

January/February 2016

Connecticut CPA

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PRIME

New Pr!me programming brings social and charity events to professionals aged 35+.

See page 18 for more.



A publication of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants



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High schoolers experience a day in the life of an accounting major at the new “Accounting Is My Major” (AIM) events. page 22

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>> Important Notice from the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services:

Earlier Due Date for CT-W-2 and W-3 Forms; Paper Form Filing May be Allowed in Some Cases

Form CT-W-3 and federal Form W-2 must be submitted by employers to the Connecticut DRS by January 31, 2016.

The Connecticut DRS requires all withholding forms to be filed electronically. However, the Commissioner realizes that the electronic filing requirement may cause a hardship for some employers with fewer than 24 employees. Because of this, the DRS has issued the following statement for tax year 2015:

Electronic filing of Form CT-W-3 is required for all employers. Paper copies may be submitted only if:

- Employers issue less than 24 W-2 forms. (Due date is January 31.) or

- Employers issue less than 24 Form 1099-R, 1099-MISC or W-2G. (Due date is February 28.)

Please note: Forms CT-W-3 and CT-1096 do not conform to the paper filing rules.

If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the returns will be considered filed “timely” if postmarked the next business day.

Taxpayers may key-in or upload annual withholding returns using the DRS Taxpayer Service Center (TSC) website – www.ct.gov/TSC. Step-by-step instructions are provided.

For assistance with electronic filing, call the DRS at 860-297-5962 or 800-382-9463 (outside Greater Hartford only).



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Editor's Note

Making Modern-Day Heirlooms



CTCPA staffers show off their most recent handmade baby quilt. Pictured from left are (front row, kneeling) Melissa Thompson, Kirsten Piechota, (back row, standing) Liz Frazza, Jill Brightman, Doreen Fredette, Phyllis Roche, Julie McNeal, Caitlin Bailey O'Neill, Meghan Power, quilt recipient Alicia Strong, Bonnie Olivieri, and Lisa Bugryn.

This fall we got to take part in one of my very favorite CTCPA staff traditions: the presentation of a handmade quilt to a CTCPA staffer who is expecting a baby. This time it was a grey and navy blue transportation theme with cross-stitched trucks, cars, and street signs for Membership and Academics Manager **Alicia Strong**, who was expecting a baby boy.

This beautiful tradition began seven years ago when I welcomed my daughter – the first CTCPA baby in several years and the start of a little “baby boom” in our office. A few weeks before my maternity leave, my coworkers lured me into a CPE classroom under the guise that a speaker was having trouble getting a projector to work and they needed my help. Feeling that little twinge of panic that comes from uncooperative technology, I walked into my surprise baby shower.

I learned that my coworkers had spent nights and weekends (and some lunch-times when I was out of the office at doctor’s appointments) teaching each other how to cross stitch, and each had stitched a unique square that Membership Coordinator **Liz Frazza** then sewed together into a gorgeous heirloom quilt.

We’ve completed five such quilts in all, with themes ranging from classic Winnie the Pooh to jungle animal babies. A few of those works of art have had some twisted stitches. A couple times the baby arrived before the final threads were stitched. But in the end, each handmade gift represents the time, energy, and talent lent by what is truly a CTCPA family.



See you next issue,

Kirsten Piechota, Managing Editor



AICPA, CIMA Propose Deeper Partnership

The American Institute of CPAs is proposing to join forces with the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) to create a new accounting association while continuing to operate their existing membership bodies.

The association would integrate operations, strategy, and management of the two organizations to further advance advocacy and achieve economies of scale, thereby driving enhanced support for and promotion of both public and management accounting.

In 2011, the AICPA entered into a joint venture with CIMA, the world's largest management accounting professional body that prepares people for careers in business and establishes best practices. The joint venture created a new complementary designation, the Certified Global Management Accountant (CGMA), for the nearly 50 percent of the AICPA's members who work in businesses and industry.

Under the current proposal, members of the American Institute of CPAs would remain members of the AICPA. The same is true for CIMA. Members of both organizations would automatically be part of the new association, which would be known as the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants.

While the AICPA and CIMA would maintain their respective membership bodies and governing councils, the deeper partnership would enable the organizations to advocate for the public interest and promote the designations through the power of 600,000 professionals worldwide. The integration is also intended to accelerate and expand the research, resources, and services the organizations provide.

The AICPA would continue to focus efforts on keeping the CPA strong in the U.S. and extending its influence.

Creation of the proposed association would require an affirmative member ballot for both AICPA and CIMA. Throughout the fall and into early 2016, the AICPA will be talking with members about the proposal and what it would mean for all stakeholders. If that dialogue is positive, a ballot initiative could occur in late spring 2016.

To learn more and share comments, visit www.aicpa.org/horizons.

What is the Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) Designation?

In 2011, the American Institute of CPAs and CIMA formed a joint venture to further professionalize management accounting in the U.S. and around the world. They launched the Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) designation in 2012 and set out to provide members with a new level of thought leadership, tools, resources, and recognition.

- More than 50,000 United States CPAs and 100,000 CIMA members and students have obtained the designation, making it the most widely held management accounting designation in the world.
- Together, the AICPA and CIMA have deepened assets for members who work in business and industry, releasing nearly 120 original reports and tools and a website, www.cgma.org, to bring together resources for management accountants.
- The organizations have established and deepened relationships with more than 200 employers like Shell, Coca-Cola, AT&T, American Express, and Unilever and demonstrated the value that CGMA designation holders bring to organizations.
- The CGMA Competency Framework, based on extensive research with employers, was created to define the skills management accountants need today and into the future, and the AICPA/CIMA Competency and Learning website, to give members a single destination for all of their skills and development needs.
- Global Management Accounting Principles were launched to help large and small businesses put effective management accounting practices in place.
- The rigorous CGMA exam launched in January 2015, designed to test a candidate's competency in business skills such as strategic thinking and analytics.
- The *CGMA Magazine*, consistently rated a top resource by CGMA designation holders, delivers management accounting news, in-depth analysis of key business issues, and best practices for management accountants.



For the fourth year in a row, CTCPA volunteers brought their real-world smarts to the classroom, teaching full-day financial literacy lessons to classes at Wethersfield's Charles Wright Elementary School as part of Junior Achievement's "JA in a Day" program. Almost 20 CTCPA volunteers paired up to teach financial literacy, workforce readiness, and entrepreneurship to kids in grades K through 6 using fun, hands-on activities.



