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Layoffs Reach State Board of Accountancy

I regret to inform the CTCPA membership that effective June 2, 2016, the remaining State Board of Accountancy staff members, Legal Counsel and Acting Executive Director **Sonia Worrell Asare** and License and Application Analyst **Stephanie Sheff**, received layoff notices from the state of Connecticut. The state's most recent biennial budget relocated the State Board from the Office of the Secretary of the State to the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP), without staff, as of July 1, 2016.

Sonia joined the State Board of Accountancy staff in May 2012 as staff attorney and became the acting executive director in 2014, when six new members of the State Board were sworn in following the resignations of all but two members in late 2013. Stephanie was a long-time staff member of the State Board.

The state's most recent biennial budget relocated the State Board from the Office of the Secretary of the State to the Department of Consumer Protection, without staff, as of July 1.

I know I speak for all of us here at the Society, both the volunteer leadership and the staff, when I say that Sonia and Stephanie proved themselves tremendous assets to the State Board and its proceedings.

Sonia ushered in an even more proactive era of communication from and with the State Board of Accountancy, from promoting interaction between the staffs of the profession's regulatory agency and its professional membership organization to actively reaching out to the public to explain the role and functions of the State Board. Sonia and Stephanie – and their very valuable contributions to Connecticut's public accounting community – will be missed.

We have already engaged both the commissioner and deputy commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection in direct conversation regarding the relocation of the State Board, and these talks continue. Both DCP and the Connecticut Society of CPAs share the concern and desire that Connecticut's CPAs receive the high level of service they deserve from their state regulatory agency. We are moving forward in good faith and we are optimistic and encouraged that this will be a smooth and complete transition, although it will take some time.

We thank you for your understanding and patience as we move forward.



lat

Art Renner, Executive Director

CTCPA Assessing Impact of New DOL Overtime Rule

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) on May 18 released a final rule amending the requirements for overtime pay that dramatically increases the salary thresholds for exemption for CPA firms and other businesses in Connecticut and throughout the nation.

Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), employees who work more than 40 hours in a week are entitled to overtime pay, unless they meet the requirements of one of the wage level and duties tests. The new rule doubles the minimum salary threshold from \$23,660 to \$47,476 annually and raises the exemption level for what are considered "highly compensated employees" from \$100,000 to \$134,004 annual salary. DOL estimates that this rule change will directly impact some 4.2 million workers across the United States not currently eligible for overtime and may reclassify an additional 8.9 million salaried workers as nonexempt.

Businesses nationwide are assessing the effects of the new overtime-pay rule, with many companies saying the regulation will lead them to reduce workers' hours, cut benefits, or limit flexible office arrangements. Companies will have until December 1, 2016 to make determinations on which employees to reclassify as nonexempt and implement the changes.

In Connecticut, CPA firms and clients alike are expressing concern about the rule's impact.

"The rule may be well-intentioned, but is likely to have unintended consequences," said CTCPA Executive Director **Art Renner**. "Expanding the pool of overtime-eligible employees will force firms and companies to resort to cost-saving measures to maintain current payroll levels. The Labor Department received 270,000 public comments on its proposal, many from employers who believe the rule will force them to cap workers' hours, slow the hiring of full-time employees,



and shift salaried workers to hourly schedules."

While most accounting firms will work to absorb the additional payroll expectations, the overtime rule will have a significant negative impact on smaller accounting firms. Of particular concern are the impacts the changes have on major decisions such as hiring, expansion, benefits. and the ability to offer flexible working arrangements. Further, DOL does not take into consideration the seasonal nature of the accounting profession, nor the numerous small firms that are unable to increase the salaries of their employees to comply with the exemption threshold, while also meeting the demands of tax season each year.

The CTCPA will work with the AICPA to urge Congress to intervene in the process so that regulations governing overtime pay reflect the evolving workplace in a manner that is not economically counterproductive.

AICPA, CIMA Members Overwhelmingly Approve Proposal to Create New Association



Members of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) have

overwhelmingly approved a proposal to create a new, international accounting association that will integrate operations of both organizations while preserving the existing membership bodies.

Voting concluded in separate AICPA and CIMA membership ballots on June 16 and a supermajority of members who voted from both organizations endorsed the proposal. The AICPA ballot passed 86.5 percent to 13.5 percent, according to independent tabulator Survey and Ballot Systems. CIMA members endorsed the proposal 89.7 percent to 10.3 percent, according to their independent tabulator Electoral Reform Services.

The new association will represent more than 600,000 current and future accounting professionals and will raise the profile of public and management accounting in the United States and abroad. It will enhance resources, provide more market insights, and have a stronger advocacy voice. AICPA members will get these benefits and automatic dual membership in the AICPA and new association as part of their regular AICPA dues, which will continue to be set and adjusted in line with historic norms.

The AICPA will continue its partnership with state societies to promote, protect, and grow the CPA.

Fifty-two CPA societies passed resolutions in support of the member ballot proposal, including Connecticut.

The new association is expected to launch in 2017. Additional details will be provided as they become available in the coming months.



2015-2016 CTCPA President Bruce Blasnik addresses the packed meeting room at the CTCPA Education Center.



2016-2017 CTCPA President Robert Boudreau (left) presents the Past President's Gavel Plaque to 2015-2016 CTCPA President Bruce Blasnik.

"Refreshingly different."



"Most enjoyable - and useful!"

CTCPA Annual Meeting

Monday, May 23, 2016 marked an exciting new chapter for the Connecticut Society of CPAs: a streamlined annual meeting and an open invitation to an interactive Advisory Council meeting.

Congratulations to **Robert Boudreau**, CPA of Buckley, Frame, Boudreau & Company, who took over the CTCPA presidency from **Bruce Blasnik**, CPA of PKF O'Connor Davies, as well as **Mitchell Insero**, CPA of CohnReznick, who received the Jack Brooks Leadership Award for his work with the New and Young Professionals Cabinet (more on page 8).

Trinity College Men's Squash Coach **Paul Assaiante**, who brought his team to a record-breaking 252 consecutive wins, the longest streak in the history of intercollegiate varsity sports, delivered an inspiring keynote address on "Identifying and Facing the Fears that Block Success."

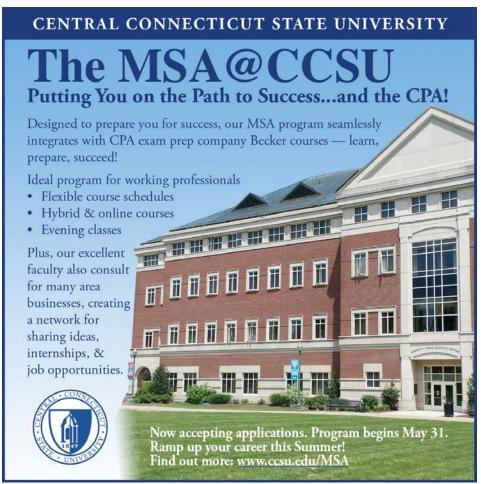
The morning concluded with an interactive Advisory Council meeting led by Advisory Council continuing chair **Mary Wisenski**, CPA of Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina – open to all annual meeting attendees who wished to stay and see what being a member of this leadership group is all about.

