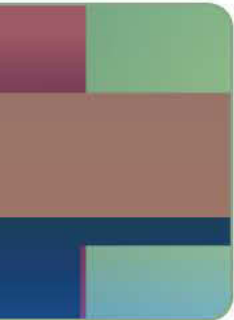


# Connecticut CPA

Advocacy. Community. Education.



from **Community  
College**

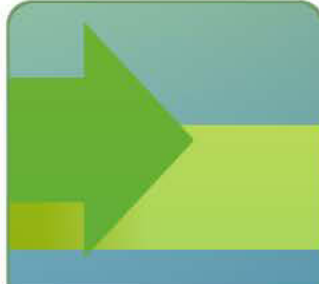


to  
**CPA**



Meet outstanding CPAs who used Connecticut's community colleges as stepping stones – and are inspiring students taking that same path today.

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*A publication of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants*



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Governor's Budget Proposes Moving  
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Department of Consumer Protection

**6**  
The Essential Event:  
The CTCPA Annual Meeting

**8**  
Board of Directors Nominees/  
Advisory Council Appointees

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## Official Notice of the CTCPA Annual Meeting

In accordance with the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. The election and installation of the 2015-2016 Board of Directors will take place at that time.

The report of the Nominating Committee is as follows:

**Bruce L. Blasnik**, President-elect for 2014-2015, will assume the presidency,  
**Robert D. Boudreau** for President-elect,  
**Bradley D. Kronstat** for Treasurer,  
**Frank A. Rowella Jr.** for Secretary,  
**Brenden M. Healy** for Member-at-Large,  
**Susan A. Martinelli** for Member-at-Large.

Other nominations may be made in accordance with Section 6.4 of the bylaws.

The 2015-2016 Advisory Council, as appointed by the Nominating Committee, will also be installed at that time. **Mary K. Wisenski**, incoming chair of the Advisory Council, will serve as the seventh member of the Board of Directors.

The full proposed leadership slate appears on pages 8-9.

Sincerely,  
Pamela Q. Weaver, Secretary

**The Connecticut Society of CPAs**  
716 Brook Street, Suite 100 • Rocky Hill, CT 06067 • 860-258-4800



# Connecticut CPA

A publication of the Connecticut  
Society of Certified Public Accountants

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## Editor's Note

### "Say 'CPA!'"

At the January Advisory Council meeting, we asked our members to do something they don't usually do in a business meeting – ham it up for the camera.

We've been working on a new membership brochure featuring photos and stories of members sharing the diverse ways they find value in their membership. The theme is "your people, your place."

When exploring ideas for the brochure cover, we found a fun stock art photo of a group of business people, but we knew that clipart on the cover just wasn't going to cut it. Using that photo as inspiration, we gathered almost 50 members – both incoming and outgoing Advisory Council and Board of Directors members – and went to town.

As I perched up on a ladder in the Education Center food court to snap the shots, I was excited to see everyone – from leadership veterans to newbies – laughing and getting into the spirit of things. Our members really do share a great camaraderie.

The new brochure will be available soon, and we'll be sure to let you know how you can get your hands on some copies to share with friends or colleagues you think might benefit from joining the CTCPA.

In the meantime, enjoy this sneak peek from the shoot. Special thanks to everyone who joined in!



You can learn more about the incoming Advisory Council members and Board of Directors nominees on pages 8-9.



See you next issue,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirsten".

Kirsten Piechota, Managing Editor





## Special Professional Practice Alert

# Governor's Budget Proposes Moving State Board of Accountancy to Department of Consumer Protection

By Mark Zampino, CTCPA Public Affairs Director

In a scenario not unlike that suffered by actor Bill Murray in the classic movie "Groundhog Day," the Malloy administration is once again proposing to relocate the Connecticut State Board of Accountancy ("the State Board") to the Department of Consumer Protection as part of a "consolidation" move. The State Board currently resides under the office of the Secretary of the State.

Such a move would eliminate the entire staff of the State Board, a group of employees intimately familiar with the workings of Connecticut's accounting profession, including the acting chief administrative officer of the State Board, Attorney **Sonia Worrell Asare**. The State Board

itself, comprising practitioner and public members, would then be added to the groups served by the staff of the Department of Consumer Protection – other state licensees such as health clubs, plumbing and piping, hypnotists, and many others.

As many will recall, four years ago the governor proposed moving the State Board, then organized independently under the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), to the Department of Consumer Protection. Fortunately for the State Board,

*Such a move would eliminate the entire staff of the State Board, a group of employees intimately familiar with the workings of Connecticut's accounting profession.*

Secretary of the State Denise Merrill agreed to absorb the State Board within her office, where it has functioned since.

The State Board of Accountancy generates income for the state in excess of \$2.5 million and operates on a budget of approximately \$350,000.

This proposed relocation, however, is only the beginning of a lengthy political process that will unfold during the current "long" General Assembly session that ends in June. The CTCPA will keep you apprised of any and all developments.



# the Essential Event 2015

May 12, 2015 • Aqua Turf Club, Plantsville • 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. • CPE Credit: 6 • 4 – 6 p.m. Cocktails, Teacup Raffle



## **Just added!** Living Life at Performance Level

Curtis Zimmerman  
*Author and Inspirational Speaker*

Empowered individuals build cohesive, productive companies with forward momentum. Inspirational speaker Curtis Zimmerman and “Living Life at Performance Level” will transform your perspective, creating lasting outcomes. Laugh, frolic, and play “Simon Says” – but don’t be fooled by all the fun! Be prepared to be empowered, challenged, and changed.



## Ego vs. EQ: How Top Leaders Beat Eight Ego Traps with Emotional Intelligence

Jen Shirkani  
*Emotional Intelligence Coach and Speaker*

How can otherwise brilliant leaders keep from succumbing to self-sabotaging, ego-driven behaviors? Jen Shirkani defines and provides strategies for increasing Emotional Intelligence (EQ), particularly for leaders and company founders with high technical competence. Raise your own EQ – possibly the most important exercise you can do to prolong your career and to catapult your business to the next level.

## My state. My profession. My career.

- **Improving Connecticut’s Business Climate: CPAs Can Help**  
Joseph F. Brennan  
CEO and President  
Connecticut Business and Industry Association
- **The View from the Corner Office: A Panel Discussion**  
Andrew Andrews, CPA  
Whittlesey & Hadley  
Bruce Blasnik, CPA  
O’Connor Davies  
Carl Johnson, CPA  
BlumShapiro  
Joseph Natarelli, CPA  
Marcum
- **Connecticut State Board of Accountancy: A New Administration**  
John Schuyler, CPA  
Connecticut State Board of Accountancy Chair  
Sonia Worrell Asare, Esq.  
Connecticut State Board of Accountancy Legal Council

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**Purchase eight or more seats and become an event sponsor – you’ll get:** a discounted group rate\*, your firm listed on the CTCPA website and in follow-up coverage in *Connecticut CPA* magazine, and recognition in the event’s opening slideshow loop and printed program. See [www.ctcpas.org/EssentialEvent](http://www.ctcpas.org/EssentialEvent) or contact Liz Frazza at [lizf@ctcpas.org](mailto:lizf@ctcpas.org) or 860-258-0220 for details. \*Group discount available to CTCPA members and firms only.