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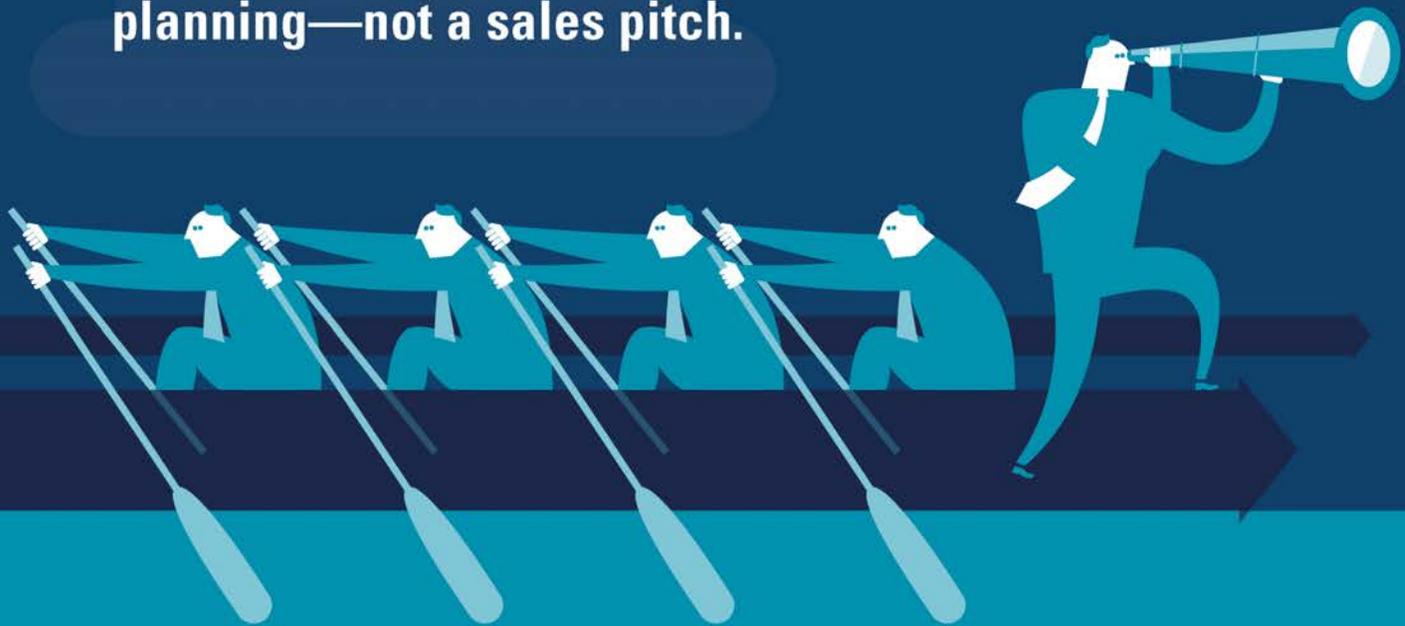
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Kate Donovan	

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FASB's Not-for-Profit Financial Statements Project

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) not-for-profit financial statement presentation project is revising the FAS 117 reporting standards issued in June 1993. Specifically envisioned were improvements to the net asset categories and better information about the organization's liquidity, financial performance, and cash flows.

The FASB issued *Proposed Accounting Standards Update—Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958) and Health Care Entities (Topic 954): Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities* in April 2015 with comments due in August. Based on the com-

ments received, the project was split into two phases for re-deliberation by the board. The first phase concentrates on issues that are independent of other projects and can possibly be finished in the short term.

On December 11, the board's re-deliberations focused on methods of presenting operating cash flows, net asset classifications (including underwater endowments), and quantitative and qualitative information to help users assess a not-for-profit entity's liquidity.

The tentative decisions were split three ways: affirm net asset classifications, change the proposed cash flow statement presentation requirements, and send liquidity back to the FASB staff for additional research.

The Cash Flow Statement

Pulling back from the proposal in the accounting standards update (ASU), the board tentatively decided to allow not-for-profit entities to use either the direct or indirect method in presenting operating cash flows. If the direct method of presenting operating cash flows is used, an indirect reconciliation would not be required.

Net Asset Classifications and Underwater Endowments

Affirming the proposed revisions in the ASU for net asset classifications, the board proposal would require two classes of net assets. Gone would be temporarily restricted and permanently restricted net asset classifications dating from FAS 117, replaced with a single class – net assets with donor restrictions.

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>> Learn more with the Not-for-Profit Interest Group!

The nature and amounts of donor restrictions would continue to be disclosed either in the notes or on the face of the statement of financial position. The current unrestricted net asset classification would be renamed net assets without donor restrictions.

Also affirmed from the ASU, the nature and amounts of board-designated restrictions within the net assets without donor restrictions classification would be disclosed either in the notes or on the face of the statement of financial position.

Underwater endowments are currently presented within the unrestricted net asset classification. Affirming the approach taking in the proposed ASU, underwater endowments would be combined and shifted to the net assets with donor restrictions classification.

Proposed disclosures for underwater endowments from the ASU were also affirmed. These disclosures include:

FASB Update: Focus on the Not-for-Profit Financial Statements Project

Presented by: FASB Assistant Director Jeffrey Mechanick, CPA

Join the Not-for-Profit Interest Group for a discussion of the latest developments in GAAP that are of interest to not-for-profits – recent ASUs as well as various FASB projects in the pipeline. We'll put special focus on the Not-for-Profit Financial Statements Project.

Thursday, January 14 • 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill
CPE Credit: 2

Register at www.ctcpas.org/register using express code NFP0114.

- The entity's policy whether or not to spend from underwater endowment funds.
- In aggregate, the fair value of the underwater endowment, the original gift(s) or amount(s) to be retained per donor intent or law, and the amount of the deficiencies.

The final net asset classification consideration re-deliberated at the December 11 meeting was how to deal with the expiration of restrictions on net assets used to acquire or construct long-lived assets. When there are no explicit donor instructions, the board affirmed using the placed-in-service approach.

Work continues on the note disclosure concerning an entity's liquidity and financial availability. The board has asked staff to identify an approach to report qualitative liquidity and liquidity risk information, and alternative methods to report such quantitative information.

Other items to be re-deliberated in phase one include:

- Presentation of expenses – both by nature and an analysis of an entity's expenses by function and nature.
- The netting of external and direct internal investment expenses against investment returns including disclosure of netted investment expenses.
- Enhanced disclosures about cost allocations.
- Improvement to disclosures by those not-for-profit entities that choose to present an operating measure.

The FASB's goal is to wrap up phase one by mid-2016. Phase two will then begin with no end date set at this time.

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CTCPA New & Young Professionals to Watch

New and Young Professionals Cabinet Chair Mitch Insero (back) presents 2015 New and Young Professionals to Watch awards to (from left) Ross Riskin, Kate Donovan, and Tessa Jordan at Mingling & Merriment: The New and Young Professionals Holiday Party.

Meet the Class of 2015!

In this third annual CTCPA New and Young Professionals to Watch feature, we're introducing you to three up-and-comers, aged 35 and younger, who have set themselves apart as emerging leaders in the accounting profession.

Following a call for nominations this fall, a panel of accounting professionals selected these go-getters based on professional or workplace contributions, community service, and CTCPA involvement.

Winners were recognized at the eighth annual Mingling & Merriment New and Young Professionals Holiday Party at the Society Room of Hartford on December 10. (See page 20 for more about the event.)

The Selection Panel

Selection of the 2015 New and Young Professionals to Watch was made by a blind review of written nominations by a panel of accounting professionals. Thank you to our panelists!



Brad Kronstat Bergantino
Agways



Susan Martinelli
RSM US



Patricia Poli
Fairfield University



Mary Wisenski Fiondella,
Milone & LaSaracina

▶▶ Ross Riskin



Ross A. Riskin, CPA/PFS, CCPS

Assistant Professor of Accounting and Finance –
Albertus Magnus College, New Haven

Vice President – Riskin & Riskin, PC, Orange

Managing Member – Riskin Advisory, LLC, Orange

>**The aspect of my work that I find the most challenging is:** creating new ways to add value or enhance the services I provide to clients. I am constantly reading and learning about new technologies, regulations, and planning opportunities so that I can stay ahead of the competition and be a good resource for my clients throughout the year.