The Advisory Council comprises 15 committee/interest group chairs or their designees and 15 members-at-large. The group meets at least three times per year and helps steer the future of the CTCPA and the accounting profession as a whole by counselling and advising the Board of Directors.



Trinity College Men's Squash Coach Paul Assaiante tells participants about lessons learned during his team's record-breaking 252 consecutive wins.





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CTCPA's Phyllis Roche and 2016-2017 CTCPA Secretary Brenden Healy of Whittlesey & Hadley show off the "Art Renner Flag" participants used to flag down Executive Director Renner for questions during the interactive Advisory Council meeting.



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Mitchell Insero Honored with Jack Brooks Leadership Award

Congratulations to Mitchell R. Insero, CPA, a business advisor with CohnReznick in Hartford, who was honored with the 2016 Jack Brooks Leadership Award at the CTCPA Annual Meeting.

The Jack Brooks Leadership Award was created in 2011 to memorialize the inspiration, dedication, and drive for accomplishment that defined former CTCPA Executive Director Jack Brooks.

Mitch was recognized for his outstanding efforts as the first-ever chair of the CTCPA New and Young Professionals Cabinet and a member of the Advisory Council. The New and Young Professionals Cabinet was formed to create a new, more recognizable group of leaders within the CTCPA and to generate more involvement among the younger accountants and CPAs in Connecticut.

"When I think of a committed, dedicated, enthusiastic, passionate member, I think of Mitch," said CTCPA Membership and Academics Manager Alicia Strong. "He is always willing to volunteer his thoughts and time, coming to countless events and sitting on numerous committees."

Under Mitch's two-year term as New and Young Professionals Cabinet chair, the New and Young Professionals Group grew to include hundreds of new and aspiring CPAs and accounting professionals. The group organizes pub-



Mitchell Insero (right) of CohnReznick accepts the 2016 Jack Brooks Leadership Award from 2015-2016 CTCPA President Bruce Blasnik.

lic service and social events including charity walks, JA in a Day, an annual charity kickball tournament, fundraising drives, and more.

Mitch has been a strong supporter of the group's "college month" events, speaking at numerous panels at colleges and universities throughout the state, sharing his story and encouraging accounting students to work toward the CPA credential.



Educational Trust Fund Golf Tournament

Monday, September 26, 2016

The Farms Country Club, Wallingford · Registration fee: \$250

Registration includes green fees, player gift, cart, buffet lunch, on-course beverages and snacks, open bar, dinner stations, hors d'oeuvres, dessert, flavored coffees, and awards.

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Register at www.ctcpas.org/golf.

For more information or to become a sponsor, contact Phyllis Roche at 860-258-0216 or phyllisr@ctcpas.org.



When Lifetime Member Paul Sahl responded to our annual membership renewal, he mentioned that he had just turned 100 years young. We couldn't resist the opportunity to check in with him and learn a little bit more about his life and career as a Connecticut CPA.

How did you decide to pursue a career as a CPA?

In high school a teacher said I should consider being a CPA.

Where did you receive your accounting education?

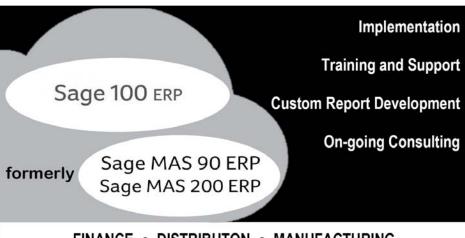
I did not go to college after high school. We could not afford it. Instead, I took correspondence courses with LaSalle Extension University.

At that time, one could take the CPA Exam based on experience. In order

to get that experience, I worked for a CPA. My salary was \$5 a week.

At that time, the CPA Exam consisted of three parts. I took the exam just prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor and passed two of the three parts. I enlisted the day after the attack and served in the Army for 51 months. When I was discharged from the service, I took the CPA Exam again. It was now a four-part exam. Since I had credit for the two parts, I took the two parts I was missing and passed them. I was now a CPA.

"I took the exam just prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor and passed two of the three parts. I enlisted the day after the attack and served in the Army for 51 months. When I was discharged from the service, I took the CPA Exam again."



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Where did you work during your career? What was it like?

I wanted my own practice. A brother-inlaw was a CPA with a well-established practice. He gave me a client. Three brothers-in-law had two businesses between them and they became clients. I also purchased a few clients from another accountant. I now had the start of a practice.

In the early years, I had a partner. Our office was in Hamden. I was doing okay with our practice and reached the point that I did not want to look for additional clients. As a result, we separated and I set up an office in my home. My wife did not work. She did volunteer work for Yale New Haven Hospital. At the age of 58 I sold my practice and retired to Florida for warm weather and golf. We lived in Florida for 37 years. We are now in a retirement community in Georgia near our daughter.

How has the world changed since you were a child?

When I was a child the world was not as violent as it is now. I did not feel threatened when I walked the streets. The papers and news on TV are full of all kinds of violence.

What advice would you give to someone just starting out his or her career as a CPA?

Plan your future. Live well and provide for the future. My motto always was: Pay yourself first for the future and live off the rest.



Filomeno & Company Celebrates 50 Years with 50 Acts of Kindness



By Caitlin Bailey O'Neill, Assistant Editor

On April 1, 1966, just two weeks before the tax filing deadline, Joseph Filomeno hung out his CPA firm shingle in West Hartford.

On April 1, 2016, Filomeno & Company, P.C. celebrated 50 years in the accounting profession.

Current Filomeno & Company President Tom Filomeno was proud to follow in his father's footsteps. When did that partnership officially start?

"Fourth grade," Tom laughs. "I was at the dinner table hearing all the stories

about the clients, hearing all the sto-

ries about the work, the people, the

issues. I joke about it, but it is really

true, it was really a lot of on-the-job,

at-the-home training." Tom worked at

the firm throughout high school and

college before starting full-time at the

In the early days of the firm, Joe had

another partner and a staff of six; today,

the firm stands at about 20 employees

still enjoying the same cornerstones

Joe embraced half a century ago.

firm after graduation.

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Tom said. "[My dad] always said to us, 'Take care of the people. Take care of the clients, take care of the people who work at the firm.' Those are both our number one priorities. That will always be the same."

That focus may remain, but the biggest changes over the years undoubtedly stem from technology. Most of the work Tom did in the first two or three







To follow along, visit facebook.com, search for Filomeno & Company, P.C., and hit "Like" at the top of the page.

years of his career, he marvels, is now done by computers.

"Today, you can be much more flexible," he said. "You can change things much easier; in the old days, if you had to change a tax return, you had to change every single line and do it all by hand, recalculate all of the limitations by hand. It was really cumbersome. Today, you put it in the software and it changes a hundred things. You don't even see it, it just happens automatically.

"This has enabled us to be more consultative, to be more advisory, because you don't spend so much time and effort actually getting to square one. It was all about getting the work done in the old days ... Now it's about taking the time saved and doing something productive with it."

