopher Cook, who also serves as CJR's graphic arts instructor.

"I started drawing in kindergarten and people always commented on how good I was," said Alex. "Drawing makes me feel calm and I really enjoy it," he explained. To create illustrations for the 2011 calendar, Alex used photographs to get a realistic idea of the appearance of each species and then used a pencil, an eraser and a fine-point pen to create each drawing. "First I drew in pencil and then I went over everything with a Sharpie pen," he explained.

In reflecting on his experience at CJR, Alex was candid in assessing his growth over the past two years. "I was horrible when I came here -- really bad," he admitted. "I acted out and didn't know how to handle myself -- I had a lot of issues," he explained. "I can honestly say that the CJR school has made me who I am today," he said. "Before coming to CJR, I saw a lot of kids handled the wrong way and then things get out of control. At CJR," he continued, "they know how to handle people and get them on the right path to progress."

Alex is proud of the CJR calendar, which he also helped print. Alex indicated that CJR arranged for him to take college level art classes at Northwest Community College and he has been doing so over the past year. Alex will earn his high school diploma at the end of June. "I want to go to college when I leave CJR," he said of his future plans. "The only way to get a good job is to have a degree," he said, explaining that his ultimate goal is to be an engineer.

Now and Then - James Belote - CJR '55 - '57



Jim Belote, pictured at a Meriden Chamber of Commerce event in 2010.

James Belote came to CJR in 1955, at the age of 15. Raised in a single parent home from the time he was 14 months old, Jim lived with his grandparents, his mother, an aunt and his cousin. At age 10, when his grandparents' house was sold, Jim and his mother moved to a one-and-a-half room apartment, sharing a bath with five other families.

When he was 14 years old, Mr. Belote ran away from home. At this point, his aunt had married and was living in Florida. The family asked Jim if he would like to go to Florida on vacation, and while he was there, he was invited to stay and live with his aunt and uncle. They became his legal guardians.

Jim's move to Florida was short-lived. After 13 months, he came home to Connecticut. Upon his return, Jim found that his mother was not working. His behavior only added to the family's hardships. Jim was not attending school as he should, and soon ran away from home again. When Jim finally returned, he was put on probation. At this point in his life, he had no guidance, no long range plans -- and no future.

With the family in crisis, his aunt and uncle came up from Florida and met with the court. They did not know how to deal with their nephew's truancy issues, running away, or the fact that he was easily led astray without any thought about the consequences of his behavior.

In desperation, Jim's uncle requested that his nephew be sent to the Connecticut Junior Republic. Mr. Belote was admitted to CJR in March of 1955, but soon ran away. He

was brought back and received a stern lecture from "Mom Sass," who worked in the dining hall. She expressed her disappointment in Jim and then sent him off to the Director's office for more discipline. Mr. Buley, who was the Executive Director at the time, asked the young Mr. Belote, "Are you ready to stay this time?"

"Do you mean you are taking me back?" asked Mr. Belote. Mr. Buley looked Jim right in the eye and said, "Every boy deserves a second chance." As a part of the disciplinary process, however, he was presented before the CJR student court and sanctioned to the "detail group." This "select" group of boys was the first up in the morning and the last to bed, and its members received no special privileges.

After a period of adjustment, Mr. Belote began to show progress at the Junior Republic. He attended Litchfield High School, was freshman class president and tried out for sports, eventually earning the Outstanding Sportsman Award. His other activities included the drill team and marching band, and a variety of sports, including baseball, football and boxing. He was able to form strong friendships and enjoyed the camaraderie of his peers. Mr. Belote soon became very active in the student government and found the process educational and to his liking. At age 17, he was elected President of the student government. As he matured at CJR, Mr. Belote developed a belief and confidence in himself. This confidence was critical to turning his life around.

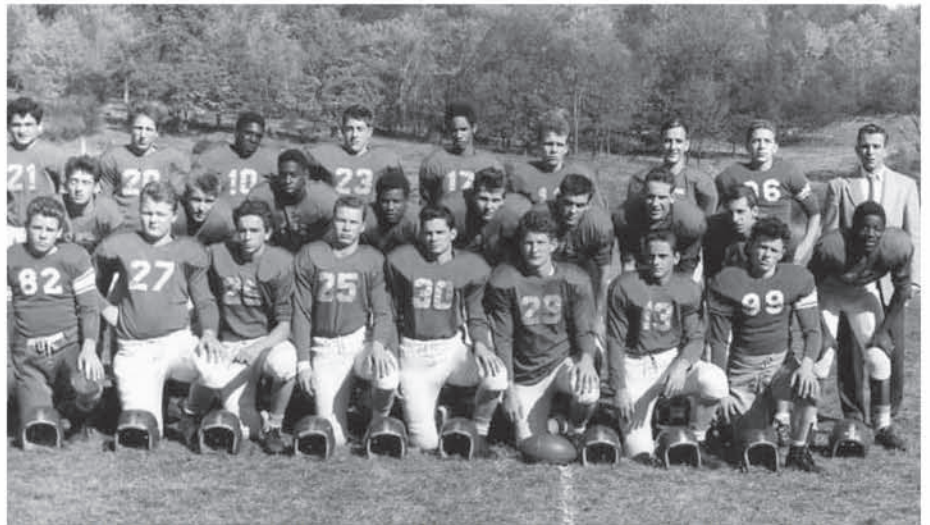
After leaving the Republic, Jim joined the Air Force. He believes that his years at CJR helped him to become self-disciplined and this enabled him to do well during his military service. While in the Air Force Jim took up Judo and eventually won several championships.