>**The aspect of my work that I find the most fun is:** the one-on-one interaction. Seeing the lightbulb turn on for a client when I explain a particular tax planning strategy or helping students finally grasp an accounting concept they have been struggling with is worth all the hard work.

>**My advice to people starting out in the accounting profession is:** don't let the expectations of others limit you. Instead, let your passion and drive motivate you to accomplish things people never expected you could. Remember that success does not have an age requirement.

>**Something people would be surprised to know about me is:** I am an avid musician and enjoy singing and playing guitar, piano, and the drums in my spare time.

>**The app or website I can't live without is:** LinkedIn.

>**My favorite quote is:** "There is no passion to be found playing small – in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living."
Nelson Mandela

"Don't let the expectations of others limit you. Instead, let your passion and drive motivate you to accomplish things people never expected you could."

Ross Riskin's bio reads like one of a person twice his age. He's not only vice president of Riskin & Riskin, PC, a public accounting and advisory firm he runs with his father, CPA **Robert Riskin**, he also started his own college and education financial planning firm to combine his tax and financial planning expertise with his interest in helping students find their "best fit" school.

"I am proud to showcase my entrepreneurial spirit and bridge the gap between the services that are offered by most financial advisors and guidance counselors today," Riskin explained.

In addition to being a CPA/PFS (Personal Financial Specialist), Riskin is one of the only professional advisors in the state (and one of only 500 in the country) who holds the Certified College Planning Specialist (CCPS) designation and specializes in working with families, financial advisors, accountants, and attorneys to

provide college financial planning services.

As if that weren't enough, Riskin can also be found bringing his real-world experience to the classroom as an assistant professor of accounting and finance at Albertus Magnus College.

Riskin has published an e-book on Amazon.com entitled *Winning: How to Succeed in an Online Graduate Program* and has been quoted in media outlets including *Forbes*, *Financial Advisor* magazine, the National Financial Educators Council, Staples.com, and the Home of Wealth Minimalist Lifestyle Blog.

Riskin frequently puts his expertise to good use, speaking at College Summit events to help promote the importance



Riskin with his fiancé at a favorite getaway location, San Francisco. "The food, weather, people, and scenery will always keep me coming back to this vibrant city," he explained.

of higher education to New Haven-area high school students. He also carves out time to visit his alma mater, Fairfield University, to speak at Beta Alpha Psi meetings and presented a session on college financial planning at the recent Fairfield University Accounting Is My Major (AIM) program (learn more about AIM on page 22 of this issue).

▶ Kate Donovan



Katherine Donovan, CPA

Senior Audit Associate –
Whittlesey & Hadley, P.C., Hartford

- >The aspect of my work that I find the most challenging is: time/job management.
- >The aspect of my work that I find the most fun is: recognizing patterns to find solutions.
- >If I weren't a CPA, I would be: a photographer.
- >My first job was: an apparel associate at Dick's Sporting Goods.
- >My advice to people starting out in the accounting profession is: use the 15-minute rule. When you get stuck on something, try figuring it out yourself first, but if you're still stuck after 15 minutes, either move on to the next task or ask for help.
- >Something people would be surprised to know about me is: I still play soccer year-round in different adult coed leagues.
- >The app or website I can't live without is: Facebook/Pinterest.
- >My favorite quote is: "A smooth sea never made a skillful sailor."
- >The word that best describes me is: driven.
- >The most interesting/adventurous thing I've ever done was: jumping off the *Jaws* bridge on Martha's Vineyard last summer.
- >At Karaoke Night I'd sing: Britney Spears or Miranda Lambert.

"Use the 15-minute rule. When you get stuck on something, try figuring it out yourself first, but if you're still stuck after 15 minutes, either move on to the next task or ask for help."

Whittlesey & Hadley Senior Audit Associate **Kate Donovan's** nomination form mentioned that her picture is in virtually every edition of *Connecticut CPA* magazine. A quick look back confirmed that she has, in fact, appeared in each 2015 issue, a testament to her involvement and enthusiasm in CTCPA programs and events.

As secretary of the CTCPA New and Young (NYP) Professionals Cabinet, Donovan is a champion for NYP events, engaging her colleagues to get involved in everything from charity walks and drives to happy hours and sporting events, even serving as captain of the firm's NYP charity kickball tournament team. In 2015, she became a member of the CTCPA's 30-member Advisory Council, helping provide feedback and guidance to the Board of Directors.

Donovan's community involvement doesn't end with the CTCPA. Her volunteer resume includes extensive work with Hartford Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs (HYPE) as a member of its Community Involvement Commit-

tee, serving as her firm's HYPE team community service chair and team co-captain, and helping plan programs including the annual Tee It Up for Charity event, Tons of Toys drive, and more. She also serves on the audit committee of Connecticut Humanities.

In the office, Donovan specializes in nonprofit, pension, and real estate clients, and has quickly earned a reputation for high-quality work and using technology to increase efficiency.

"Kate has taken initiative from day one at Whittlesey & Hadley, seeking out opportunities for additional responsibilities," said Whittlesey & Hadley Manager **Tom Wood**.

Donovan is a significant contributor to the firm's new hire on-boarding process and presents technical issues at department meetings across all of the firm's offices.



Donovan recently took up running 5ks, including last year's Rugged Maniac Obstacle Race, pictured above.

Donovan has accounting in her blood; her parents **Cynthia** and **Sean** are both CTCPA members. In fact, she spoke about her journey into the family profession at the New CPA Certificate Ceremony last January.

Donovan also shows off her creative streak as a part-time photographer, capturing families, weddings, engagements, and newborns with her Canon T5i camera.

▶▶ Tessa Jordan



Tessa Jordan, CPA

Manager –
Nicola, Yester & Company, P.C., Glastonbury

- > **The aspect of my work that I find the most challenging is:** finding the time in the day to accomplish everything I set out to do that morning.
- > **The aspect of my work that I find the most fun is:** that every day is unpredictable. I come into work with an idea of how my day is going to go and it almost always turns out differently. I love public accounting.
- > **If I weren't a CPA, I would be:** an event planner.
- > **My first job was:** cashier at Tri-Town Foods in Colchester.
- > **My advice to people starting out in the accounting profession is:** know how valuable you are to the profession. Your ideas are powerful – don't be afraid to share them.
- > **When I'm not at work you can find me:** planning! Usually for the next vacation or decorating our house ...
- > **The app or website I can't live without is:** Pinterest.
- > **My favorite quote is:** "There's no shortage of remarkable ideas, what's missing is the will to execute them." *Seth Godin*
- > **The word that best describes me is:** exuberant.
- > **At Karaoke Night I'd sing:** Janis Joplin's "Me and Bobby McGee."

*"Know how valuable you are to the profession.
Your ideas are powerful – don't be afraid to share them."*

Tessa Jordan is a go-to mentor for staff accountants in her office. A manager specializing in construction, retail, healthcare, and other closely held businesses at Nicola Yester, she supervises and advises four staff-level accountants. Jordan and another manager in the firm were responsible for developing a new staff training/orientation program that was rolled out this fall.

"Tessa understands that the success of our firm is all about helping the staff in the firm grow to be successful," said firm partner **Steve Prigionieri**.