Celebrating 50 Years with 50 Acts

Last summer, the Filomeno staff spent a day cleaning and organizing. As they opened filing cabinets and closets, they discovered that they had more colored paper, staplers, and scissors than they could use in the next 50 years - especially, laughed "Director of Fun" Kat Plourde, "since we're paperless." Tom remembered that Saint Brigid School in West Hartford was always looking for donations.

When Kat called the principal at the school, "I could hear her screaming from here," she remembered, laughing. When staff members dropped off the first of two donations, the ladies in the school's office tearfully told them they'd always had to share scissors.

"We said, you know, it wouldn't be that hard to do this 49 more times!" said Kat. "So the acts of kindness were born. We had been talking for a long time about what we could do to commemorate the 50 years and it just seemed like, with our culture and our love for community, it was the perfect fit."

As of press time, the Filomeno staff has completed 23 acts of kindness ranging from purchasing 50 cups of coffee for the first 50 patrons at the local Dunkin' Donuts to raising more than \$1,800 and braving a cold, rainy day for the American Heart Association's Hartford Heart Walk (Tom's personal favorite act so far).

Director of Operations Tina Faggaini is looking forward to another act she's coordinating: working with Kohl's

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to buy and donate Kohl's Cares stuffed animals to local fire departments to bring children comfort in times of distress.

The 50 acts of kindness, while strengthening the West Hartford community, has also brought the staff closer together in unexpected ways.

Each week, the Filomeno staff nominates a team member for the WOW program; the winner is the proud owner of a prime parking spot for the week. The four WOW winners in a given month are then put into a raffle, and the winner gets to pick the charity the team will support the next month. Team members are allowed to wear ieans on Fridays for a nominal fee, and the proceeds for the month are all donated to the chosen charity.

"What I love about this is that even though we spend a lot of time together, you don't really get to know that much about each other, other than their skill here in the office and what kind of coffee they like to drink," said Kat. "One of our team members that we chose for last month chose the Small Paws Foundation [a bichon rescue group]. Now here's a guy who vou would never know loved bichons. You'd think he was like a German Shepherd guy, labs, but he was like 'no, bichons all the way!"

"Through this, we'll get to know other team members, more about what they love and the foundations and the charities they support."

#filo50

With 50 acts of kindness unfolding this year, how does Filomeno share its acts of goodwill with the community, clients, and friends and family?

Facebook, of course! Each of the 50 acts is documented on the firm's Facebook page with the hashtag #filo50, along with photos and details.

"I actually use Facebook to look for our acts," said Kat, who maintains the company's page. "What can we do next? There were probably three or four of them just on social media alone that I found, whether it was through local pages or national pages. We did the Wholesome Wave campaign where you take a picture of fruit and I saw that on Ellen DeGeneres' page. You never know where you're going to find something!"

Kat acknowledges that social media can be challenging for a company, especially getting people to find and follow your page, but it's an important piece of staying relevant and showing current (and potential!) clients and employees what the company stands for.

"Make it more about everything else that's happening in the world, the community around you, instead of you," Kat recommends.

Connecticut CPA is interested in profiling CTCPA firms about how they approach today's - and tomorrow's practice environment. If your firm would like to be considered, please contact Mark Zampino at markz@ctcpas.org.

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The Commissioner's Column

2016 Legislative Session: Connecticut's New Realities

By Connecticut Department of Revenue Services Commissioner Kevin Sullivan

ell, it's finally over. The 2016 legislative session and special sessions were not easy for anyone to follow. But it may just turn out to mark a sea-change in how Connecticut comes to terms with the new economic and fiscal realities that continue to challenge our state.

Fiscal Policy. Like many other states, Connecticut is grappling with a slow if certain economic recovery. More importantly, the Great Recession masked important changes fiscally and financially. Most of the post-recovery jobs are in lower-earning sectors of the economy. Our state GDP is rising again, but much of the growth is in traditional sectors rather than new enterprises. As we age, net migration means losses in net income replacement. Above all, market volatility means state tax volatility.

Fiscally, Connecticut is more reliant than ever on income taxes and especially the amount paid by the highest-income taxpayers. Taxpayers, individuals, and businesses are more mobile than ever. While total state tax revenues will be up over last year, recurring deficits show how hard it is to just keep up. On the spending side, the state budget reflects decades of mounting long-term fixed costs for promised retirement and health benefits as well as tax expenditures in the form of credits, exemptions, exclusions, net operating loss recovery, and other abatements.

No wonder Governor Malloy set the bar so high. When the session began, he was clear that business as usual just wasn't working. His message was simple. No more kicking the can further down the road. End the "current services" budget autopilot. No new taxes. Focus on core services.

Estimate revenues conservatively. Continue making state government smaller and smarter. Put the economy first. Ask Democrats and Republicans to put real ideas on the table.

At least two more difficult fiscal years are ahead, but the new state budget will make a difference. For the first time in more than 40 years, General Fund spending will be less than it is in the current fiscal year. That's \$825 million in spending cuts. Yet overall town and school aid still grows in order to help hold down local property taxes. Similarly, while scaled back from his initial proposal, there will be net new investment in transportation improvements that are vital to unlocking future economic growth.

No less important, the practice of driving every new budget with hyperinflated estimates of "current services" spending growth is over.

Tax Policy. There are no new taxes. There are even some modest tax cuts. Unfortunately, opportunities missed to level the playing field for Connecticut businesses competing with online sellers and close what is probably a \$100 million sales tax gap. There's some new language that claims to have DRS "facilitate" collection warrants based on credit and debit card payment settlement information, but it really does nothing new. Extension of the Angel Investor tax credit for three more years makes sense. Unfortunately, tax credits and other tax expenditures continue based on doubtful assumptions about economic growth.

In terms of tax policy, the Governor and Legislature completed a trifecta of business tax reforms. Last session, DRS strongly argued that the state's corporate income tax perversely companies favored out-of-state earning profits here while disfavoring Connecticut-based companies doing business out of state. As a result, legislation was enacted and signed into law by Governor Malloy that makes Connecticut both a unitary filing and single (sales) factor apportionment state effective for tax year 2016. Now, 2016 legislation adds market sourcing. In addition, starting in tax year 2017, all Connecticut companies - other business entities as well as corporations - will benefit. Over the coming weeks, DRS will be assisted by a business tax advisory group to open a dialogue and provide guidance for implementation. Stay tuned.