During his tour of duty, Jim entered the University of New Mexico, studying psychology and business. He was also a walk-on for the University of New Mexico (UNM), football team. Eventually he relocated back to Connecticut.

Mr. Belote is very proud of his achievements and his family. He has been married to his wife, Fleurette, for 46 years. Mr. and Mrs. Belote reside in Meriden, Connecticut, and have two children and three grandchildren. Now retired from his position at Yankee Gas as chief stock handler, Mr. Belote continues to be very active in his community. He is currently Vice Chairman of the Meriden Planning Commission and serves as Republican State Central Committee Man for the 13th Senatorial District. He also served as an alderman in the 1970's, and then as a councilman for eight years in the 1990's.

"The Connecticut Junior Republic gave me a belief and confidence in myself which turned my life around and made it possible for me to be productive. I am eternally grateful," he said.

Mr. Belote was interviewed for this article by CJR Development Assistant, Francine Spencer. For further information about the Now and Then column, please contact Fran by phone: 860-567-9423, ext. 278.



Pictured: CJR's Varsity football team, circa 1956, Jim Belote, age 16, middle row, fifth from left.

CJR Invitational Tees Off for \$1 Million

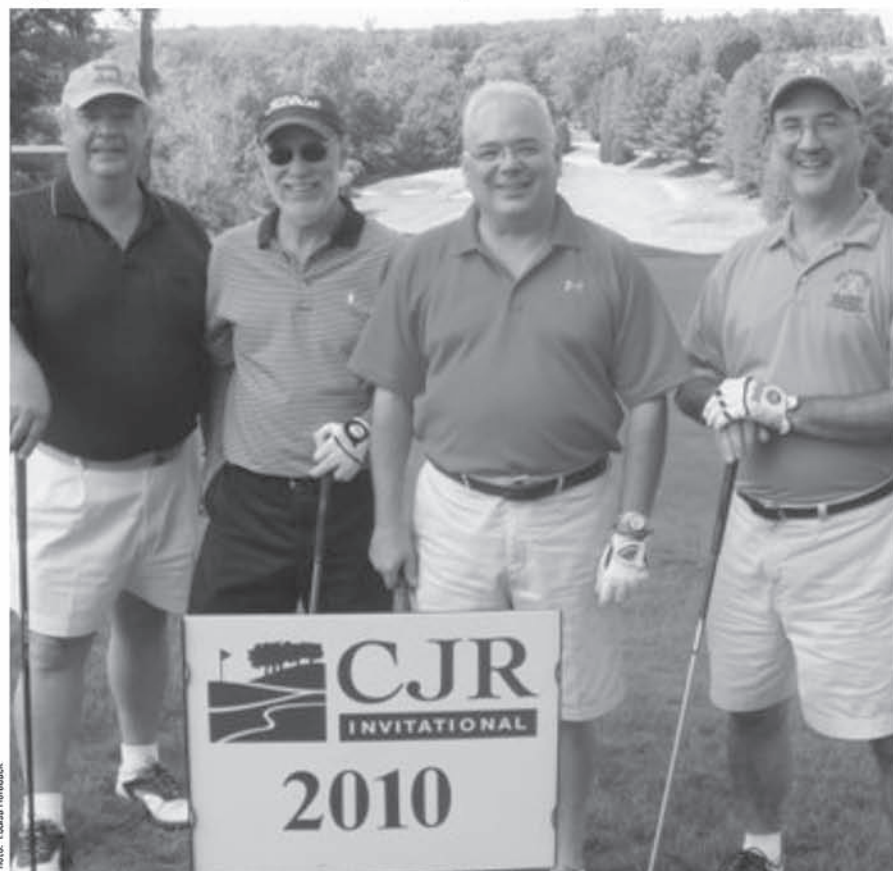


Photo: Linda Rerback

Peter Perugini, Robert Mendillo, Bruce Noe and Ed Goldsmith, pictured from left to right, played for the American Savings Foundation at the 2010 CJR Invitational. The American Savings Foundation is the event's Premier Sponsor.