Jordan also played a key role in helping develop the firm's WOW Committee, a select group of individuals promoting holiday, wellness, and firm morale events. She is an in-house expert on QuickBooks-related client concerns as she is certified as a QuickBooks Pro Advisor.

Jordan's leadership continues outside the office, where she is a member of Hartford Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs (HYPE) and its Community Involvement Committee, helping to organize charitable events benefitting the Greater Hartford area. She is also a member of the Glastonbury Chamber of Commerce and has volunteered for the Channel 3 Kids Camp.

Jordan also trades in her laptop for a hard hat as a volunteer at Habitat for Humanity builds and was selected to be a member of the Associated Building and Contractors Emerging Leaders Group.

This fall, Jordan took to the CTCPA Education Center as a firm interviewer during the Interview Day event. She also leads her firm's collection efforts during the New and Young Professionals annual charity drives, collecting books, coats, and more to help those less fortunate.



Jordan operates an excavator at the Connecticut Associated Building and Contractors Construction Pro Rodeo. She was a volunteer at the event, which exposed more than 1,500 high school students to careers in construction.



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2016 CPE Calendar

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1/4	Advanced Individual Income Tax Workshop	AIITW-A	Trumbull	8	\$320/\$285	12/21/2015
1/5	Advanced Individual Income Tax Workshop	AIITW-B	Plantsville	8	\$295/\$260	12/22/2015
1/6-8	Professional Staff Growth: Level 1	PSG1	Rocky Hill	24	\$595/\$560	12/23/2015
1/7	Advanced Corporate Income Tax Workshop	ACITW	Plantsville	8	\$295/\$260	12/24/2015
1/14-15	Federal Income Tax Update	FITU	Rocky Hill	16	\$430/\$395	12/31/2015
1/19	The Complete Guide to the Preparation of Form 1041	1041-B	Rocky Hill	8	\$295/\$260	1/5/2016
1/20	Maximizing Your Social Security Benefits (Afternoon Session)	SSR4	Rocky Hill	4	\$160/\$140	1/6/2016
1/20	Taking Your Medicine: Healthcare in 2015 (Morning Session)	OBC4	Rocky Hill	4	\$160/\$140	1/6/2016
1/20	The Complete Guide to the Preparation of Form 1041	1041-C	Norwalk	8	\$310/\$275	1/6/2016
1/21	Effective and Efficient Senior-Level Review of Individual Tax Returns	ERTW	Rocky Hill	8	\$295/\$260	1/7/2016

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

Date	Starts	Ends	Title	Express Code	Member/Nonmember	CPE Hours
January						
1/11	9 a.m.	11 a.m.	Recent Tax Developments Which Could Affect Your Company	CPAX2532	\$79/\$104	2
1/11	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	The Best S Corporation, Limited Liability, and Partnership Update Course by Surgent	BCPE0111	\$219/\$319	8
1/11	10 a.m.	12 p.m.	Guide to Email, Record Retention, Destruction	CPAX2528	\$79/\$104	2
1/11	11 a.m.	1 p.m.	Excel Reporting Series: Best Practices Before Final Save	CPAX2527	\$79/\$104	2
1/11	12 p.m.	2 p.m.	Affordable Care Act Update: What Your Company Needs to Know!	CPAX2526	\$79/\$104	2
1/11	1 p.m.	3 p.m.	Live Video Interview with Ex-CPA Embezzler Chuck Gallagher	CPAX2529	\$79/\$104	2
1/11	1 p.m.	3 p.m.	Surgent's Monthly Tax Update	TUJM0111	\$89/\$114	2
1/11	2 p.m.	4 p.m.	2015 Technology Update	CPAX2525	\$79/\$104	2
1/11	3 p.m.	5 p.m.	Social Security and Spousal Benefits	CPAX2533	\$79/\$104	2
1/11	4 p.m.	6 p.m.	Live Video Interview with Fraud Expert Kathy Phelps	CPAX2530	\$79/\$104	2
1/11	5 p.m.	7 p.m.	Microsoft Office 365: What You Should Know	CPAX2531	\$79/\$104	2
1/12	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Advanced Technical Tax Forms Training – LLCs, S Corporations, and Partnerships	ATFB0112	\$219/\$310	8
1/12	9 a.m.	11 a.m.	Excel Reporting Series: Creating KPI Dashboards	CPAX2534	\$79/\$104	2
1/12	10 a.m.	12 p.m.	Live Video Interview with Embezzler Amy Wilson	CPAX2536	\$79/\$104	2
1/12	11 a.m.	1 p.m.	S Corporations: Elections and Form 2553	CPAX2539	\$79/\$104	2
1/12	12 p.m.	4 p.m.	Outlook: Manage Your Email with Maximum Efficiency	CPAX2538	\$158/\$208	4
1/12	1 p.m.	3 p.m.	Fraud: 10 Biggest Risks for Small and Mid-Sized Entities	CPAX2535	\$79/\$104	2
1/12	2 p.m.	4 p.m.	Small GAAP: AICPA Private Company Financial Reporting Standards	CPAX2540	\$79/\$104	2
1/12	3 p.m.	5 p.m.	Live Video Interview with White Collar Criminal Mark Morze	CPAX2537	\$79/\$104	2
1/13	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Advanced Technical Tax Forms Training – Form 1040 Issues	ATFI0113	\$219/\$310	8
1/13	9 a.m.	11 a.m.	MS PowerPoint: Advanced Techniques for Better Presentations	CPAX2543	\$79/\$104	2
1/13	10 a.m.	12 p.m.	Asset Protection Strategies	CPAX2541	\$79/\$104	2
1/13	11 a.m.	1 p.m.	New Ethics Requirements with Past NASBA Chair Gaylen Hansen	CPAX2544	\$79/\$104	2
1/13	12 p.m.	2 p.m.	Outlook: The Beginner's Guide to the Power of Outlook	CPAX2545	\$79/\$104	2
1/13	1 p.m.	3 p.m.	Trusts: Accounting and Taxation	CPAX2547	\$79/\$104	2
1/13	2 p.m.	4 p.m.	Ethics Interview: Heinz Ickert, CFE Exposes CPA's Misconduct	CPAX2542	\$79/\$104	2

Ready to register?

Go to www.ctcpas.org/register, enter the express code to find your course, and register!



Stay sharp.



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.

Valuation of Companies with Negative Earnings: A Practical Approach Tuesday, February 9

Presented by: **Gregory Guay**, Principal,
Stellar Ventures Merchant Banking



Technology Breakfast Roundtables

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

CPE credit not available.

Thursday, January 21

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

Thursday, February 18

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

Thursday, March 17

Riverdale Diner, Shelton • 8:00 a.m.

>> Interest Group Meetings

www.ctcpas.org/interestgroups

Not-for-Profit Organizations Interest Group

CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill
Thursday, January 14
Program: 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
CPE Credit: 2

FASB Update: Focus on Not-for-Profit Financial Statements Project

Presented by: **Jeffrey Mechanick**, CPA, Assistant Director, Financial Accounting Standards Board

Federal Income Taxation Interest Group

CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill
Thursday, January 14
Registration, Cocktails, Hors d'Oeuvres: 5:30 p.m.
Program: 6:00 - 7:40 p.m. Networking: 7:40 - 8:00 p.m.
CPE Credit: 2

Dealing with Foreign Assets for Small Businesses and Professional Practices

Presented by: **Daniel L. Gottfried**, Esq., Partner, Hinckley, Allen & Synder; **Eric L. Green**, Esq., Partner, Green & Sklarz; and **Steven J. Kaplan**, CPA, Esq., Kaplan Global Tax Advisor

IRS Working Together Conference Convenes IRS, Tax Preparers



A sold-out crowd of more than 120 CPAs and enrolled agents convened at the CTCPA Education Center in November for an inside look at the inner workings of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The one-of-a-kind IRS Working Together Conference featured multiple panel sessions made up of IRS personnel and tax practitioners. The program promotes the positive, ongoing relationship between the tax practitioner community and the IRS. "Great selection of topics," said one participant. "An open forum to discuss issues with IRS was satisfying," added another.