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8/16	Studies on Single Audit and Yellow Book Deficiencies	SAYB	Rocky Hill	8	\$285/\$250	8/2/2016	

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July 7/7	1 p.m.	3 p.m.	Business Tax Update and Recent Developments	CPAX0457	\$79/\$114	2
7/7	3 p.m.	5 p.m.	Detecting and Deterring Payroll Fraud	CPAX0457 CPAX0458	\$79/\$114 \$79/\$114	2
7/7	9 a.m.	11 a.m.	E-Signature Tools and Rules	CPAX0456 CPAX0459	\$79/\$114 \$79/\$114	2
7/7	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Surgent's Fiduciary Income Tax Returns:	CPAA0459	φ/9/φ114	
111	9 a.iii.	5 p.m.		10/110707	@040/@044	0
7/7	10 0 00	10	Form 1041 Workshop with Filled-In Forms	10410707 CPAX0460	\$219/\$344	<u>8</u> 2
7/7	10 a.m.	12 p.m.	Financial Infidelity and Divorce Strategies		\$79/\$114	2
	12 p.m.	2 p.m.	Financial Planning Strategies for Life Wealth Cycles	CPAX0461	\$79/\$114	
7/7	1 p.m.	5 p.m.	Forensic Accounting: Uncovering Schemes and Scams	AICPA171	\$159/\$224	4
7/7	2 p.m.	4 p.m.	Getting Along at Work – Managing Different Personality Styles	CPAX0462	\$79/\$114	2
7/7	1 p.m.	5 p.m.	Not-for-Profit Accounting and Auditing Update	AICPA172	\$159/\$224	4
7/7	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Surgent's Best Federal Tax Update	BFTU0707	\$239/\$364	8
7/7	11 a.m.	1 p.m.	Travel and Entertainment Expenses: Review and Update	CPAX0464	\$79/\$114	2
7/8	9 a.m.	11 a.m.	10 Ways to Kill a Business: Learn from Others' Mistakes	CPAX0465	\$79/\$114	2
7/8	12 p.m.	2 p.m.	Beyond Traditional Budgeting: Change Approach to Planning and Control	CPAX0466	\$79/\$114	2
7/8	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Construction Contractors: Accounting, Auditing, and Tax	AICPA173	\$249/\$374	8
7/8	11 a.m.	1 p.m.	Excel Reporting Series – Creating KPI Dashboards	CPAX0467	\$79/\$114	2
7/8	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Identity Theft: Preventing, Detecting, and Investigating	AICPA174	\$249/\$374	8
7/8	1 p.m.	3 p.m.	Surgent's Most Important Things You Must Know About Choosing the			
			Right Business Entity in 2016	CRBE0708	\$89/\$124	2
7/8	10 a.m.	12 p.m.	Online Travel Tools for Accountants	CPAX0468	\$79/\$114	2
7/8	2 p.m.	4 p.m.	Supplier Audits to Protect Your Bottom Line	CPAX0469	\$79/\$114	2
7/8	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Surgent's 2016 Annual Tax-Planning Guide for S Corporations,			
		·	Partnerships, and LLCs	TPGS0708	\$219/\$344	8
7/8	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Surgent's Annual Accounting and Auditing Update	ACAU0708	\$219/\$344	8
7/8	10 a.m.	12 p.m.	Surgent's Negotiating Unmasked	NEGU0708		2
7/8	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Surgent's Top 10 Tax Topics of 2016	TTEN0708	\$219/\$344	8
7/8	1 p.m.	3 p.m.	U.S. City Taxation Internet Resources for Accountants	CPAX0471	\$79/\$114	2
7/11	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Surgent's Audit Skills Training: Level 1 – New Auditors			
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	· p	(Consecutive Two-Day Course)	1AUD0711	\$219/\$344	8
7/11	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Surgent's Comprehensive Guide to Tax Depreciation, Amortization,		Ψ=10/Ψ011	
.,	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	o p	and Property Transactions from Acquisition to Exchange or Disposition	TDAP0711	\$219/\$344	8
7/11	4 p.m.	6 p.m.	Defective Compensation Systems: When Bonuses and Incentives Go Bad	CPAX0472	\$79/\$114	2
7/11	12 p.m.	2 p.m.	Ethics: How Crazy Eddie CFO and Ex-CPA Sam Antar Cooked the Books	CPAX0473	\$79/\$114	2
7/11	10 a.m.	12 p.m.	Excel Formula Expert Series: Financial, Stats, and Math	CPAX0474	\$79/\$114	2
7/11	1 p.m.	3 p.m.	Excel Formula Expert Series: Proofing and Auditing	CPAX0475	\$79/\$114	2
7/11	9 a.m.	11 a.m.	Ex-CPA, Ex-Partner Chuck Gallagher Shares Inside Secrets of His Downfall	CPAX0476	\$79/\$114	2
7/11	9 a.m.	5 p.m.	Surgent's Latest Developments in Governmental Accounting/Auditing 2016	GVAA0711	\$239/\$364	8
1711	J a.m.	5 p.111.	Surgent a Latest Developments in Governmental Accounting/Additing 2010	SVAAUTII	ΨΔΟΟ/ΨΟΟΉ	<u> </u>

Ready to register?





Member ____ PFRKS

Go ahead enjoy the perks your membership affords you!

CTCPA members can save big on everything from spa services and concerts to insurance and office needs!



Get links and discount codes at www.ctcpas.org/memberperks.

Clothing



Save 15 percent on full-priced merchandise with your Brooks Brothers corporate membership card.

Daycare



Save 10 percent on tuition - and get your extended care fees waived.

Automotive



Save 10 percent on parts and labor on any service or repair and get all kinds of free stuff.

Fun Stuff



Save money on popular events in Hartford, from concerts to sports.



Save money on popular events in Bridgeport, from concerts to sports.



Save 15 percent on golf tee times and money off at the Apple Barrel.



Save 10 percent on your monthly gym membership.

A MOMENT AWAY

Save 10 percent on spa services and gift cards.



Save 20 percent on wildflower and lawn seeds.

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Save with Pace Professional Services, our endorsed professional liability insurance provider. 1-800-453-4021

Office Needs



Save 40 percent on select books of the month and 25 percent on all CCH tax and accounting books, including the U.S. Master Tax Guide.



You (and your clients!) can save 10 to 40 percent on credit card processing fees.



You (and your clients!) can save 10 percent on the disaster recovery ReadySuite® solution.



Save up to 36 percent on a broad portfolio of shipping services.



You're eligible for unique benefits for your firm or company, as well as discounts for your clients.

CPA Exam Review Courses

Each of these review courses offers a member discount.

















MEMBERS-ONLY Meetings

Reserve your place at www.ctcpas.org/membermeetings.

Questions? Contact CPE Programming & Conference Coordinator Phyllis Roche at phyllisr@ctcpas.org or 860-258-0216.



The Friday Focus for Members in Industry

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

Encryption 101: What You Need to Know Friday, August 19

Presented by: Tim Weber, Manager, Infrastructure Services and Eric Monda, Senior Systems Engineer, ADNET Technologies

Multi-State Corporate Income Taxation Update Friday, September 16



Patrick J. Duffany

Presented by:

Patrick J. Duffany, Esq., CPA, Partner, Andrew DiSalvo, Senior Manager, and Cindy Galamgam, Manager, all from CohnReznick, and Milo W. Peck III, JD, Manager, **RSM US**

Coming up:

October 21 November 18 December 15 (Thursday)



Torrington CONNection

Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce, Torrington 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. • CPE Credits: 2

Credit Card Processing Initiatives: EMV Chip Card Liability Compliance and PCI Compliance

Wednesday, September 21

Presented by: Lisa Schwartz, Vice President and Sean McGrail, President and Co-Founder, Integrity Merchant Solutions

Coming up:

July 20 November 16



Easton CONNection

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

Hedge Fund K-1s and 1040 Tax Preparation Thursday, August 18



Presented by: Jonathan Collett, CPA Tax Partner and Robert Richardt, CPA, Tax Senior Manager, CohnReznick

Jonathan Collett

Concepts in International Taxation: An Introduction to International Tax

Thursday, September 22



Presented by: Paul N. lannone, JD, CPA, MST, Tax Counsel, Rogin Nassau

Paul N. lannone

Coming up: October 20 November 17 December 15



Technology Breakfast Roundtables

Locations rotate • 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.