The 16th annual CJR Invitational golf benefit will be held on Monday, June 20, at the Torrington Country Club. Robert G. Phelan of Canton, Chairman and CEO of the Torrington-based Litchfield Insurance Group, is Chairman of the event, and Gregory S. Oneglia of Litchfield, Vice Chairman of O&G Industries, which is also based in Torrington, is Founding Chairman. The following individuals are vice chairmen of this year's benefit:

- Bill Dranginis of Litchfield, *Golf*
- Susan Levine of Litchfield, *Publicity and Media Production*
- Jennifer Parsons of Litchfield, *Prizes*
- Tina Posila of Wolcott, *Prizes*
- Susan Sweetman of Litchfield, *Volunteers*

Celebrity participants include NBC-30 news anchor Gerry Brooks, Meteorologist Bob Maxon, and chief political correspondent Tom Monahan.

The New Britain-based American

Savings Foundation is the event's Premier Sponsor and Union Savings Bank is the Diamond Sponsor. Litchfield Insurance Group and O&G Industries are Emerald Sponsors. The Grand Prize for the evening reception includes round-trip airfare for two to the Caribbean and a three-night, all-inclusive stay at Barcelo Bavaro Palace Deluxe Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic courtesy of American Airlines and Sanditz Travel.

BMW of Watertown and the Mitchell Auto Group are Hole-in-One Sponsors for the 2011 event.

According to Mr. Phelan, proceeds from the CJR Invitational benefit more than 1,000 boys, girls and families served by the Junior Republic annually in nine locations throughout Connecticut, including Danbury, East Hartford, Litchfield, Meriden, New Britain, Torrington, Waterbury and Winchester.

The 2010 CJR Invitational raised net proceeds of \$61,000. These funds were used

to support special projects and capital improvements at CJR's various program locations.

The event has raised more than \$900,000 in net proceeds for the Junior Republic since it was established by Greg Oneglia in 1996. "This benefit has a loyal following, and we hope that our cumulative net proceeds will exceed \$1 million this year," said Mr. Oneglia. "Our volunteers and sponsors are very committed to the Junior Republic and to reaching this goal," he continued.

Mr. Oneglia expressed confidence that the 2011 event will do well despite the economy. "We offer golfers a challenging course, a wonderful day, and the opportunity to enjoy a memorable evening with friends and business associates," he said. "Our participants know that their involvement supports the Junior Republic and helps provide services for some of Connecticut's most disadvantaged boys, girls and families," he continued.

"This benefit continues to be a great success, thanks to the leadership of a loyal and enthusiastic team of volunteers and the generous support of friends in the business community," said CJR Executive Director, John Boyd. "In these difficult economic times, proceeds from the CJR Invitational are increasingly important to our organization and we are very grateful to the individuals and businesses that make this event such an enjoyable and effective fundraiser," he said.



Photo: Jennifer Parsons/Tina Posila



Litchfield Aid Contributes \$54,000 to CJR



Photo: Francine Spencer

Immediate Past President of the Litchfield Aid, Barbara White, is pictured above, presenting the Aid's 2010 contribution to CJR Executive Director, John F. Boyd.

At its annual meeting in October, the Litchfield Aid of CJR made contributions totaling \$54,000 to the Junior Republic. These gifts represented proceeds from the Aid's 63rd Annual Open House Day Tour of Litchfield, as well as member contributions and funds from the Aid's endowment.

The Litchfield Aid's 2010 contribution funded an educational work-study program for the CJR school, instruments for the music program, items for the dining room, a mini-van for CJR's new Litchfield residential program, holiday gifts for children served by the Junior Republic's new Family Support Centers in Meriden and New Britain, as well as computers for the East Hartford Group Home and landscaping improvements on CJR's Litchfield campus.

Approximately \$2,500 is being used to provide scholarships for CJR alumni and \$200 was used to purchase books for the library in memory of JoAnne McCormick and Barbara Winn, members of the Aid who passed away during the 2010 fiscal year.

The following officers of the Litchfield Aid were announced for the 2010-11 year: Barbara "Bibby" Veerman, *President*; Kim

D'Andrea, *First Vice President*; Ruthann Olsson, *Second Vice President*; Julith Sink, *Recording Secretary*; Martha Green, *Corresponding Secretary*; Martha Bernstein, *Treasurer*; and Carol Bramley, *Assistant Treasurer*. Marie Wallace and Barbara White are *Members-at-Large*.

CJR Executive Director John Boyd expressed particular gratitude to President Barbara White for her outstanding leadership and thanked Aid members for their loyal support during a time that presented many challenges to the Connecticut Junior Republic.