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Pr!me Kicks Off Programming for Professionals 35+

Members laced up their bowling shoes (some of them brought from home!) for the inaugural Pr!me event for professionals 35 and older at Revolutions Bowling and Lounge in South Windsor. Bowlers enjoyed food, fun, and friendly competition at the high-tech, upscale alley. (See the back cover of this issue for more on Pr!me's next event, a 9Round Workout Day for Charity co-sponsored by the New and Young Professionals Group.)



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Join
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Pr!me is a brand-new CTCPA interest group charged with creating programming and events for professionals 35 and older.

We're looking for volunteers to help us develop fun programs that support worthwhile causes.

Help us do great things while having a really good time!

Join the Pr!me Planning Group at www.ctcpas.org/pr!me



New and Young Professionals Leadership Conference Prepares the Next Generation

The first-ever CTCPA New and Young Professionals Leadership Conference featured sessions on networking, communication, and leadership skills, team building, and identifying strengths to be successful. The day included two breakout tracks, one for new professionals and one for those with several years of experience preparing for a managerial role.



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>> View more photos at www.ctcpas.org/photos.

Mingling & Merriment: The New and Young Professionals Holiday Party

New and young professionals celebrated the season in style at the eighth annual Mingling & Merriment holiday party at the Society Room of Hartford on December 10. The flagship NYP event featured appetizers, wine and beer tastings, a pasta station, a selection of “deconstructed pies” served in glasses, a fun photo booth and formal company photos, and a networking game. Congratulations to game winner **Gabriel Rosado** of CohnReznick, who walked away with a Visa gift card!

CTCPA New and Young Professionals to Watch: **Ross Riskin**, **Kate Donovan**, and **Tessa Jordan** (see page 10 for more).

This year, guests tipped their wine servers (members of the New and Young Professionals Cabinet) for a great cause: the Pajama Program, an organization that donates new pajamas to local children in need, many of whom are waiting and hoping to be adopted.

New and Young Professionals Cabinet Chair **Mitch Insero** formally welcomed partygoers and recognized the 2015

To top off the evening, each attendee went home with a custom-etched mason jar glass.



Thanks to the New and Young Professionals Cabinet!

Special thanks to the New and Young Professionals Cabinet members, who plan the Mingling & Merriment holiday party along with many other events throughout the year.

Pictured back row: (from left) CTCPA Career and Academics Development Coordinator Tyler Losure, Kevin O’Keefe (Evolution1, Inc.), Andrew Cole (Grant Thornton), Kevin Kiss (RSM US), Patrick Ritter (Deloitte), Paul LaBelle (BlumShapiro), Lauren Albert (United Technologies), Kathleen McKeon (Lefurge & Gilbert), and Lana Ensling (CohnReznick). Front row: (from left) Cabinet Chair Mitchell Insero (CohnReznick), Michael Maksymiw (Filomeno & Company), Cabinet Chair-elect Katherine McNair (O’Connor Davies), Joanna Purtell (United Technologies), and Cabinet Secretary Katherine Donovan (Whittlesey & Hadley). Not pictured are Stephanie O’Keefe (ESPN), Donna Figueiredo (PwC), Evan Kalish (Crowe Horwath), Maggie Kish (KPMG), Christopher Marion (Barron, Yanaros & Caruso), Anastasia Muench (Apicella, Testa & Co.), and Katy Showalter (Fiordella, Milone & LaSaracina).



Mingling & Merriment



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Career Moves, LLC

People's United Bank, N.A.

Post University

Robert Half

Roger CPA Review

RSM US LLP

Smith Brothers Insurance

Western New England University

New 'Accounting Is My Major' Events Give High Schoolers a Firsthand Look at College Accounting

CTCPA's popular new Accounting Is My Major (AIM) events were created to give high school students a real, hands-on taste of life as a college accounting major. Held at three colleges around the state, the interactive programs each included a sample college class

led by a professor at the host school, panel discussions on accounting internships and the college experience, a business communication seminar, and more. Students enjoyed complimentary breakfast snacks during registration and lunch courtesy of each host university.



View more photos at www.ctcpas.org/photos.

Post University – October 1



High schoolers work in small groups with Post University student team leaders Cynthia Cruz and Taylor Shirk on a fraud case study taught by Richard Dumont, Academic Program Manager – Accounting and Director, Undergraduate Business Programs (pictured at right in his Peace, Love, Accounting t-shirt).

University of Hartford – October 20



University of Hartford Lecturer in Accounting Kristin Ingram leads students through a sample class on fraud and internal controls.

Fairfield University – November 4



Students participate in a "Make Me Feel Important" exercise led by CTCPA Public Affairs Director Mark Zampino during his business communications seminar at Fairfield University.

CPA Careers Conference Draws More Than 300 High Schoolers

This fall, more than 300 high school students from across the state converged on the University of Connecticut (UConn) for the popular CPA Careers Conference to get a taste of college life and hear from accounting majors and practicing CPAs about why the CPA career path is the way to go.

Following breakfast provided by the University of Connecticut, the students perked up to the sounds of a set by Connecticut's CPA rock band, The Accounting Crows. Volunteer speakers then helped students explore the places the CPA credential can take them, from public accounting to forensics, the music industry, and more. The prize for a good question? An Accounting Crows t-shirt, of course!



Forensic accountant Steve Pedneault wows high schoolers with tales of fraud, embezzlement, and office raids.



Student/new and young professional panelists (from left) Evan Kalish of Crowe Horwath (moderator), Alix Quinn of ESPN, Lauren Reinmann of Crowe Horwath, and UConn accounting major Volodymyr Jatsiv tell students about the importance of internships.