Thursday, July 21

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

Thursday, August 18

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

Wednesday, September 21

Riverdale Diner, Shelton • 8:00 a.m.



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.

Court-Ordered Corporate Dissolutions and Receiverships: Legal Standards and Practical Concerns Tuesday, September 27

Presented by: **David Shaiken**, Esq. and **Mark Shipman**, Esq., Shipman, Shaiken & Schwefel

What are the legal requirements for a court to order dissolution of a corporation? What is the judicial dissolution process? What valuation issues are presented by shareholder buyouts during the dissolution process? Why and when do courts put companies into receivership? What is the difference between an operating and a liquidating receivership?

This program will answer these questions and discuss the practical aspects of court-ordered dissolution, shareholder buyouts during a dissolution case, and receiverships. Find out what happens when courts intervene in your clients' corporate and governance structure.



www.ctcpas.org/interestgroups

Whether you're just looking to explore a new niche or you're an expert in your field, CTCPA interest groups are a fantastic way to expand your network, get answers ... and have a little fun in the process.



Did you know?

- ✓ You can join most interest groups at any time.
- ✓ You can attend any open interest group meeting to try it for yourself.
- ✓ Visit <u>www.ctcpas.org/interestgroups</u> to view more about each of the open interest groups.

Community Interest Groups

Educators
New and Young Professionals
Fairfield County New and Young Professionals
Golf Tournament
Prlme Professionals

Technical Interest Groups

Employee Benefit Plans
Federal Income Taxation
Financial Institutions
Not-for-Profit Organizations
State Taxation
Technology
Trust, Estate, and Gift Taxation
Valuation, Forensic, and Litigation Support

CPE Planning Interest Groups

Accounting and Reporting Standards Continuing Professional Education Governmental Accounting and Auditing

New & Young Professionals Events



Saturday, August 13 · 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. **Charity Kickball Tournament** Norton Park, Plainville

Don't miss our seventh annual kickball tournament. Grab your teammates and put your best foot forward for a great cause - and enjoy a cookout after the game.

Registration: \$200 per team (10 per team)

Special thanks to the Plainville Recreation Department for donating the fields and picnic area!

Learn more and register for all these events at www.ctcpas.org/nyp.



Sit on a panel at your alma mater (or any college across the state).

September/October

College Month Colleges and universities

across the state

We're looking for new and young professionals to serve as panelists and share their experiences and advice with accounting students across the state!



\$160 for members \$285 for nonmembers

Wednesday, November 16

New and Young Professionals Leadership Conference CTCPA Education Center.

Rocky Hill

With two breakout tracks (one for new professionals and one for those preparing for a management role), this full-day event focuses on networking, communication, leadership skills, team building, and identifying strengths.



Team up with another volunteer or take on your own classroom of elementary school students.

Late October

JA in a Dav **Charles Wright Elementary** School, Wethersfield

Use your financial know-how (and the Junior Achievement curriculum) to teach kids about budgeting, entrepreneurship, taxes, and more.



Cocktail attire. You must be 21 or older to attend.

Thursday, December 8 · 6:30 - 10 p.m.

Mingling & Merriment **Holiday Party**

The Society Room of Hartford

Our flagship event! Mingle with fellow NYPs over drinks and hors d'oeuvres while celebrating the holidays in the stunning marbled grandeur of The Society Room of Hartford.



We KNEW CPAs were smart! All of our NYPs made it out of the Adventure Rooms with minutes to spare. That's teamwork!

Adventure Rooms: Dueling Rooms

Three teams of NYPs participated in a live room escape event at Adventure Rooms in Middletown in May.

The teammates worked together to gather objects, find clues, decipher codes, open locks, and solve puzzles to find the key that led to freedom. Only 30 percent of teams successfully escape – and all three of ours did!



Team 1 Finished with 9 minutes, 30 seconds to go.

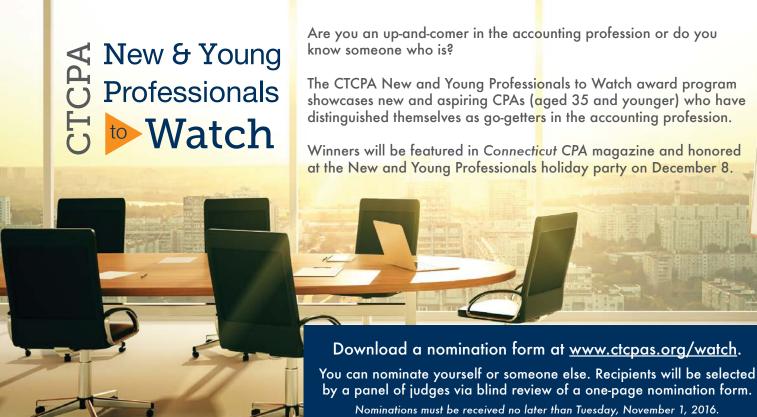


Team 2Finished with 2 minutes, 55 seconds to go.



Team 3 Finished with 2 minutes, 48 seconds to go.

We're looking for the profession's emerging leaders!





Recognition Reception

An evening celebrating the path to the profession.

It was a festive night of celebration at the May Recognition Reception, an evening celebrating the path to the profession, held at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. Congratulations to the following who were honored:

- Connecticut's newest CPAs, who received their CPA certificates from Connecticut State Board of Accountancy member Timothy Egan, CPA as well as Secretary of the State Denise Merrill and Department of Consumer Protection Commissioner Jonathan Harris, who were both in attendance to represent the State Board of Accountancy's July 1 transition from the Office of the Secretary of the State to the Department of Consumer Protection (see page 4 for more).
- Educational Trust Fund Scholarship recipients, who received their awards from CTCPA Educational Trust Fund trustees Matt Piechota, CPA (chair) of Chase Collegiate School, Katherine McNair, CPA of PKF O'Connor Davies, and John Turgeon, CPA, HCS of CohnReznick.
- John Turgeon also presented the 2016 Educators of Excellence "Eddys" awards to Jennifer Oliver, CPA of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Ross Riskin, CPA/PFS, CCPS of Albertus Magnus College.

High School Accounting Scholarship Winners

Educational Trust Fund trustees presented scholarships to high school students from around the state, all of whom plan to major in accounting in college.



(front row, from left) Alexandra Urban - Farmington High School, Sarah Spillane - Newtown High School, Sarah Schatz - Edwin O. Smith High School, Madisyn Silva - Pomperaug High School, (back row, from left) Matthew Garcia - RHAM High School, Matthew Mayotte - Killingly High School, Brittany Solleck - Bristol Eastern High School, David Bigos - South Windsor High School, and Quinn Sinay - Norwich Free Academy. Unable to attend were Amy Sumsion of Manchester High School and Daniel Brill of Staples High School.