"Your leadership and generous support have been especially important as CJR refocused its Litchfield residential program and developed new services in a difficult economy," he said. Mr. Boyd noted that CJR is now serving boys and girls in nine locations throughout Connecticut and will serve more than 1,000 boys, girls and families in the coming year. "The Litchfield Aid has been a loyal friend to CJR for more than 100 years," he said. "The Aid's support and friendship have always been important to CJR," he stated, "but never more so than over the past two years," he con-

tinued. Mr. Boyd also commended Barbara White for organizing two exceptional House Tours and Preview Party events that will be remembered for their quality and success.

The Litchfield Aid was established in 1911 by 12 women in the community for the sole purpose of supporting the Junior Republic. Today, approximately 150 members of the Aid conduct the annual Litchfield house tour. Established in the 1930's, the Litchfield House Tour is one of the oldest events of its kind in the United States.

TRIBUTES

The following tributes were received between May 29, 2010 and May 23, 2011. These contributions honor the memory of the departed and celebrate special friendships and occasions, while helping CJR transform the lives of children and families.

IN MEMORY OF:

Mr. Paul Abate

Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Abate

Mr. Louis Amato

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kuslan

Mrs. Donald Chargin (Lorraine)

Ms. Linda Barrett

Mr. Jeffrey S. Brophy

Ms. Theresa L. Nelson

Jim Hall Productions

Mr. and Mrs. Ray J. Yeung

Emily Bissell Coe

Ms. Susan Kaehrle

Mr. Morris P. Dorman

Ms. Nona P. Dorman

Mr. Ronald Fabry

Mrs. Myron P. Hardy

Ms. Eleanor Engleman Fink

Ms. Judith Cramer

Mr. Otto W. Goepfert

Mrs. Otto W. Goepfert

Mr. Myron P. Hardy

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Dangelo

Mr. Owen S. Hart

Sue B. Hart Foundation

C.H. Huvelle, MD

Mr. and Mrs. Chester A. Stover

Mr. Warren C. Johnson

Candlewood Camera Club

Mr. Blake Johnson

Mrs. Robert W. Joyce

Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Loesch

Mrs. Sarah K. Kauffman

Mr. Arnon Adler

Ms. Laura Grandy

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IN MEMORY OF (continued):

Mr. Robert L. Lampron
Anonymous
Ms. Marjorie C. Bell
Mrs. James H. Lampron
The Larosa Family

Mrs. Brian McCormick (JoAnne)
Litchfield Aid of the Connecticut
Junior Republic

Ms. Trish Myer
Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm C. Matty

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Nolan
Mrs. Catherine Girouard

Mrs. Mary C. Olivia
Mrs. Robert W. Joyce

Mrs. Helen A. Richard
Mr. Henry M. Berglewicz, CPA
Driftwood Communities
Association, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Rapsilber

Mrs. Joseph T. Robidoux (Joan)
Mr. Joseph T. Robidoux, Jr.

Ms. Rosalie Ruocco
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth F. Thoman

Mrs. Richard Rusiecki
Ms. Wanda Rusiecki

Mr. Charles A. Shea
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Mr. A. Roland Will
Mrs. Constance H. Will

Ms. Barbara B. Winn
The Litchfield Aid of the Connecticut
Junior Republic

Ms. Tosca Zagni
Ms. Jean Volkmer

IN HONOR OF:

Mr. Gary B. Bolduc
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The Junior Citizen is published for friends of the Connecticut Junior Republic. A private, not-for-profit organization, the Junior Republic provides care, treatment and education for special needs and at-risk boys and girls in nine locations throughout Connecticut. CJR's programs include residential care for boys in Litchfield; special, vocational and alternative education, as well as transition and related services for adolescent boys at the Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center in Litchfield; group homes for boys in East Hartford and Winchester; short-term residential care for girls in Waterbury; and community-based programs serving boys, girls, and families in Danbury, Meriden, New Britain, Torrington, and Waterbury. Contributions from individuals, foundations, organizations, and corporations are gratefully accepted and critical to the Junior Republic's ability to provide young people with the opportunities they need to succeed in their homes, schools and communities.

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L.C.S.W.

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and Student Services:
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Director of Human Resources:
Karen D. Molusis

Director of Performance
and Quality Improvements:
Julianne Torrence, M.S.W.,
L.C.S.W.

The Connecticut Junior Republic's annual report is available upon request. CJR is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), and a member of the Child Welfare League of America. The Connecticut Junior Republic provides services for children, youth and families of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.

The Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) is a private non-profit organization supported by charitable contributions from individuals, businesses and organizations. Primary public support for services is provided by the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Judicial Branch, the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) and by Connecticut's public schools.