[www.ctcpas.org/EssentialEvent](http://www.ctcpas.org/EssentialEvent)

# Registration Form

## The Essential Event:

### The 2015 CTCPA Annual Meeting

Monday, May 12, 2015 • Aqua Turf Club, Plantsville

Register before  
April 30, 2015 and save!

Ready to sign up? Use this form to:

- Purchase one to three seat(s) or  Purchase four to seven seat(s) or  
 **Purchase eight or more seats and become an event sponsor – you'll get:** a discounted group rate, recognition on the CTCPA website and in follow-up coverage in *Connecticut CPA* magazine, and recognition in the event's agenda and opening slideshow loop.

**Firm Information** (Event sponsors: Indicate below how you would like your firm to appear in all marketing.)

Firm Name \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

#### Firm Contact

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Attendees** (Please list all registrants. Not sure who's attending? We'll call you closer to the event for names and meal choices.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Meal:  chicken florentine  NY strip sirloin  salmon
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Meal:  chicken florentine  NY strip sirloin  salmon
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Meal:  chicken florentine  NY strip sirloin  salmon
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Meal:  chicken florentine  NY strip sirloin  salmon
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Meal:  chicken florentine  NY strip sirloin  salmon
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Meal:  chicken florentine  NY strip sirloin  salmon
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Meal:  chicken florentine  NY strip sirloin  salmon
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Meal:  chicken florentine  NY strip sirloin  salmon

**Payment Information** (Payment is required to reserve seats.)

- Purchase one to three seat(s):  
Number of seats \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$170 per seat (**\$160 before April 30, 2015**). Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Purchase four to seven seat(s):  
Number of seats \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$150 per seat (**\$140 before April 30, 2015**). Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Purchase eight or more seats:  
Number of seats \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$140 per seat (**\$130 before April 30, 2015**). Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address Street \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to CTCPA or pay with a Visa, MasterCard, or American Express credit card.

Fax registrations with credit card to 860-571-6830 or register online at [www.ctcpas.org/EssentialEvent](http://www.ctcpas.org/EssentialEvent).  
Mail registrations with checks to Essential Event, 716 Brook Street, Suite 100, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.  
Questions? Contact CTCPA Membership Coordinator Liz Frazza at [lizf@ctcpas.org](mailto:lizf@ctcpas.org) or 860-258-0220.  
To reserve additional seats, copy and return this form.





# 2015-2016 CTCPA Board of Directors Nominees



**President**  
**Bruce Blasnik**

Partner – O'Connor Davies, Stamford

**CTCPA Involvement**  
President-elect, Secretary, Advisory Council member, Accounting and Reporting Standards Committee chair



**President-elect**  
**Robert Boudreau**

Principal – Buckley, Frame, Boudreau & Company, Killingworth

**CTCPA Involvement**  
Board of Directors member-at-large, Advisory Council member, Peer Review Committee chair, Nominating Committee member (2010), Employee Benefit Plans Interest Group member



**Treasurer**  
**Bradley Kronstat**

Finance – CT Gardens, Inc. dba Agway, North Branford

**CTCPA Involvement**  
Advisory Council member, Board of Governors member, Ethics Committee chair, State Legislation Committee chair, Financial Literacy Task Force member, Bylaws Committee member, Nominating Committee member (1999)



**Secretary**  
**Frank Rowella Jr.**

Managing Partner – Reynolds & Rowella, CPAs, Ridgefield and New Canaan

**CTCPA Involvement**  
Treasurer, Advisory Council member



**Member-at-Large**  
**Brenden Healy**

Tax Director – Whittlesey & Hadley, Hartford

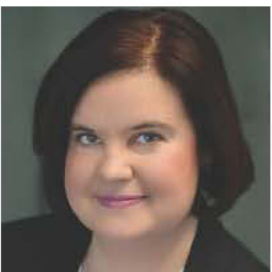
**CTCPA Involvement**  
Advisory Council member, State Taxation Committee chair, Governmental Issues Task Force member



**Member-at-Large**  
**Susan Martinelli**

Assurance Senior Manager – McGladrey, New Haven

**CTCPA Involvement**  
Advisory Council member, Financial Institutions Committee member



**Member-at-Large/  
Advisory Council Chair**  
**Mary Wisenski**

Senior Manager, Assurance and Advisory Services – Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina LLP, Glastonbury

**CTCPA Involvement**  
Advisory Council member



# 2015-2016 CTCPA Advisory Council Appointees



At least half of those appointed to the Advisory Council must be currently chairing a CTCPA committee or interest group or, at the discretion of the Nominating Committee, the designees of these chairs.



**Mary Wisenski**  
Advisory Council Chair/  
Member-at-Large



**Eliot Bassin**  
Member-at-Large



**Alan Clavette**  
Trust, Estate,  
and Gift Tax



**Dennis Cole**  
Member-at-Large



**Katherine Donovan**  
Member-at-Large



**Tobias Freeman**  
Member-at-Large



**Ricky Frimpong**  
Member-at-Large



**Paul Glotzer**  
Accounting and Reporting



**Thomas Goldfuss III**  
Golf Tournament



**Michael Hanlon**  
Member-at-Large



**Martin Henry Jr.**  
Peer Review



**Virginia Hilton**  
State Tax



**Mitchell Insero**  
New and Young  
Professionals



**Marie Kulesza**  
Educators



**Michael Maksymiw**  
Member-at-Large



**Chantal McAllister**  
Member-at-Large



**Rosemary McGovern**  
Federal Income Tax



**Katherine McNair**  
Member-at-Large



**Corliss Montesi**  
Member-at-Large



**Lany Pfeifer**  
Member-at-Large



**Janet Phillips**  
Member-at-Large



**Matthew Piechota**  
Not-for-Profit  
Organizations



**Patricia Poli**  
Educational Trust Fund



**Joanna Purtell**  
Member-at-Large



**David Reynolds Jr.**  
Employee Benefit Plans



**Victoria Rickert**  
Member-at-Large



**Richard Royston**  
Valuation, Forensic,  
and Litigation Support



**Barbara Snyder**  
Financial Institutions



**Peter Tracey**  
Professional Ethics



**Leslie Zoll**  
Governmental  
Accounting and Auditing



from

# Community College to CPA

By Caitlin Bailey O'Neill, Assistant Editor



Community College Student to **Auditor**

## Sharon Dumais

A.S. in Accounting – Three Rivers Community College  
B.S. in Accounting – Eastern Connecticut State University  
M.S.A. in Accounting – University of Connecticut

Last fall, when Sharon Dumais sat on a panel at her alma mater, Three Rivers Community College, the audience of approximately 40 accounting majors peppered her with their questions and stories.

How do I find a job? How do I get employers to look at a mature professional like me when my resume is up against people half my age? I don't have the best grades – will that hurt me?

"When I was in that position, I was scared!" Dumais remembered. "Is this really going to pay off? ... These are valid questions."

After her presentation, several students came up to thank her. It's that gratitude, Dumais said, that made her glad she shared her story.

"Put yourself in that frame of mind and think about what it would've meant to you back then to have someone tell you that you can do it," Dumais encouraged. "You owe it to those people – to yourself – to share your experiences."