New College Accounting Scholarships Awarded

Educational Trust Fund trustees presented the first installment of the fund's new awards slate. While some scholarship programs have been discontinued, many new high-dollar awards have been introduced to help ensure that awards given are meaningful and match the financial environment in which students now operate.



Louis Santa Barbara - Post University Louis, an active CTCPA student member, served as a featured speaker during the program. He is pictured accepting his scholarship from Educational Trust Fund Chair Matt Piechota.

This \$1,500 scholarship is awarded to four college freshmen entering their sophomore year.



The Rising

Sophomore

Scholarship

\$1.500

Anthony Fugnitti Sacred Heart University



Caitlyn Kaufman University of Connecticut



Joshua Goldstein Georgetown University



Jacob Theroux **Bryant** University



This \$5,000 scholarship is awarded to three college sophomores entering their junior year.



Michelle Costa University of Connecticut



Timothy Kelly Sacred Heart University



Francine Muanda-Nzuzi Naugatuck Valley Community College

Recipients of this scholarship may renew the award for an additional \$5,000 when going from their junior to senior year in college, for a potential total of \$10,000 over the lifetime of this scholarship. At least one Rising Junior Scholarship is designated annually for a community college student transferring to a four-year college or university.

"I moved to Connecticut from the Democratic Republic of the Congo four years ago. As an immigrant, I cherish the opportunities that living in this country offers to me. Gifts such as the Rising Junior Scholarship do not only have monetary value, they inspire me to enjoy giving back to the community and promote excellence."

Rising Junior Scholarship recipient Francine Muanda-Nzuzi



Rising Junior Scholarship recipient Francine Muanda-Nzuzi was joined at the reception by her parents, who won the honors for "farthest distance travelled" from their home in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Francine plans to attend Post University in the fall.

New Connecticut CPAs



Christopher Abbamonte



Evan Goetjen



Anastasia Hajek



Meghan lannucci



Samantha Kijonka



Maggie Kish







Peter Kuczynski



Stephanie O'Keefe



Lisa Marie Salamon



Michelle Spiteri



Molly Tower



Xiaoling Zhang



Fastest smartest malpractice insurance. Period.

Educators of Excellence: "The Eddys" Awards



The 2016 Educator of Excellence "Eddys" nominees (front row, from left) Moh'd Rujoub - Eastern Connecticut State University, Ross Riskin - Albertus Magnus College, Jennifer Oliver - Quinebaug Valley Community College, Janet Phillips - Southern Connecticut State University, (back row, from left) David Rodgers - Northwestern Connecticut Community College, David Lardie - Tunxis Community College, Asher Albaz - Housatonic Community College, Steve Jarett - University of Saint Joseph, Richard Dumont - Post University, and Frank Bevvino - Southern Connecticut State University.

The Educator of Excellence awards, affectionately known as "The Eddys," recognize Connecticut accounting professors who have had a positive influence on the lives and careers of their students by excelling in teaching and/or mentoring, inspiring students to reach beyond the ordinary, and making a difference by going the extra mile for their students.



And the Eddys went to ...

Four-Year College/University Professor Ross Riskin, CPA/PFS, CCPS Albertus Magnus College



"Professor Riskin was incredibly dynamic and engaging and delivered the perfect combination of personal experience and teaching from the book."

Excerpt from Professor Riskin's winning nomination

Two-Year College Professor Jennifer Oliver, CPA Quinebaug Valley Community College



"She is kind, thorough, and very intelligent ... If she has taught me anything, it's that accounting can be fun if you have the right attitude!"

Excerpt from Professor Oliver's winning nomination

Educators of Excellence "The Eddys" Award **Selection Committee**

Current and former students nominated outstanding professors online. Winners were selected via blind review by a panel comprising:

Evan Kalish Crowe Horwath

Brian J. Kelleher, CPA Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

Cathy W. Pinard, CPA Premier Tax & Wealth Advisors

Amy L. Trudelle Crowe Horwath

John J. Turgeon, CPA, HCS CohnReznick



Member News

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

Members in the Media

Marcum's National Construction Leader and New Haven office partner-incharge Joe Natarelli and Chief Construction Economist Anirban Basu kicked off their 2016 article series for Construction Accounting and Taxation with "How Long Will the Recovery Last?" in the March/April issue.



Duane Sauer, a vice president at Robert Half Finance and Accounting in Hartford, was interviewed on Fox 61's Good Day Connecticut on May

25 about the hiring prospects for college graduates this year.

Professional Activities



Edward Pratesi



John Salemi Jr.

Edward E. Pratesi. managing director of Brentmore Valuation Advisors and a partner in Pratesi, Salemi & Company, and John T. Salemi Jr., a partner with Pratesi, Salemi & Company. recently attended the Extreme Parking Global Leadership Symposium. Pratesi, Salemi & Company was also a sponsor

of the event. In addition, Edward was one of the presenters for the May 13 "Success at Business Succession: Tips, Tricks, and Traps" seminar hosted by the Estate and Business Planning Council of Hartford.

Evan Comer, a mergers and acquisitions tax associate at KPMG in Boston, recently passed the CPA Exam. Comer is a past recipient of the Educational Trust Fund Connecticut High School Accounting Scholarship and the Children of CTCPA Members Scholarship.



Thomas Scanlon

Thomas F. Scanlon. president of Borgida & Company, with offices in Manchester, Storrs, and Niantic, recently spoke at Bacon Academy in Col-

chester to high school students who are considering careers in finance, accounting, and business.

Honors and Awards

Pratesi, Salemi & Company in West Hartford has been named a 2015 All Star Award Winner by Constant Contact. The annual award recognizes the most successful 10 percent of Constant Contact's customer base, based on their achievements leveraging online marketing tools to engage their customer base and drive results for their organization.



Stephen Pedneault

Stephen Pedneault, owner of Forensic Accounting Solutions in Glastonbury, was awarded a certificate of achievement from the Institute of Man-

agement Accountants for an article he co-authored with Bonita Peterson, "Shattered Trust: Fraud in the Family." The piece, which was published in the May 2015 issue of Strategic Finance, was selected by the Lybrand Awards Committee as one of the best articles of the year.

Fox 61 Spotlights BlumShapiro's JA Career Walk



Thirty students from West Hartford's Hall High School, Conard High School, and Kingswood-Oxford School got an inside look at the range of businesses and career opportunities in West Hartford Center in the third Annual JA Career Walk in May. The event was hosted by BlumShapiro and Junior Achievement (JA) of Southwest New England. Each business provided an overview and tour, and discussed the type of professionals they employ and qualities they look for when hiring.

View the full Fox61 piece at www.ctcpas.org/JAWalk.

Bailey, Murphy + Scarano Celebrates 100 Years and Three Generations

Bailey, Murphy + Scarano in Branford is celebrating 100 years of providing a wide range of accounting services to businesses and individuals.