AIM – Post University

President Don Mroz, Ph.D.
 Associate Professor Noelle Taddei
 Academic Program Manager Richard Dumont
 Professor Sharon Huxley
 Joseph Chabot, Admissions
 Linda Kobylarz, Honors Program
 Ronnie Palmer, Athletics
 Dr. Mary Rigali, Career Services
 Christina Billings, Career Services
 Lisa Gaj, Academic Affairs
 Dan Kusaila, Niki Garceau, Alicia Mala, and Leah McQueeney, Crowe Horwath
 Marchant De Villiers, Deloitte
 Sarah Stover, O'Connor Davies
 Michael Weymouth, Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger
 Students Miriam Beran, Nicole Blum, Brandon Cathcart, Cynthia Cruz, John Gibbons, Johanna Rice, Louis Santa Barbara, and Taylor Shirk
 Accounting majors and alumni

AIM – University of Hartford

Dean Martin Roth, Ph.D.
 Chair and Associate Professor Jim Bannister, Ph.D.
 Associate Professor Carl Smith, Ph.D.
 Lecturer in Accounting Kristin Ingram
 Student Landle Cheng
 Kim Phillips, ESPN
 Anastasia Hajek, John Kriscenski, Heather Lavalley, Mary Wisenski, and Enisa Klempic, Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina
 Maegan Garthwaite, CIGNA
 Accounting majors/Beta Alpha Psi members

AIM – Fairfield University

Dean Donald Gibson, Ph.D.
 Professor Dawn Massey, Ph.D.
 Associate Professor Pat Poli, Ph.D.
 Professor JoAnn Drusbosky
 Patricia Pivarnik, School of Business
 Tara Mitchell, Admissions
 Cath Borgman, Career Services
 Ross Riskin, Riskin & Riskin and Riskin Advisory
 Students Allison Campbell, Christina Cardoza, Rachel Corey, Mitchell Gagnon, Joseph Imbriani, Angelica Leventhal, Alexandra Pace, and Matthew Welter
 Beta Alpha Psi/Accounting Club members

Careers Conference – UConn

Instructor-in-Residence Dave Papandria
 Leanne Adams, Accounting Department
 Neema Vaheb, PwC
 Steve Pedneault and Rhiannin Crawford, Forensic Accounting Services
 Evan Kalish and Lauren Reinmann, Crowe Horwath
 Alix Quinn, ESPN
 Volodymyr Jatsiv, UConn Beta Alpha Psi
 The Accounting Crows (Alan Friedman, Reed Risteen, Mike Fortunato, and Mark Zampino)

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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.

Merge into a larger firm – One of the major firms in Connecticut is interested in merging in another practice. We seek a firm that is interested in becoming an integral part of our long-term growth strategy. If you are concerned about obtaining quality staff or about having the resources to achieve maximum success, we could be the place for you. To discuss this, in complete confidence, please contact Drew Andrews, Managing Partner, Whittlesey & Hadley, P.C., 280 Trumbull St., 24th Flr., Hartford, CT 06103, phone: 860-524-4430, or email: aandrews@whcpa.com.

Practices for Sale – Accounting Practice Sales. Shoreline New Haven County CPA grossing \$205K, Hartford CPA grossing \$320,000, and Hartford EA grossing \$70K. For more info, contact Lori Newcomer at 888-277-6040 or LNewcomer@APSLLeader.com. Seller pays brokerage fee.

Reynolds & Rowella LLP, a leading Fairfield County CPA firm, is interested in potential acquisitions of area practices. Our areas of expertise include closely held businesses, high-net-worth individuals, litigation support, audits, and estates and trusts. We pride ourselves on providing quality, proactive solutions and services to our clients, and we are interested in discussing how we may provide solutions for your practice, too. Learn more about us at www.reynoldsrowella.com. Direct, confidential inquiries may be initiated via email to frankr@reynoldsrowella.com.

We are a growing two-partner firm in Fairfield County interested in building the major practice in our area. Accordingly, we are exploring merger or affiliation with another strong firm (or individual). For a confidential discussion, please contact Tony Cirone at Equale & Cirone, LLP by phone at 203-798-2721 or email tcirone@ecllp.com.

Help Wanted

Accountant – Tax – CPA firm seeking individual with 5+ years tax experience to supplement growth. Such person should have the required knowledge to complete the forms: 1120, 1120s, 1065, 1041, 1040, and related schedules. Salary negotiable, benefits included. Kindly forward your resume to: Thomas S. Monterosso, CPA, P.C., 65 Cherry St., Milford, CT 06460, email: thomas.monterosso@snet.net, or fax: 203-876-1690. Thank you.

Risk Management Internal Auditor – Farm Credit East. The position will promote and support the enterprise risk management approach within the Association. Responsibilities include: planning, developing, and implementing the risk management function within Farm Credit East; conduct thorough and accurate audits and special projects, as assigned; strong verbal and written communication skills are required to present audit and special project conclusions and findings. To learn more and apply please visit www.ctcpas.org/FarmCreditEast.

Seasonal Tax Preparer – Part Time. Trumbull CPA, Lacerte user, seeks tax preparer with 3+ years experience preparing individual income tax returns. CPA9511@gmail.com.

Senior Accountant – Guilmartin, DiPiro & Sokolowski, LLC. We are a mid-sized public accounting firm in Middletown and have been offering quality service to our diverse client base for over 40 years. We are seeking to fill key positions on our team. 3+ years of public accounting experience; CPA a plus. Experience in not-for-profit a strong plus. Salary and benefits commensurate with experience. Reply to teresa@gdscpas.com or mail to: Guilmartin, DiPiro & Sokolowski, LLC, 505 Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457 Attn: Teresa Opalacz.

Tax Preparers – Seasonal – Stockwell & Bates LLC. Northern Fairfield County. Must have 2+ years experience in preparing high-net-worth individual tax returns. Fax: 203-270-1061, phone: 203-270-9312, respond online at www.ctcpas.org/StockwellBates.

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Nonmembers: \$1.50 per word

Deadline

10th of the month prior to publication, e.g., December 10 for the January/February issue.

>> Other Career Services

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www.ctcpas.org/InterviewDay

The Guide to Connecticut CPA Employers

www.ctcpas.org/Guide

Online Resume Hub

www.ctcpas.org/Resumes

Per Diem Directory

www.ctcpas.org/PerDiem



Member News

Send your news to Assistant Editor **Caitlin Bailey O'Neill** at caitlinb@ctcpas.org. Head-shot photographs will also be published as space allows.

Newman Appears on WTIC's 'Face Connecticut'



Brian Newman (right), a tax partner at CohnReznick in Hartford, offers year-end tax-planning advice during a taping of host Sam Gingerella's "Face Connecticut" show on WTIC-AM airing December 12. Newman discussed potential extenders legislation, general year-end planning, and identity theft. Are you interested in serving as a CPA media source? Contact CTCPA Public Affairs Director Mark Zampino at markz@ctcpas.org or 860-258-0212.

Ramunni's New England Accordion Museum featured in *Hartford Courant*



CPA Paul Ramunni was recently profiled in the *Hartford Courant* article, "An Accountant's Obsession Becomes New England Accordion Museum." Ramunni runs the museum out of his home on Margaret Lane in Canaan, where he has amassed "more than 400 accordions, flutinas, concertinas and other related artifacts, ephemera and memorabilia, dating from 1820 to the present day," according to the article.

Ramunni finds his accordions online, at garage sales, thrift shops and pawn shops, and from donations. The museum is open by appointment. Learn more at www.newenglandaccordionmuseum.com or read the *Hartford Courant* article at www.ctcpas.org/accordion.

Members in the Media

Joseph Natarelli, Marcum's national construction industry group leader, and **Anirban Basu**, Marcum's chief construction economist, wrote "Just How Severe Are Those Construction Labor Shortages?" for the September/October issue of *Construction Accounting and Taxation*.

Lisa Wills, audit director for Whittlesey & Hadley in Hartford, wrote "Fiduciary duty: A pledge board members must uphold" for the November 9 *Hartford Business Journal*.

Professional Activities



John T. Salemi Jr., a partner in Pratesi, Salemi & Company in West Hartford, was a delegate at CPACONnect's 2015 Roundtable

held recently in San Diego.

Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte & Sterczala recently celebrated 25 years in business with a gala party for 100 clients, employees, and friends at Shelton's Il Palio restaurant. DHL&S was founded in Bridgeport in 1990 as an entrepreneurial firm serving mostly local clients. Since then, it has grown to a staff of more than 35 people and serves small, medium, and large companies as well as individuals throughout Connecticut and the region.

Public Service



Benjamin Chi-anese, a manager at Equale & Cirone in Bethel, was recently re-elected to his sixth term as a member of the

Danbury City Council.

Mark A. Semmelrock, principal of Realized Financial Solutions in Plainville, was elected to the Board of Directors for the Connecticut Yankee Council of the Boy Scouts of America and also appointed to chair its audit committee for the 2015-2016 term.



Welcome, New Members!

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

New Students

Bridgewater State University
Kevin D. Kaplan

Capital Community College
Denyz O. Alvarez

Central Connecticut State University

Edwin J. Rivera
Daneisha O. Thompson
Safwan Azmat
Devin Crowl
Ivan Bojic
Jonathan Esteves
Matthew Braun
Olivia S. Brady
Nicholas M. Stevens
Stephanie K. Jackie
Jennifer Rodriguez
Krista L. Ellis
Alicia T. Torres-Onisto
Kimberly A. Agnes

Eastern Connecticut State University

Taylor Roberts
Melissa A. Lehtonen
Victoria Porter
Christopher T. Brown
Thomas J. Valencis
Margaret Buqnacui
Calvin Felice
Coralis Lozano
Carlita Cross
Stephen Brousseau
Ketam Patel
Jimmy Yuen
Anuj Raval
Rachelle LaFlamme
Justin Stannard
Carissa Riccio
Jon Bosta
Lisa Longobardi

Colorado Technical University
Estevan R. Texidor

Fairfield University
Jessica L. Broadbent
Li Ma

High Point University
Kevin R. Poplawski

Housatonic Community College

Heidi Bosque
Mona Khafaga
Christina Rossi-Schede
Sara A. Gernhard

New York University
Jasmine E. Henry

Norwalk Community College

Prasanta K. Nath

Post University
Inez M. Infante

Quinnipiac University

Omar Zaigirdar
James Donovan
Ashley LaRiviere
Maja Laska
Branden Hollinghurst
Jack P. Wigglesworth
Lauren Taska
Britni Grohosky

Southern Connecticut State University

Meghan McTeague
Gutierrez L. DeSouza
Jason J. Parker
Hollie Ellis
Kayla Seminoro
Gabrielle Beauchemin
Caila Rainville
Paul Falzone
Kevin M. Kallaway Jr.
Colette N. Bellamy

Three Rivers Community College

Miranda C. Brown
Lydia M. Ortiz

University of Bridgeport
Alisa Kolenovic
Kelvin Rosado Jr.

University of Connecticut

Matthew Olson
Anna K. Fede
Larisa Virvo
Sam Sherer
Max Sherer
Lihui Pang
Kyle Shuckorow
Paulo Dias
Adam Witek
Nichols Aguilor
Matthew R. Bradford
Ginelle Gancoss
Cody J. Smith
Andrew L. Valentine
Juefang Zhang
Chukyan Li
Lihui Pang
Shing Yan Li
Catherine R. Haggett
Yi Gong
David Frenette
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Western Connecticut State University

Jaime A. Sandoval
Dalton Z. Perreault-Osborne
Sarah Chapman
Daniel Elysee Jr.
Lynette Rodriguez
Karol Sanchez

CTCPA Mourns Loss of Oldest Living Member, Henry L. Katz



Henry L. Katz, age 98, passed away on November 6. At the time of his death he was the oldest living CTCPA member, having joined on October 2, 1941.

Mr. Katz served CTCPA as a member of the Board of Directors and as chair

of the Nominating, Professional Ethics, Audit, and Financial Literacy committees. He was recipient of the first Public Service Award in 1980.

He graduated valedictorian of Central High School in Bridgeport and held an A.S. from the Junior College of Connecticut (now the University of Bridgeport) and a B.S., magna cum laude, from New York University. For two years he worked as a bank examiner before joining the firm of Milton H. Friedberg, now known as Friedberg, Smith & Co., where he was a principal partner.

His community service work included leadership roles with the United Way Campaign, Bridgeport Area Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport Area Foundation, Jewish Community Center, United Jewish Council, and B'nai Brith Abraham Lodge.

Memorial contributions may be made to Jewish Senior Services/The Jewish Home, Bridgeport Hospital Foundation, SVA Joan Katz Scholarship, the Judaic Studies program at Fairfield University, or an organization of one's choice.

New Certified Members

Eugene L. Esares
Eugene L. Esares, CPA

Miryam Wisnicki
BlumShapiro

Kevin M. Cirillo
Women's Health USA

Daniel R. Hanusch
Laticrete International Inc.

Jason Lu
KPMG

Linda J. Malarkey
Reynolds & Rowella

John F. Muldoon
BlumShapiro

Nathaniel Dondorful-Amos

David J. Gagnon
First Financial Planners

Theresa Glod
Whittlesey & Hadley

Michael Pezzullo
CohnReznick

Amy J. Brown
Ability Beyond Disability, Inc

Kevin M. Freyer
CohnReznick

Anthony R. Aulenti
Tri-State Envelope Corporation

Stacy L. Koehler
Goldblatt Bokoff

Leah C. Manz
RBC Bearings, Inc.

Yong H. Park
Marcum

New Associate Members

Zachary Fienemann
Shein, Cohen, Palmer & Co.

Timothy A. Burgess
Harvey & Horowitz

Tiffany Williams
CohnReznick

Tasha Kay
CohnReznick

Regene Abandula
BlumShapiro

Olivia M. DeRosa
BlumShapiro

Nicholas Potolicchio
BlumShapiro

Nicholas P. Neptin
BlumShapiro

Michelle Schreyer
Bedard & Company

Michael Thomas
BlumShapiro

Michael A. Cipollone
BlumShapiro

Kelly J. Smith
Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger

Kathryn A. Dobbins
BlumShapiro

Jason Donofrio
Kircaldie, Randall & McNab

Jake R. Gawlak
CohnReznick

Grace N. Musiitwa
BlumShapiro

Gabriel G. Carino IV
KPMG

Darren C. Felder

C. M. Dobbins
Piasecki & Company, CPAs

Andrew Thompson
BlumShapiro

Alyssa M. Selmquist
BlumShapiro



Firm Moves and Promotions

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



Mindyleigh Vail

Nicola Yester in Glastonbury promoted **Mindyleigh Vail** and **Tessa Jordan** to manager. Vail works with clients in the manufacturing and construction industries as well as with nonprofit organizations. Jordan works with clients in the construction, manufacturing, hospitality, and medical practice industries.



Tessa Jordan



Linda Malarkey

Reynolds & Rowella hired **Linda Malarkey** as a senior associate. She has more than 15 years of accounting experience and is former treasurer of the Community Culinary School of Northwest Connecticut.



Christine Gromala

Bailey Murphy + Scarano in Branford promoted **Christine Gromala** to partner. She has extensive expertise in providing tax services to individual and corporate clients as well as trusts and estates. The firm also promoted **Steven Moalli** to director of auditing and accounting. He has specialized exposure in manufacturing, start-ups, credit unions, nonprofits, and a number of other industries.



Steven Moalli

Whittlesey & Hadley in Hartford hired **Theresa Glod** as an audit senior. Her practice focus is in nonprofit and employee benefit plans.

Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte & Sterczala in Shelton appointed **Peter Tomaino** to tax principal. Tomaino provides consulting services to high-net-worth individuals and to companies ranging from small family-owned businesses to larger publicly traded enterprises in a variety of industries.



Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte & Sterczala Managing Principal Eric Hendlin (right) congratulates Peter Tomaino (left) on his selection as tax principal of the firm.



Member Snapshots

We're looking for your snapshots of interest to the general Society membership. Items submitted should relate to Connecticut's professional accounting community and will be included as space allows and at the discretion of the editor. Please send your submissions to Managing Editor **Kirsten Piechota** at kirstenp@ctcpas.org.

Reynolds & Rowella Donates \$6,000 to Charity in Recognition of 30th Anniversary



Reynolds & Rowella donated \$6,000 in charitable giving in recognition of its 30th anniversary celebration. Two charities received \$3,000 each: the Freedom Alliance and The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp.

The Freedom Alliance supports military service members and their families. The donation from Reynolds & Rowella will go toward the purchase of a track chair, a specialty wheel chair custom built to the needs of an individual service member.

The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp serves seriously ill children and their families free of charge. In a camp-like setting, children can build ties to a strong community and experience the camaraderie enjoyed by summer campers despite their medical conditions.

BlumShapiro Thanksgiving Campaign Provides More Than 2,000 Meals



Pictured at a bagging event to prepare packages of Thanksgiving food are (from left) BlumShapiro Chief Marketing Officer Tom DeVitto, Christian Community Action (CCA) volunteer Jerome Daniels, News 8 Anchor Keith Kountz, CCA Executive Director Reverend Bonita Grubbs, BlumShapiro Shelton Office Managing Partner John Zinno, and BlumShapiro Manager Patrick Dunleavy.

BlumShapiro volunteers gathered recently to help prepare packages of Thanksgiving food items for more than 2,000 seniors and families served by Christian Community Action (CCA) in New Haven. The month-long program, the BlumShapiro Thanksgiving Food Basket Campaign for Christian Community Action, included food donations, monetary contributions, and the November bagging event.

BlumShapiro's Jeans for Charity Program Supports Interval House



Pictured at this year's contribution to Interval House are (from left) BlumShapiro Firm Managing Partner Joe Kask, Interval House Executive Director Cecile Enrico, and BlumShapiro Chief Operating Officer and former Firm Managing Partner Carl Johnson.

BlumShapiro recently presented a check for more than \$4,000 to Interval House as a result of the firm's employee giving through its Jeans for Charity Program. BlumShapiro holds Jeans for Charity Days on Fridays. Over the course of the year, the program supports a variety of organizations doing good work in the community. Interval House is dedicated to providing services to prevent and break the cycle of family and intimate partner abuse.

Pue, Chick, Leibowitz & Blezard Shows Off Halloween Spirit



Staffers at Pue, Chick, Leibowitz & Blezard in Vernon provided their clients with a treat this Halloween, coming to the office in an array of fun costumes!

Borgida & Company Holds Annual Food Drive



Borgida & Company partner Tom Scanlon stands beside food collected during the firm's 10th annual Fall Food Drive.

Borgida & Company in Manchester recently held its 10th annual Fall Food Drive to help the Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC) Food Pantry. The firm raised about 1,500 pounds of food along with \$1,600 in donations.

Ricciardelli Honored by Associated General Contractors



Frank Ferrucci (right), first vice president, Associated General Contractors of Connecticut, honors Ralph Ricciardelli.

Ralph L. Ricciardelli, managing partner and director of construction services with Burzenski & Company in East Haven, received the Service Provider of the Year award from the Associated General Contractors of Connecticut at its annual 2015 Construction Industry Recognition Awards and Dinner in October.

According to the call for nominations, “in business as in life, skill, integrity and responsibility are the qualities that make the difference.”

Ricciardelli is also an active member of the Construction Financial Management Association, Home Builders & Remodelers of New Haven County, and Independent Electrical Contractors of New England, as well as various business and civic organizations including the Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce, Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce, East Haven Chamber of Commerce, and the North Haven Board of Tax Assessment Review.

Member Snapshots continued on next page >>

The Original CPA Rock Band Celebrates 20 Years



Twenty years ago, Accounting Crows (then known as “The Audit Brothers”) band members **Mark Zampino**, **John Mezzanotte** (later succeeded by **Reed Risteen**), **Alan Friedman**, and **Mike Fortunato** rocked the mic at the CPA Careers Conference. After 20 years of classic rock, the Crows proved that they’re still going strong at the 2015 CPA Careers Conference at the University of Connecticut this fall.

Pictured are current members (from left) Mark Zampino (keyboards, guitar, vocals) of CTCPA, Mike Fortunato (drums) of Orthopaedic Health Services, Reed Risteen (bass, vocals) of BlumShapiro, and Alan Friedman (lead guitar, vocals) of Friedman, Kannenberg & Company.



CohnReznick Volunteers for Hartford-Area Not-for-Profits

CohnReznick joined with Lincoln Financial and the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA) in November for the Metro Center turkey drive to benefit Foodshare. The three companies came together to collect “turkeys and thirties (\$30)” to benefit Foodshare’s annual drive.



CohnReznick volunteers with Foodshare President James Arena DeRosa (center with black jacket).



(from left) CBIA President and Chief Executive Officer Joe Brennan, CohnReznick Regional Managing Partner New England Ed Kindelan, Foodshare President James Arena DeRosa, and Lincoln Financial Foundation Program Officer Marlene Ferreira display some of the day's donations.

In addition, October 19–23 marked the first CohnReznick Cares week, helping Hartford-area not-for-profit organizations. Teams could be found throughout the week at the South Park Inn, The Salvation Army, the Boys and Girls Club of Hartford, and the Girl Scouts of Connecticut helping with projects ranging from painting rooms and cleaning to assisting with plans for the holiday’s Angel Tree Program and preparation of an annual haunted house. CohnReznick team members also donated clothing and school supplies to Compass Youth Collaborative and the South Park Inn.



CAS Trains CPAs for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program



CAS President Rick Merrick (standing, left) of Merrick & Associates in Manchester and CAS board member John Purtill of Purtill & Company in Cheshire train two dozen volunteers to work as site coordinators at CAS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites.

Community Accounting Services (CAS), CTCPA’s community service arm, recently presented a session to train volunteer site coordinators for the organization’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. This year the group expects to serve 1,500 families through its partnership with the United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut, The Village for Families & Children, and other community organizations.

>> Volunteer This Tax Season Through CAAS!

Please join us and our team of dedicated volunteers who really rock. It’s the best way we know to make a direct connection to lift our community and make it stronger. CAS is currently seeking volunteer site coordinators and financial coaches for VITA clients. For details, contact CAS President Rick Merrick at rick@communityaccountingaid.org.



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9Round Workout Day for Charity

Saturday, January 9 • 12:30 - 5:00 p.m.

9Round Middletown

Drop in anytime for your 30-minute workout.

This charity event to benefit Action for Healthy Kids is co-sponsored by the CTCPA New and Young Professionals Group and Prime. Try out the unique 9Round kickboxing workout while the facility is open exclusively to CTCPA members and their guests.

Cost: \$10 per person.
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Please pre-register at
www.ctcpas.org/9round.

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9Round Workout Day for Charity