Dumais and more than a dozen other CTCPA members and community college alumni got that chance to share their stories last fall through series of



Dumais (center) shows off her CPA certificate at the CTCPA New CPA Certificate Ceremony in June 2011.

panel discussions held at Three Rivers Community College, Manchester Community College, and Housatonic Community College.

"Enrollment numbers are up at community colleges – more and more students are using community colleges as a stepping stone on their journey," said CTCPA Student Relations Specialist **Jill Brightman**, who orchestrated the panels. "We want to encourage these people to keep going and working toward their CPA, as well as draw attention to the amazing students filling the accounting pipeline today."

The panels were so well-received that Brightman is working to arrange more presentations in the future [see sidebar at right].

Meet outstanding CPAs who used Connecticut's community colleges as stepping stones – and are inspiring students taking that same path today.

"Think about what it would've meant to you back then to have someone tell you that you can do it."



Ed Muenzner (standing) moderates CTCPA panelists at Three Rivers Community College. Pictured (from left) are Sarah Stover, Benjamin Meadows, Sharon Dumais, Greg Schuyler, and Erik Christensen.

## Did your story start with community college?

## Help other students just starting the journey.

If you attended community college, consider sharing your story with other accounting students sitting in the same desks you once did as part of "The Facts and the Faces: From Community College Student to Accounting Professional" presentations at community colleges around the state.

Each presentation includes an overview of the CPA profession and certification process, a conversation on making the transition from community college to four-year college or university, and alumni success stories.

To volunteer or learn more, contact CTCPA Student Relations Specialist Jill Brightman at [jillb@ctcpas.org](mailto:jillb@ctcpas.org) or 860-258-0239.





Community College Student to **CTCPA President**

## John Evanich

A.S. in Accounting – Housatonic Community College  
B.S. in Accounting – University of Bridgeport

“This means so much to the students and to the professors. They’re so appreciative.”

**J**ohn Evanich graduated from high school in the bottom 20 percent of his class.

“I spent high school having fun,” he chuckles. “And if I went away to a four-year college, I think I would’ve had four more years of high school.”

Instead, he got serious. While living at home and working as a bookkeeper for the firm that’s now Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte & Sterczala, he enrolled in classes at Bridgeport’s Housatonic Community College. He earned his associate’s degree at Housatonic and, later, his bachelor’s degree in accounting at the University of Bridgeport.

“The professors at Housatonic were so good and cared so much,” Evanich said. “**Paul DePietro** was really a mentor to me and remains a friend of mine to this day.”

That fun-loving, lackluster high school student would go on to become a partner with CohnReznick (Evanich retired in July of 2013), an educator with Sargent McCoy and several different colleges, and president of the Connecticut Society of CPAs.

In 2002, when Evanich became the first community college graduate to become president of the society, he knew immediately what his platform would be.

“I went to the Educational Trust Fund and said ‘we’re talking about wanting diversity in the profession – you’re not going to get more diverse than community college students,’” he said. The ETF agreed and, in cooperation with Evanich, CTCPA staff and committees, local CPA firms, and community col-



*Evanich (left), along with Naugatuck Valley Community College Accounting Professor and Accounting Club Advisor Scott Colvin, speaks with a student at a recent ETF Community College Accounting Scholarship Luncheon. Read more about Colvin’s accounting club on page 29 of this issue.*

lege professors, handed out the first four \$200 Outstanding Community College Accounting Student Awards in May 2003.

Since then, the ETF has awarded \$100,125 in initial scholarships to 173 deserving community college students.

Today’s Outstanding Community College Accounting Student Award has evolved to a \$375 award for part-time students and \$750 for full-time students, renewable up to \$3,000 per recipient if the student meets certain criteria and upholds a certain GPA. Since 2010, the ETF has paid out an additional \$70,000 in renewable scholarships.

To learn more about the ETF or to find out how you can donate, visit [www.ctcpas.org/ETF](http://www.ctcpas.org/ETF).

“This means so much to the students and to the professors. They’re so appreciative,” Evanich said.

In 2009, Evanich achieved another first when he became the first person inducted into the Housatonic Community College Alumni Hall of Fame.





Community College Student to **Professor**

## Ed Muenzner

A.S. in Business – Three Rivers Community College  
B.S. in Accounting – Eastern Connecticut State University  
M.S. in Accounting and Taxation – University of Hartford

*“This is a great profession. It’s done so much for me, it’s done so much for my family – it’s my job to pay it forward.”*

In 1991, Ed Muenzner was working in a paper mill, manufacturing the coating atop Topps baseball cards, when an on-the-job injury suddenly left him without work, without health insurance – and with a wife, two small children (then aged 1½ and 3½), a lot of responsibility, and his personal mantra ringing in his head.

“Family first.”

After he underwent back surgery, Muenzner’s wife went back to work full-time as Muenzner enrolled at Three Rivers Community College and stepped into his new role as “Mr. Mom.” He read accounting textbooks at the kitchen table while feeding his son in his high chair; he studied for tests lying on the floor with his daughter playing with her dolls. He started taking classes concurrently at Eastern Connecticut State University, eager to earn his accounting degree and begin taking care of his family financially again.

“Failure was not an option,” he remembered. “I needed to get it done.”

Muenzner earned his associate’s degree and bachelor’s degree in accounting in two years and four months. He graduated from Eastern in May and collected his associate’s degree from Three Rivers the next month. Muenzner’s sheer determination (and stellar multitasking ability!) did not go unnoticed by his schools’ faculty; his Three Rivers mentor, **Matt Hightower**, quickly saw a new path for him – accounting educator.

Twenty years later, in addition to owning his own firm in Franklin (where Hightower’s son now works!), Muenzner is an associate professor at that same community college that gave him his start. He serves as the cur-

riculum coordinator for the accounting program and recently co-championed the business school’s reaccreditation. In 2013, he was one of three professors to take home an inaugural “Eddy” – the CTCPA Accounting Educators of Excellence award.

The student who nominated him for the Eddys award raved about the enthusiasm and passion he has for the subject, that he’s always staying late after class to answer questions and delve deeper into topics ... but the nominator appreciated Muenzner for much more than classroom lectures.

“He made the time to build a lasting friendship and his belief in me inspires

me to go beyond my classwork and take the initiative in developing the professional and interpersonal skills essential to my success in the field,” the student wrote. “Because of Ed I have discovered what I want to do with my life, and I treasure his ongoing support and guidance as he mentors me through my journey.”

Just like Hightower and other professors did for Muenzner.

“I never forget where I came from,” Muenzner stated simply. “This is a great profession. It’s done so much for me, it’s done so much for my family – it’s my job to pay it forward.”



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# Thank You, Volunteers!

Thank you to the following individuals who spoke at the first set of "The Facts and the Faces: From Community College Student to Accounting Professional" presentations at community colleges around the state.