Founded by brothers Meyer and Maurice Bailey in 1916 and going through a multitude of name changes over its 100 years, the one constant has been that a member of the Bailey family has always been a partner. Meyer was a proud father when his son Alan entered the practice and remained a

Bailey, Murphy + Scarano partners (from left) Michael Bailey, Christine Gromala, David Bailey, Andrew Errato,

and Dominic Scarano, Jr. are celebrating the firm's 100 years.

major part of it until his retirement in 1992. Alan did his father one better as he saw sons David and then Michael enter the practice and assume roles as partners.

David, the firm's managing partner, said "It's been our pleasure to help clients in a wide range of industries including real estate, mergers and acquisitions, manufacturing, construction, not-for-profit, technology, healthcare, and more, to grow their businesses and achieve their financial goals. It's thrilling to me that the small company started by my grandfather and great uncle, and continued by my father and the partners of his generation, carries on a strong legacy," he continued.

The firm and its partners believe in giving back to the community that has supported them for 100 years and is proud to list the following institutions as some of the many that receive or have received their support: Shubert Theater in New Haven (founded by Maurice Bailey, with Michael Bailey currently serving on the Board of Directors), Yale Entrepreneurial Institute (YEI), Better Business Bureau, Shoreline Chamber of Commerce, Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce, University of New Haven (UNH) Family Business Center, Branford Education Foundation, Quinnipiac University Business Advisory Board, Legal and Tax Division of the New Haven Jewish Federation, and National Association of Certified Valuators and Analysts.



>> Congratulations to

Mark Briggs, winner

of the CTCPA dues renewal

\$350 Visa Gift Card!

Mark Briggs of Briggs Wealth Management in Glastonbury was the winner of our early dues renewal drawing. All members who renewed their membership by June 6, 2016 were entered into the drawing.

Mark tells us that this was truly his lucky day - he also won an Amazon Echo as part of a webinar drawing the very same day we called to tell him he won our prize! Congratulations, Mark!



Last year's event sold out!

INTERVIEW **DAY 2016**



How Does it Work?

- 1. Reserve your space at www.ctcpas.org/InterviewDay. Don't delay - last year's event sold out!
- 2. You'll receive student information packets (including resumes, essays, and areas of interest) in mid-September to review and give us your top picks.
- 3. Students will confirm their interest in your opportunity.
- 4. We'll schedule interviews in 35-minute increments on Friday, September 23 at the CTCPA Education Center.

Friday, September 23, 2016

CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill • 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

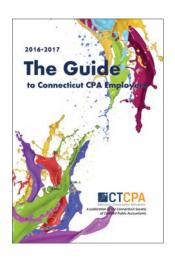
CTCPA's overwhelmingly successful event returns for the fourth year to help match accounting majors at Connecticut colleges and universities with employers in public accounting and private industry seeking interns or full-time hires.

Students must meet eligibility requirements and will be hand-selected by accounting faculty at colleges and universities across the state.

Cost: \$500 per company.

Includes interview cubicle (accommodates up to two company representatives) for up to 10 interview slots, breakfast, lunch, and access to resumes and contact information for all student participants. You may add one additional representative to serve as a greeter in the student lounge for \$50.

Learn more and register at www.ctcpas.org/InterviewDay.



Reserve Your Space in The Guide to Connecticut CPA Employers

This collection of employer resume pages, higher education opportunities, and practical "how-to" information is designed to spotlight accounting career opportunities in Connecticut.

The Guide submission deadline is July 11, 2016!

The Guide is provided to two- and four-year college and university accounting departments and career service offices around the state, appears on the CTCPA website, is distributed to CTCPA student members, and is displayed year-round in the CTCPA Education Center.

- ☐ Company/firm resume page: \$265.88 (\$250 + Connecticut sales tax)
- ☐ Enhanced listing: \$390.88 (\$375 + Connecticut sales tax) Includes company/firm resume page plus black-and-white full-page ad alongside your resume.

>> Reserve your space

www.ctcpas.org/Guide · Jill Brightman at jillb@ctcpas.org or 860-258-0239



New Certified Members

Paul Bogoian, CPA CohnReznick

Alison M. Carl, CPA Serra & Associates

Lisa M. Carley, CPA Crowe Horwath

Kemal Danisman, CPA Kaman Corporation

Stephen P. DeGennaro, CPA CohnReznick

Joseph R. Devito, CPA Berkow, Schechter & Co., CPAs

Ferdinand D. DiMaria, CPA **NEHDS Logistics**

Christopher J. Eck, CPA Berkow Schechter & Co.

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Rachel Grandovic, CPA Deloitte & Touche

Frederick J. Harmon, CPA University of Bridgeport

Judy S. Isele, CPA Nicola Yester & Company

Ethan I. Kaplan, CPA **PwC**

Janis Kelley, CPA Webster Bank

Samantha T. Kijonka, CPA Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte & Sterczala

John C. Kriscenski, CPA Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina PKF O'Connor Davies

Ann Marie Lamb, CPA Cengage Learning Inc.

Rachel Leo, CPA William H. Parr & Co.

Aneta Maselek, CPA CohnReznick

Carly D. Miller, CPA PKF O'Connor Davies

Melissa Modelson, CPA PKF O'Connor Davies

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Connor J. Murphy, CPA CohnReznick

Lori Newcomer, CPA Accounting Practice Sales

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Stefanie L. Rice, CPA Mahoney Sabol & Company

Carolie Rivera Olkoski, CPA Reynolds & Rowella, CPAs

Guy J. Rotondo, CPA Western Connecticut State University

Erica Sadlak, CPA **PwC**

Betsy E. Smith, CPA Marcum

Jeffrey T. Smith, CPA **PwC**

Kimberly L. Therieau, CPA Wilbraham & Monson Academy

Molly Tower, CPA Deloitte & Touche

Joseph C. Urbanski, CPA Schulz & Urbanski

James L. Wilhelm, CPA PKF O'Connor Davies

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Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger

Alexander Bench Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

Joseph Bonito CohnReznick

Matthew R. Boughton

Nicole M. Brooks Nicola Yester & Company

Christopher P. Burke Budwitz & Meyerjack

Kerry Byrne

Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

Ying Chen Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina BlumShapiro

Lawrence A. Cifarelli III **RSM US**

Kaitlyn M. Cistulli

Meaghan Coyle CohnReznick

Marshall D. Deane King, King & Associates **Peter DeGennaro**

BlumShapiro

Kevin R. Doeg CohnReznick

Shelby A. Dumond CohnReznick

Kathleen Early CohnReznick

Michael Elliott Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina Marcum

Tonya Fonte Bedard & Company

Alfred E. Fratoni Jr. Miller, Moriarty & Co.

James C. Goldkamp Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

Natalia Gontcharova Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina BlumShapiro

Enisa Klempic Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina CohnReznick

Jennifer Kochanowicz PKF O'Connor Davies

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Nicholas Marien Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

Melissa J. Martin CohnReznick

James A. McHugh BlumShapiro

Toni Minelli Crowe Horwath

Justin R. Morneault

Monika Mysiorska Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

Jennifer O'Shea **RSM US**

Eliot Pacheco Friedberg, Smith & Co.

Hersh Parikh **Grant Thornton** **Soniya Patel**

Paquette Giantonio & Co.

Michael J. Pennoyer **MMNT**

Danielle Pierce

Nicola Yester & Company

Brittany Rogan

Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

Rayan Saad

Peter Scanlon BlumShapiro

Anne Scionti

Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

Anastasia St. Hillare

Megan G. Talbott

Kelly Tomlinson

James L. Walonoski Guilmartin, DiPiro & Sokolowski

Todd T. Wheeler Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina Kircaldie, Randall & McNab

> Melissa E. Wojnilo Carney, Roy & Gerrol

In Memoriam

Milton Mann, a member since June 17, 1976, passed away May 17, 2016.

William C. Reynolds, a member since September 17, 1956, passed away April 30, 2015.

Carl D. Silver. a member since April 22, 1976, passed away November 26, 2015.

Andrew H. Testa, a member since January 7, 1974, passed away April 22, 2016.

Arthur C. Weigner, a member since May 23, 1968, passed away December 18, 2015.

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Member Snapshots

We're looking for your snapshots of interest to your fellow CTCPA members! Items submitted should relate to Connecticut's professional accounting community. Send your submissions to Managing Editor Kirsten Piechota at kirstenp@ctcpas.org.

Nate Yordon Honored at Norwalk Shelter Gala

The Open Door Shelter recognized Nathaniel "Nate" Yordon, a partner with Capossela, Cohen in Southport, as its 2016 Village Luminary as part of the Shelter's Gala and Auction in May.

For the past 33 years, Nate has been a driving force in the struggle to end homelessness through his work at the Open Door Shelter, having served as the president of the organization's board of directors from 2008 through 2015. Along with his commitment to the shelter, Nate serves as treasurer of the Mutual Housing Association of Southwestern Connecticut and as moderator at the First Congregational Church on the Green in Norwalk.

"In so many ways, Nate is the reason the Open Door Shelter is able to provide the range of supportive services in a caring and compassionate way to those in our community who need help and assistance in their time of need," said Curtis "Corky" Stewart, president of the organization's board of directors. "He has truly been an inspiration to all of us as we look for ways of improving the fabric of our community."

The Open Door Shelter provides nightly shelter for more than 95 individuals and families including children. The shelter's



Nathaniel Yordon (left) accepts the Open Door Shelter's Village Luminary award from Ruth McEnnis and Board of Directors President Corky Stewart.

kitchen, known as Manna House, and pantry provide approximately 11,000 hot meals per month and provide boxed food for more than 1,000 individuals and families trying to make ends meet. With the help of community partners, people receive job training and medical care. Children go to school and receive after-school tutors to stay on track with their education. Case managers help people move from a crisis to a new home.

BlumShapiro Volunteers Serve as Junior Achievement Teachers



Twenty-one BlumShapiro employees provided a full day of interactive classroom lessons about the fundamentals of work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy to more than 230 students in grades three through five at Webster Hill Elementary School in West Hartford. For seven consecutive years, BlumShapiro has used curricula developed by JA to lead the JA in a Day program at Webster Hill. "Our annual participation in JA in a Day builds upon our ongoing commitment to the community to build and sustain financial literacy for our youth," said BlumShapiro Chief Executive Officer Joseph A. Kask.

David Zieff Honored by United Way of Coastal Fairfield County

David M. Zieff, managing principal of Friedberg, Smith & Company in Bridgeport, was honored by the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County at their 2016 LIVE UNITED Celebration with the Norman Leeds Giving Back to the Community Award – Tocqueville Level Giving and Engagement.

"David is one of those behind-the-scenes leaders that United Way cherishes deeply," said LIVE UNITED Celebration emcee Sam Tingley Jr., United Way of Coastal Fairfield County's board vice chair and incoming board chair for the 2016-17 year.

"As managing principal of Friedberg, Smith, & Company, David and his firm constantly call forth the absolute best in their clients, especially those in the nonprofit sector," Tingley said. "We know that first hand. But David is much more than an exceptional CPA. His mentor once told him that he had an obligation to be involved with his community and to make a difference. He did just that when he served his country and continues to be involved through United Way."

In his acceptance remarks, David told the audience, "In New York City where I grew up and started my career, because it was so large and impersonal, it was easy to not get involved in the community. When I arrived in Bridgeport, I learned that it was different. Bridgeport is a caring community and everyone needs to get involved to keep it that way.



David M. Zieff (center) accepts the 2016 United Way of Coastal Fairfield County's Norman Leeds Giving Back to the Community Award – Tocqueville Level Giving and Engagement from Merle Berke-Schlessel, Esq., United Way of Coastal Fairfield County president and CEO and Robert J. Trefry, United Way of Coastal Fairfield County 2015-16 board chair and 2016-17 board vice chair.

"My mentor, Henry Katz, advised me that when you live in a community like Bridgeport, you are both responsible for and have an obligation to get involved and support that community to, in some small way, make a difference. To this day, I carry that sentiment with me. I strongly believe that by supporting United Way and the organizations it supports, I am part of that difference," David said.

Post University Hosts 'GOAL: CPA!' Informational Program

Post University recently hosted a "GOAL: CPA!" informational session to provide advice and assistance to students and working professionals at all career stages who are pursuing or interested in pursuing the CPA designation.



CTCPA's Mark Zampino speaks about "true networking" at Post University's "GOAL: CPA!" program.

The program was open to Post University students and alumni, local community college accounting majors, working professionals at CPA firms around the state, the CTCPA New and Young Professionals group, and anyone interested in learning more about becoming a Connecticut CPA.

Connecticut State Board of Accountancy Legal Counsel **Sonia Worrell Asare**, Esq. and License and Application Analyst **Stephanie Sheff** explained the road to Connecticut CPA licensure. [Editor's Note: please see page 4 for information on the state's new budget that has relocated the State Board of Accountancy from the Office of the Secretary of the State to the Department of Consumer Protection, without staff, as of July 1, 2016.]







Sonia Worrell Asare

Stephanie Sheff

Greg Cusson

CTCPA Public Affairs Director **Mark Zampino** shared insight into a successful career in the CPA profession, the benefits of CTCPA membership, and "true networking," and Becker Professional Education's **Greg Cusson** gave tips on how to successfully sit for the CPA Exam and exam changes coming in 2017.

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Reynolds & Rowella LLP, a leading Fairfield County CPA firm, interested in potential acquisitions of area practices. Our areas of expertise 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@ revnoldsrowella.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.

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Senior Accountant - Venman & Co. LLC - We are a mid-sized public accounting firm in Shelton and have been offering quality service to our diverse client base for over 80 years. We are seeking to fill key positions on our team. Individual must have 3+ years of public accounting experience; CPA a plus. Experience with ProSystem Engagement and Tax a strong plus. Benefits include education reimbursement. Reply to recruiting@venmanllc.com, fax: 203-929-9095, mail: Venman & Co. LLC, 375 Bridgeport Avenue, Shelton, CT 06484, Attn: Janet Barillari.



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