## Housatonic Community College (HCC)

Charlene Santoro, CPA  
Matt McCarthy  
Lori Litwinovich  
University of New Haven Associate Professor Alireza Daneshfar, Ph.D.  
University of New Haven Associate Professor Mike Roller, CPA  
University of New Haven Lecturer Joe Hearl, CPA  
HCC Assistant Professor Asher Albaz  
HCC Professor Pam Pirog

## Three Rivers Community College (TRCC)

Sarah Stover  
Ben Meadows  
Sharon Dumais, CPA  
Greg Schuyler, CPA  
Erik Christensen, CPA  
TRCC Associate Professor Ed Muenzner

## Manchester Community College (MCC)

Yana Samson, CPA  
MCC Instructor Martin Hart  
University of Connecticut and MCC Adjunct Professor Stephen Pedneault, CPA/CFF, CFE, FCPA

### Join us!

To volunteer or learn more about speaking at an upcoming session, contact CTCPA Student Relations Specialist Jill Brightman at [jillb@ctcpas.org](mailto:jillb@ctcpas.org) or 860-258-0239.

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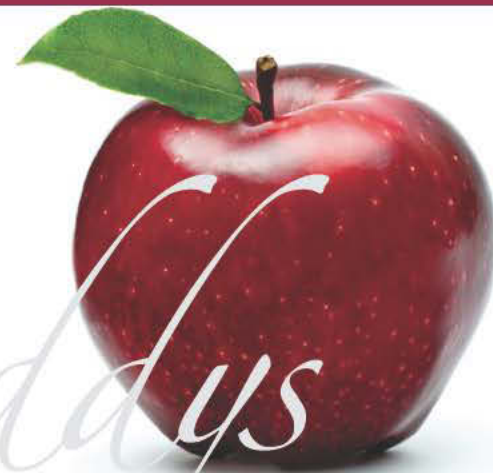
\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rate is based on five-year term with a monthly payment of \$18.08 per thousand borrowed and requires direct deposit. Loan-to-value ratio 80% or less. Property insurance must be maintained throughout the loan term. Other rates and terms are available for up to fifteen years. Rate may be higher based on credit history. Rate is for new loans over \$25,000 and is subject to change without notice. Other restrictions may apply.



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# CTCPA Educator Appreciation Night

# The Eddys



*June 3, 2015*

Cascade, Hamden

**Accounting Educators:**  
Save the date and look for  
your formal invitation by mail.

Questions? Contact **Liz Frazza** at  
[lizf@ctcpas.org](mailto:lizf@ctcpas.org) or 860-258-0220.

CTCPA Educator Appreciation Night is designed to recognize and thank Connecticut accounting educators for the important role they play inspiring tomorrow's accountants today.

The evening includes the presentation of Educator of Excellence: "The Eddys" awards to outstanding accounting professors nominated by current and former students.

## Did a Connecticut accounting educator inspire you?

Nominate him or her for an Eddys award at [www.ctcpas.org/Eddys](http://www.ctcpas.org/Eddys) by April 14!

## Health Care Reform

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\*The Coverage Adequacy Service is available only to Paychex payroll clients who receive their health and benefits coverage through Paychex Insurance Agency or Paychex PEO.

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## >> Congratulations, New Connecticut CPAs!

Connecticut State Board of Accountancy and CTCPA representatives recently honored Connecticut's newest CPAs at a reception at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville.

➤ View more photos at [www.ctcpas.org/photos](http://www.ctcpas.org/photos).



Stephanie Cole



Kevin Constantine



Andrew Delorm



Katherine Donovan



Maria Espiritu



Susan Kazlauskas



Alpana Marwah



Steven Moulton



Jon Sahlin



Kevin Simon



Lisa Wiberg



Annan Yakubu



Keynote speaker and new CPA Katherine Donovan (right), secretary of the New and Young Professionals Cabinet, attended the event with her parents, CTCPA members Sean and Cynthia Donovan.



CTCPA Public Affairs Director Mark Zampino speaks about the value of the CPA credential and the public trust it inspires.



Connecticut State Board of Accountancy representatives were on hand to congratulate the new CPAs. Pictured (from left) are State Board member and CTCPA Past President Marcia Marien, Legal Counsel Sonia Worrell Asare, Deputy Secretary of the State James F. Spallone, License and Applications Analyst Stephanie Sheff, Office Assistant Dominika Sorensen, Legal Intern Harrison Robbins-Pesce, and State Board member Dannell Lyne.





Saslow Lufkin & Buggy

## CPA Coat Drive Back by Popular Demand

CTCPA members, their coworkers and clients, and accounting students across the state contributed more than 1,000 new and gently used coats for our fourth winter coat drive! Coats were distributed to shelters throughout Connecticut by Button Up Connecticut.

Fiondella Milone & LaSaracina



O'Connor Davies

University of Connecticut



Marcum – Hartford (pictured), New Haven, Greenwich







Central Connecticut State University

United Technologies

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McGladrey – New Haven



Meyers, Harrison & Pia



University of Hartford



Southern Connecticut State University

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(860) 524-4472 or [careers@whcpa.com](mailto:careers@whcpa.com)

paid advertisement

**>> Join us for the  
next charity drive!**

Would your firm or company like to join in next time? We'll publish details on next year's drive in the fall – we might collect coats, food, books, or something else to help out when the need arises.

To get on the distribution list to receive participation information and posters directly when they are available, contact **Alicia Strong** at [alicias@ctcpas.org](mailto:alicias@ctcpas.org) or 860-258-0217.





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Nobile Wealth Management at  
[info@cpasquared.com](mailto:info@cpasquared.com) or 860-659-5977.  
Or visit our website: [www.cpasquared.com](http://www.cpasquared.com)

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FROM

**NOBILE**  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

\*Source: Track record from Hank Zewald of Quantum Financial Partners, the original architect of the CPA2 program.

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IIS10243 05/13



# 2015 CPE Calendar

## WEBINARS Can't leave the office for a seminar? Try a webinar.

Date	Starts	Ends	Title	Express Code	Member/Nonmember	CPE Hours
<b>March</b>						
3/2	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	Detecting and Preventing Internal Fraud, Theft, and Abuse	CPAX968	\$79/\$104	2
3/2	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	Excel Budgeting Ideas	EXBI0302	\$79/\$104	2
3/2	2:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	How Will You Handle the New Revenue Recognition Standards?	CPAX969	\$79/\$104	2
3/2	11:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	Live Video Interview with Pulitzer Winner Michael Sallah	CPAX967	\$79/\$104	2
3/2	5:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.	Microsoft Office 365: What You Should Know	CPAX970	\$79/\$104	2
3/2	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	Protecting Your Clients from Identity Theft: What You Need to Know Now! (Part 2 – Financial)	IDT20302	\$79/\$104	2
3/2	10:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	The CFO: Five Critical Skills to Maximize Profits	CPAX966	\$79/\$104	2
3/3	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	15 Best Practices in Budgeting	CPAX974	\$79/\$104	2
3/3	12:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	Everything CPAs Need to Know About Detecting Ponzi Schemes	CPAX973	\$79/\$104	2
3/3	9:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	GAAS from A to Z	GAAS0303	\$195/\$295	8
3/3	10:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	Getting Along at Work: Managing Four Generations	CPAX971	\$79/\$104	2
3/3	11:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	iPad/Tablet: Apps to Review and Mark Up Your PDF Documents	CPAX972	\$79/\$104	2
3/3	2:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	iPad/Tablet: Using Your Tablet as Your Digital Notepad	CPAX975	\$79/\$104	2
3/3	1:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	Using Form 3115 to Maximize Tax Benefits Under the Repair Regulations	FMTB0303	\$149/\$199	3
3/4	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	Controllorship Skills Update: Survival Skills	CON20304	\$79/\$104	2
3/4	3:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	Creativity for Accountants	CPAX981	\$79/\$104	2
3/4	10:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	Detecting and Deterring Payroll Fraud	CPAX977	\$79/\$104	2
3/4	12:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	Google Apps for Accountants	CPAX979	\$79/\$104	2
3/4	11:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.	Outlook: Manage Your Email with Maximum Efficiency	CPAX978	\$158/\$208	4
3/4	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	Recent Changes to HUD Audits	HUDA0304	\$79/\$104	2
3/4	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	Strategic Skills for CFOs	CPAX976	\$79/\$104	2
3/4	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	The ZZZZ Best Story: Ex-Con, Z Best CFO, Shares Techniques on How to Detect and Prevent Fraud	CPAX980	\$79/\$104	2
3/5	11:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	10 Steps to a Digital Office in the Cloud	CPAX983	\$79/\$104	2
3/5	9:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Advanced Compilation and Review Engagement Issues	ADCRO305	\$195/\$295	8
3/5	10:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	CPAs: When We ARE the Headlines	CPAX982	\$79/\$104	2
3/5	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	How Ethical Lapses Can Facilitate Large and Small Frauds	CPAX984	\$79/\$104	2
3/5	2:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	MS Office 2013: What's New	CPAX985	\$79/\$104	2
3/5	1:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	Surgent's Ethical Considerations for the CPA	ETHC0305	\$129/\$179	4
3/6	9:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Accounting and Auditing Update	AAUW0306	\$195/\$295	8
3/6	12:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	Google Trends and Google Correlate for Accountants	CPAX988	\$79/\$104	2
3/6	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	How to Be Productive with Windows 8	CPAX989	\$79/\$104	2
3/6	10:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	Live Video Interview with Ex-CPA, Ex-CFO, and Criminal Sam Antar	CPAX986	\$79/\$104	2
3/6	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	QuickBooks 2014 Tips and Tricks (Part 1)	QBTT0306	\$79/\$104	2
3/6	1:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	Using Form 3115 to Maximize Tax Benefits Under the Repair Regulations	FMTB0306	\$149/\$199	3
3/9	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	Excel for Fraud	EXFR0309	\$79/\$104	2
3/9	10:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	Fraud: 10 Scary Cases in Compilations and Reviews	CPAX990	\$79/\$104	2
3/9	2:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	iPad/Tablet: Managing Your Files Using Cloud Storage	CPAX993	\$79/\$104	2
3/9	11:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	iPad/Tablet: Tablet Shootout – Which One Should You Buy?	CPAX991	\$79/\$104	2

### Ready to register?

Go to [www.ctcpas.org/register](http://www.ctcpas.org/register), enter the express code to find your course, and register!



Stay sharp.



# >> Members-Only Meetings

Register at [www.ctcpas.org/MemberMeetings](http://www.ctcpas.org/MemberMeetings).

Questions? Contact Phyllis Roche at [phyllisr@ctcpas.org](mailto:phyllisr@ctcpas.org).



## Easton CONNexion

Easton Public Library, Easton  
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. • CPE Credits: 2

## Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA)/ Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR) Thursday, April 23

Speaker: **David J. Buckley**, Esq., Rogin Nassau



## Technology Breakfast Roundtables

*CPE credit not available.*

Get expert advice from members of the Technology Committee in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. No registration necessary. Members purchase their own breakfasts.

## Wednesday, March 18

Riverdale Diner, Shelton • 8:00 a.m.

## Thursday, April 16

New York Pickle Deli, Rocky Hill • 8:00 a.m.

## Thursday, May 21

Cristy's Luncheonette, Westbrook • 8:00 a.m.



## The Friday Focus for Members in Industry

CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill  
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. • CPE Credits: 2

## 3 for 1: Qualified Plan DOL Audits, Capital Market Update, and Latest Strategies in Hybrid Plan Design Friday, March 20

Speakers: **Rodger Metzger**, CFA and **Timothy Ryor**, FSPA, FCA, and **Richard Sych**, FSA, MAAA, Hooker & Holcombe, and **David Tooley**, CPC, QPA, Vanguard Institutional

## Business Law Update Friday, April 17

Speaker: **Joseph E. Fournier**, Esq.,  
Fournier Legal Services



## Valuation, Forensic, and Litigation Support Group Dinners

CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill  
Wine and Mingling: 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner and Program: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

## Fraud Update: A Bank's Perspective Tuesday, May 5

Speaker: **Kim Syrop**, Webster Bank Fraud Mitigation  
and Loss Management Unit

Attend a  
committee  
meeting.

Join the  
conversation.

CTCPA technical committees offer fantastic opportunities to discuss timely topics with peers who share your areas of interest and expertise, all while building your network and often earning free CPE.

View upcoming meetings and reserve your space at [www.ctcpas.org/MemberMeetings](http://www.ctcpas.org/MemberMeetings).

## Federal Income Taxation Committee

Tuesday, May 5 • 8:30 a.m.  
CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

## Tangible Property Regulation

Speaker: **Crystal Germanese**, CPA, BlumShapiro

## Trust, Estate, and Gift Taxation Committee

Wednesday, May 6 • 8:30 a.m.  
CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

## Estate Planning with Retirement Benefits

Speaker: **Barbara Taylor**, J.D., Reid & Riege

## Not-for-Profit Organizations Committee

Thursday, May 7 • 8:30 a.m.  
CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

## Connecticut Department of Children and Families' Budget Issues

Speaker: **Jack Horak**, J.D., Reid & Riege

## State Taxation Committee

Friday, May 8 • 8:30 a.m.  
CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

## Tax360° Conference Planning





## Firm Moves and Promotions

Send your news of firm moves and promotions to Assistant Editor **Caitlin Bailey O'Neill** at [caitlinb@ctcpas.org](mailto:caitlinb@ctcpas.org). Headshot photographs will also be published as space allows.



**Camille Murphy** announced the formation of **Murphy & Company**, a CPA and business advisory firm in Branford.



**Lisa M. Wills** joined **Pue, Chick, Leibowitz & Blezard, LLC** in Vernon as a partner. Her expertise is in auditing services for educational institutions, governmental entities, not-for-profit organizations, and employee benefit plans.

**Reynolds & Rowella LLP** in Ridgefield and **New Canaan** promoted **Janice E. Kunst** to director. She has 16 years of public accounting and three years of corporate accounting experience.

**Beers, Hamerman & Company, P.C.** in New Haven and **Cohen, Burger, Schwartz & Sax, LLC** in Fairfield have merged. The new firm will be known as **Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger, P.C.**



**Harper & Whitfield, P.C.** in Farmington and **Simsbury** named **Todd Shelansky** a principal. He focuses on providing accounting, tax, and other services to a variety of closely held businesses and their owners, as well as to not-for-profits.

**Meyers, Harrison & Pia, LLC** in New Haven announced that **Vladimir V. Korobov** was promoted to partner.

**Garvey & Associates, LLC** has merged with **RB Steele & Company, P.C.** The new firm, **Garvey, Steele & Company, LLP**, has offices in Mystic and Putnam.

**McGladrey** has joined with **Pacilio Wealth Management** to bring **McGladrey Wealth Management** services to the Connecticut marketplace.

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*Thomas Blumetti*

**BlumShapiro** announced the election of two new partners, **Thomas M. Blumetti** and **Nikoleta D. McTigue**. As a partner in the accounting and auditing department, **Blumetti** is a member of the firm's **Manufacturing/Distribution/Retail Industry Group**. **McTigue** specializes in auditing municipal and nonprofit organizations.



*Nikoleta McTigue*

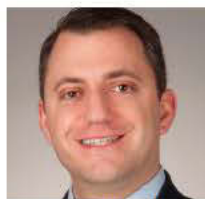
**John J. Prendergast** joined **Gitlin-CampisePrendergast, LLC** (formerly **GitlinCampise, LLC**) in West Hartford as a partner/member. **Salvatore Giuliano** was named managing partner/member of the firm.

**CohnReznick LLP** announced the election of **Mark Livingston** to its partnership in Hartford. He specializes in federal tax and works primarily with large corporations, both public and private.



**Jeffrey C. Solomon** has been named Connecticut partner-in-charge of assurance services by **Marcum LLP**. Based in New Haven, he will also be responsible for assurance services to clients of the firm's Hartford and Greenwich offices.

Based in New Haven, he will also be responsible for assurance services to clients of the firm's Hartford and Greenwich offices.



*Peter Bihuniak*

**MahoneySabol** in Glastonbury announced that **Peter Bihuniak** and **Casey O'Brien** were promoted to senior managers.



*Casey O'Brien*

### Strong Promoted to Membership and Academics Manager



**Alicia Strong** has been promoted to **CTCPA membership and academics manager**. In her new role, she will be focused on membership outreach, recruitment, and retention. She will oversee academic and career development programming and other initiatives designed to promote the accounting profession and CPA designation to high school students, college students, and CPA candidates. She is also charged with continuing to develop and expand **CTCPA's** new and young professionals outreach, bridging the gap from aspiring CPA to certified CPA.

**Guilmartin, DiPiro & Sokolowski, LLC** in Middletown announced a merger incorporating longtime Middletown accounting firm **Goundrey & Company, CPAs** into the practice located at 505 Main Street. **Thomas E. Goundrey** was named a partner in the firm.

**Weinstein & Anastasio, P.C.** in Hamden announced the following promotions:



*Mike Lemieux*

**Mike Lemieux**, tax manager; **Lisa Exrance**, supervisor; **Phil Pieper** and **Kayla Anrico**, seniors; and **Anthony Misiti**, staff II.



*Lisa Exrance*



*Phil Pieper*



*Kayla Anrico*



*Anthony Misiti*





## Welcome, New Members!

We're pleased to welcome the following individuals to membership:

### New Certified Members

**Deborah A. Bodie, CPA**  
Melillo & Mitchell, LLC  
6 Berkshire Blvd., Bethel

**Megan E. Gillespie, CPA**  
Ernst & Young LLP  
300 First Stamford Pl., Stamford

**Tarja M. Lipponen, CPA**  
Shein, Cohen, Palmer & Co., LLC, CPAs  
20 Tower Ln., Avon

**Christopher P. Miehke, CPA**  
PwC  
185 Asylum St., Hartford

**Aaron J. Pelaccia, CPA**  
Marcum LLP  
555 Long Wharf Dr., New Haven

**Patrick W. Prior, CPA**  
Davis, Mascola & Phillips, LLC  
1062 Barnes Rd., Ste. 203,  
Wallingford

**Jessica L. Rivenburgh, CPA**  
RVI Group  
177 Broad St., Stamford

**Karen R. Soetbeer, CPA**  
Karen R. Soetbeer, CPA  
101 Park Lane Rd., New Milford

**Treacy R. Wells, CPA**  
Krauss Whiting CPAs LLP  
4 Landmark Sq., Stamford

**Lisa L. Wiberg, CPA**  
Sheptoff, Reuber & Co., P.C.  
111 New London Tpke., Glastonbury

**Lisa M. Wills, CPA**  
Pue, Chick, Leibowitz & Blezard, LLC  
76 South Frontage Rd., Vernon

### New Associate Members

**Nicole M. Donahue**  
BlumShapiro  
29 S. Main St., Ste. 400, West Hartford

**Timothy J. Floyd**  
Andros, Floyd & Miller, P.C.,  
Attorneys at Law  
864 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford

**Lisa C. Gagne**  
BlumShapiro  
29 S. Main St., Ste. 400, West Hartford

**Catherine Hester**  
Robert J. Pallone, CPA  
3 Station Pl., 3rd Fl., Norfolk

**Kyle M. Hightower**  
Edwin R. Muenzner, CPA  
P.O. Box 5, Franklin

**Christopher P. Kelly**  
KPMG LLP  
Stamford Square, Stamford

**Celeste McBride**  
Santoro CPA  
20 Poe Place, Shelton

**Theresa M. Meyer**  
T. Meyer Associates, LLC  
18 Thomas St., Enfield

**Brittaney Netter**  
Zackin Zimyeski Sullivan, LLC  
One Exchange Pl., Waterbury

**Vikas U. Thaker**  
CohnReznick LLP  
350 Church St., Hartford

### In Memoriam

John H. Aucoin,  
a member since March 22, 1973,  
passed away May 6, 2014.

James Wityak,  
a member since September 15, 1983,  
passed away November 21, 2014.

Edward D. Taddei Sr.,  
a member since September 19, 1947,  
passed away February 6, 2015.

*Read a remembrance of Mr. Taddei  
on page 26 of this issue.*



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Members save big with CTCPA's exclusive professional affinity partnerships! From insurance to fun and leisure to office needs and childcare, this select group offers members discounts that won't be found elsewhere. Find the links and phone numbers you'll need online.

>> [www.ctcpas.org/Affinity](http://www.ctcpas.org/Affinity).



## New Students

Welcome to these new students who joined us this fall and winter:

**Adnan Atta of Danbury**

Western Connecticut State University

**Ashlei M. Ayala of Hartford**

University of Connecticut

**Geoff Brisco of Canton**

Castleton State College

**Cassie Carangelo of Branford**

Central Connecticut State University

**Lee Cattanach of New London**

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Michael Cipolone of Southington**

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Stefanie Clavette of Sandy Hook**

Western Connecticut State University

**John S. Damboise of Middletown**

Central Connecticut State University

**Brian DeMott of Wallingford**

Quinnipiac University

**Michael Dingammadji of Fairfield**

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Kathryn Dobbins of Southington**

Central Connecticut State University

**Mary Dooling of Naugatuck**

Naugatuck Valley Community College

**Michael A. Douglas of Brooklyn**

Liberty University

**Lawrence Duan of Windsor Locks**

University of Connecticut

**Amanda L. Durno of Cromwell**

Central Connecticut State University

**Vladyslav Dyenyehzka of Waterbury**

Post University

**Anthony J. Favalora of Waterford**

University of Connecticut

**Nancy Gilly of Groton**

Three Rivers Community College

**Christian Gomez of Stamford**

Mercy College

**Aimee Grant of Manchester**

Naugatuck Valley Community College

**Nadezda Griffin of Fairfield**

Fairfield University

**Ernesto A. Guardado of New Britain**

Quinnipiac University

**Kayla M. Hanish of Stratford**

Stonehill College

**Sylvia Jaje of Seymour**

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Fritz Jean Gilles of Bristol**

Central Connecticut State University

**Rui Jiang of Bridgeport**

University of Bridgeport

**Taylor Keith of Woodbury**

Central Connecticut State University

**Brett Knopf**

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Sarah J. Kolada of New London**

Three Rivers Community College

**Benjamin Kopchick of Amston**

Central Connecticut State University

**Sharon J. Kunkel of Lisbon**

Three Rivers Community College

**Leon Lee of Newington**

University of Connecticut

**Kory LoPresto of East Haven**

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Martha Losche of Guilford**

Southern Connecticut State University

**John Magnano of Prospect**

Naugatuck Valley Community College

**Darren S. Mallette of Watertown**

Post University

**Scot C. Manley of Middlefield**

Central Connecticut State University

**Lucas J. Marra of Bristol**

Central Connecticut State University

**Conor McManus of Willimantic**

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Katelin Meyers of East Hartland**

University of Hartford

**Toni Minelli of Newington**

Lasell College

**Ryan Monaco of Trumbull**

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Joseph Najamy of Danbury**

Naugatuck Valley Community College

**Ngan Nguyen of Litchfield**

Naugatuck Valley Community College

**Ngochuan Nguyen of Chaplin**

Eastern Connecticut State University

**Sladjana Nikolic of Vernon**

University of Connecticut

**Zachary A. Paquin of Willington**

Manchester Community College

**Danielle S. Pare of New Britain**

Central Connecticut State University

**Hannah V. Phelan of Southbury**

Central Connecticut State University

**Andrew J. Prince of Orange**

University of Connecticut

**Joseph T. Queno of South Windsor**

St. Michael's College

**James X. Ren of Waterbury**

Naugatuck Valley Community College

**Daniel Rodrigues of New Britain**

Central Connecticut State University

**Andrew J. Rose of Farmington**

Central Connecticut State University

**Shayna Rucker of Waterbury**

Naugatuck Valley Community College

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**Allan M. Trocolla of New Fairfield**

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Fairfield University



## Message from the Publisher

# In Memoriam: Edward Taddei, CPA

By Mark Zampino, Publisher



When you work for a professional membership association for 30-plus years, you get to know a great many of its members.

I first met Ed Taddei in the early 1980s, he a member of the “Relations with Bankers and Other Credit Grantors Committee,” known today as the Financial Institutions Committee, and me the newly appointed staff liaison to that group. At that time, Ed was in his early sixties and I was in my mid-twenties, just getting my sea legs in the world of association management.

Ed immediately sensed that this was a new role for me, so, as a senior member of the committee, he took me under his wing, but in a manner that made me feel as though I had held the position for years. That was one of Ed’s many “people” talents – he could provide counsel in a manner that invisibly instilled self-confidence and enthusiasm in the beneficiary of his guidance.

Ed proved a thoughtful man in more than one sense of the word. When he spoke, no one held any doubt that he had weighed all options and possibilities, had drawn upon his considerable experience and resultant wisdom, projected all possible outcomes, and now stood ready to opine. Ed spoke when he was ready to speak, and when he did, it reminded me of the old E. F. Hutton television commercials where

an entire stadium would ignore the game at hand and cock an ear to catch E. F. Hutton’s advice.

Ed never sought the limelight. He never sat at the head of the table. He spoke loudly enough to be clearly understood – never louder. In fact, I never heard him raise his voice, ever. He didn’t need to.

Unless someone other than Ed told you, you would never had known that he started Connecticut’s first television station (and others), mastered the real estate world, and served as an ordained deacon in the Catholic church.

And I never, ever saw Ed lose his cool. One day he was uncharacteristically late for a committee meeting of mine at the old Society offices on Allyn Street in Hartford. I remember the day well because a crew was cutting up our street with a huge circular pavement saw to repair the drainage system, and they used a thin, muddy brown liquid to keep the blade cool. Half of the street appeared awash in a milk-chocolate river.

About 10 minutes into the meeting, an associate called me to the phone.

“Mark,” came Ed’s always-even voice out of the receiver. “I’ve fallen in the mud from the construction on Allyn Street and I’m down on the curb. Would you mind coming down to stay with me until my daughter comes to get me?”

I ran down and there sat Ed in the parking lot attendant’s chair, his natty khaki summer suit soaked by the wet brown goo. As it turned out, Ed had suffered multiple injuries, including a broken leg. Yet he remained stoic ... actually smiling though the pain. That day, I met Ed’s daughter Noelle for the first time as she arrived to take him for medical attention. Many years later Noelle would assume the CTCPA presidency, no doubt thrilling her proud father.

Ed wanted to know you as a human being as well as a business associate. He knew all about my family at his urging, not mine. He took great delight in signing his emails as “#364” – his CTCPA membership number, such was his pride in the profession. And he attended committee meetings even as his health slowly failed, ultimately arriving in a wheelchair accompanied by a caregiver companion.

The CPA profession, as professions go, is relatively young, about 120 years old. To me, Ed was one of many certified public accountants who forged the prestige and status of the CPA profession, leading the profession by example from 1947 until the day we lost him.

Today’s newly certified public accountants receive more than a certificate, they assume the mantle of independence, integrity, character, and trust that their predecessors – the Ed Taddeis of Connecticut – put firmly in place during their tenure.

Thank you, Ed.



Taddei, pictured with his daughter Noelle, at the 2012 Essential Event where Noelle was installed as 2012-2013 CTCPA president.



Taddei served on the selection panel for the first annual Educators of Excellence: “The Eddys” awards. Pictured with him at the event are (from left) daughter and CTCPA Past President Noelle Taddei, Past President Pat Poli, Membership and Academics Manager Alicia Strong, and Student Relations Specialist Jill Brightman.





## Member Snapshots

We're looking for your snapshots of interest to the general Society membership. Send your submissions to Managing Editor **Kirsten Piechota** at [kirstenp@ctcpas.org](mailto:kirstenp@ctcpas.org).

### Montovani, Murray, Nemphos & Tierinni's Inaugural 'Beards and Beers 5k' Nets \$10,000 for Charity

While many participated in "No Shave November," Montovani, Murray, Nemphos & Tierinni (MMNT) in Manchester took it to a whole new level with their "Back the Beards" campaign.

On November 22, the firm held the inaugural Beards and Beers 5K race. Almost 230 runners, several donning fake beards, came out to stretch their legs, raise awareness for prostate cancer, and enjoy craft brews during the post-race celebration.

Proceeds from the race and the "Back the Beards" campaign totaled \$10,000, which benefitted the Curtis D. Robinson Center for Health Equity at Saint Francis.

MMNT's Beards and Beers 5K was supported by organizations including



Members and staff of Montovani, Murray, Nemphos & Tierinni present a \$10,000 check to the staff of the Curtis D. Robinson Center for Health Equity at Saint Francis.

Amenta Emma Architects, BNI – Minnechaug Chapter, The Hartford Better Beer Company, Thomas Hooker Brewing Company, Pioneer Beer Company, Olde Burnside Brewing Com-

pany, Randy's Wooster St. Pizza Shop, Tongue Groove, Garaventa Photography, Dave & Buster's, Hartford Distributors, Raymour & Flanigan Furniture, W.B. Mason, and Guida's Dairy.

### Whittlesey & Hadley, Weinstein & Anastasio Get Personal CTCPA Update



Whittlesey & Hadley and Weinstein & Anastasio hear from CTCPA Director of Finance and Operations Julie McNeal during a joint, two-day accounting and auditing training session at the CTCPA Education Center in Rocky Hill.

In early January, Whittlesey & Hadley (Hartford, Holyoke) and Weinstein & Anastasio (Hamden) held a joint, two-day accounting and auditing training session at the CTCPA Education Center in Rocky Hill. Whittlesey & Hadley partner **Edward Sullivan** asked the CTCPA to provide a 30-minute "Society Issues Update" heard by approximately 140 combined staff members and guests over the two days.

As Executive Director **Art Renner** was traveling, Society Director of Finance

and Operations **Julie McNeal** and Public Affairs Director **Mark Zampino** teamed up to communicate the latest on developments with the State Board of Accountancy, the Department of Revenue Services, the Society's "soft skills" lecture series visiting Connecticut universities, an initiative to create new activities for members aged 35 and older, and the "Save Our State" initiative addressing the long-term fiscal challenges Connecticut faces.

"It was appreciated by all and helpful to be brought up to date on the activities of the CTCPA," Sullivan told McNeal and Zampino in a note of appreciation.

"We also appreciate all of the efforts both you and your staff make on behalf of the members. There are always challenges and opportunities that face us and the profession. It is comforting to know that we have an excellent team in Connecticut working for the needs of all CPAs."



## NVCC Awards CTCPA Student Memberships to 'Career Game' Winners

Eight Naugatuck Valley Community College (NVCC) students earned free CTCPA student memberships by successfully completing requirements for the school's fall 2014 semester "Career Game." The event was jointly sponsored by the NVCC Accounting Club and the Job Placement Center (JPC).

To qualify, each student needed to fulfill several benchmarks, including:

1. Completing a resume writing workshop.
2. Preparing a resume for review with JPC personnel.
3. Completing an interviewing workshop.
4. Participating in the JPC's mock interview session.

Several business and government professionals interviewed NVCC students during the mock interview session and offered individual feedback afterwards.



NVCC "Career Game" awardees (front row, from left) Mary Dooling, Edison Villa, Kim-ngan Nguyen, (back row) Aimee Grant, John Mangano, Joseph Najamy, James Ren, Shayna Rucker, and Club Advisor Scott Colvin.

"Too often I find students ill-prepared for properly representing themselves during a job inquiry," explained NVCC Accounting Professor and Accounting Club Advisor **Scott Colvin**. "The 'Career Game' encouraged participants to approach the job search process

on a step-by-step basis. In addition, each student received immediate feedback on their interview. In the future, the opportunities created through CTCPA student membership will be really useful to each of these talented individuals."

## Weinstein & Anastasio Joins in Local Fundraising Events



Weinstein & Anastasio employees (from left) Ciara Thomson, Bonny Mrazik, Laurie Platner, and Julia Agvent "Paint a Brighter Future" with the United Way of Greater New Haven.

### Paint a Brighter Future

Weinstein and Anastasio employees recently participated in a "Paint a Brighter Future" fundraising event. Each participant painted a "Home Sweet Home" canvas for newly housed neighbors as part of the United Way of Greater New Haven's 100-Day Campaign to End Homelessness. The paintings will be part of a "Welcome Home" package for more than 100 individuals who have recently been housed through the collective efforts of dozens of organizations, hundreds of volunteers, and many community leaders.

### Toys for Tots

Weinstein & Anastasio's young professionals got in the giving spirit during the holidays, collecting toys for the annual Toys for Tots drive held at the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce holiday party.

(front row, from left) Mary Pliszka, Don Camerato, Brandon Ricci, (behind tree, from left) Ciara Thomson, Kayla Anrico, and Beth Naccarato.







## Leigh Featured in 'Toy Soldier' Magazine

CTCPA Advisory Council member **David Leigh**, of counsel to the firm of Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer & Proto in Woodbridge, was profiled in the January 2015 issue of *Toy Soldier and Model Figure* magazine. Leigh collects miniature band figurines and has amassed more than 3,500 so far!

Read the full article at [www.ctcpas.org/ToySoldier](http://www.ctcpas.org/ToySoldier).

## Barron, Yanaros & Caruso Collects Toys for Connecticut Children's Medical Center

For the fourth year in a row, Barron, Yanaros & Caruso in Wethersfield held a toy drive to benefit Connecticut Children's Medical Center.



## Member News

Send your news to Assistant Editor **Caitlin Bailey O'Neill** at [caitlinb@ctcpas.org](mailto:caitlinb@ctcpas.org). Headshot photographs will also be published as space allows.

### Public Service



**Brad Kronstat**, who works in finance for Bergantino Agways of North Branford, was re-elected treasurer of Shoreline Greenway Trail, Inc., an organization building a family-friendly 25-mile trail between New Haven and Madison. Kronstat was also elected to the board of directors of the nonprofit healthcare agency VNA Community Healthcare.

**John Purtill**, managing partner of Purtill & Company in Cheshire, is featured in a "Profile of Success" on the United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut website for his work with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. View the profile at [www.tinyurl.com/purtillVITA](http://www.tinyurl.com/purtillVITA).

### Member News



**Roger Sciascia**, managing partner of Weinstein & Anastasio in Hamden, was recently recognized by PKF NA, an association of

legally independent firms, for completing four years of service as a member of the organization's board of directors. He will now serve on the organization's membership committee.

**Pratesi, Salemi & Company** in West Hartford was accepted for membership in CPACONnect, an association of independently owned CPA firms with nearly 200 members nationwide.

### Honors & Awards



American School for the Deaf Chief Financial Officer **Tom Wood** was named 2014 CFO of the Year in the nonprofit category

by the *Hartford Business Journal*.

*U.S. News and World Report* ranked the **UConn School of Business's** online Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) program among the top three in the nation. The program, which typically draws up to 200 students each year, was recognized as one of 2015's "Best Online Graduate Business Programs" (excluding MBA programs).



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### Help Wanted

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### Mergers/Acquisitions

**CPA firm would like to buy** all or part of your accounting, tax, or investment practice. Call Mark J. Mazzone of D'Agostino & Mazzone at 860-257-4005.

**Growing firm interested in acquisitions – Bakewell & Mulhare, LLC.** Well-established firm in Litchfield County is looking to acquire other small firms or sole practitioners in need of succession planning. We strive to provide our clients with the highest level of service and technical advice. We have a dedicated staff and a broad spectrum of available services. Please reply with complete confidence to Scott Mulhare at [scott@bakewellmulhare.com](mailto:scott@bakewellmulhare.com).

**Local executive in search of small Connecticut-based manufacturing company for sale.** Open to all opportunities, but ideally \$1-5M revenue, process industry focus with owner retiring. Contact Steve at 203-510-5880 or [steveselby819@gmail.com](mailto:steveselby819@gmail.com).

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**Stratford sole practitioner with a two-year retirement goal** looking for a CPA to rent space and complete a succession plan. Please reply to File #9748, CTCPA, 716 Brook St., Suite 100, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 and mark envelope "confidential."

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