Dr. Craig Cooke appointed Superintendent of Schools

By John Karas

The Windsor Board of Education closed a turbulent chapter in the school system's history, Tuesday, by appointing Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Craig Cooke to the position of superintendent.

In many ways, the move was expected. Dr. Cooke run the district with a steady hand since last fall, when previous superintendent of schools Dr. Jeffrey Villar resigned to become Executive Director of the Connecticut Council for Education Reform. In the intervening months Dr. Cooke offered a sense of continuity and stability to a system that had been rocked by the botched James study, while the board was trying to find a new superintendent, the third in less than three years.

The search, conducted with help by the New England School Development Council (NESDEC,) a non-profit organization, attracted 20 candidates, but in the end the

RABBETT INSURANCE DONATES $15,000 FOR STRONG HOUSE RESTORATION

Photo: (from left) Mike Rabbett and Shannon Rabbett of Rabbett Insurance Agency presented Thursday John Berky, President of Windsor Historical Society and Executive Director Christine Ermenc with a check for $15,000 for the Strong-Howard House restoration.

SENATOR BLUMENTHAL SUPPORTS WINDSOR CHAMBER CARES AUCTION

Senator Blumenthal, here with Mayor Don Trinks and WCC director Jane Garibay, lent his support, Friday, to the many causes promoted by the Windsor Chamber Cares Auction. Sen. Blumenthal donated two Capitol tours for the auction, that were won by Charlene Goulet and Joe Bowman.

Photo by Bernardo Garibay.

JFK K-CLUB KIDS SEND HOMETOWN TO THE TROOPS

By Julie Roebelen

The newly formed club at John F. Kennedy is off and running. Their latest campaign is one that the kids hope will reach the hearts of others in the wider community. They have recently adopted 1st Lt. Daniel Bradford Kelly, “nephew” of Faculty Advisor, Julie Roebelen. “Brad” as Lt. Kelly is known by all of his family and friends is actually the first cousin once removed from Mrs. Roebelen. He is a 2012 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. He has been stationed at Fort Carson in Colorado Springs while training for this deployment. At age twenty-four, he is a qualified Airborne Ranger.

1st Lt. Kelly was recently deployed to Afghanistan as part of the United States Army’s 4th Infantry Division, 4th Brigade. He is a platoon leader for thirty men. His deployment is

Photo: Dean Ravenola presents his book to the students at JFK.

Photo courtesy of Julie Roebelen

Photo: (from left) Mike Rabbett and Shannon Rabbett of Rabbett Insurance Agency presented Thurday John Berky, President of Windsor Historical Society and Executive Director Christine Ermenc with a check for $15,000 for the Strong-Howard House restoration.

See TROOPS page 4

See DR. COOKE page 4

See TROOPS page 4

By Christine Ermenc

Executive Director
Windsor Historical Society
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Photo by John Karas

See TROOPS page 4
Friday, April 11, 2014  

By Jessica Ciparelli
Communications Specialist
CT Early Childhood Alliance

More than 230 participants from around Connecticut gathered at the Hartford-Windsor Marriott on Day Hill Road in Windsor on March 29 for the annual Childhood Conversations Conference. They were treated to a day packed with workshops, thoughtful discussions, vendor shopping opportunities and the music of “Pete the Cat.”

The afternoon keynote featured Michael Levine, co-founder of “The Learning Groove” and the musical producer on the first four “Pete the Cat” books and songs, written by Eric Litwin and illustrated by James Dean. It was a good way to end the day, moving and dancing and learning about repetition, structured movement and “call and response.”

The morning featured a panel discussion with participants discussing developmental collaboration from birth through high school and higher education, along with a special appearance by Trey, a 10-year-old New Haven boy who wrote a children’s book entitled, “When Mommy Had Cancer,” to help other young children understand what is happening when a loved one is diagnosed with cancer. When Trey’s mother, Veronica, was diagnosed, Trey was four years old and the family could not find a book to help explain what they were about to go through. At age eight, Trey and his mom decided it was time to write the book.

“My book, “When Mommy Had Cancer,” is a children’s book about hope and courage – hope for the moms to get better and courage for the children to not be afraid,” said Trey. “I told my mom I was going to be brave until she felt better.”

The book can be found online at Amazon.com or BarnesandNoble.com.

The conference is a collaborative effort. Partners include: The Alliance for Bloomfield’s Children, Children’s Trust Fund/Office of Early Childhood, CT After School Network, CT Early Childhood Alliance, CT Family Resource Center Alliance, CT Parent Education Network, CT Parent Information and Resource Center, CT Parent Power, CT Parents as Teachers, First Congregational Church Nursery School, Real Dads Forever, State Education Resource Center, The SEEDS Network, The Village for Families and Children, University of Hartford, William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund, Windsor Department of Social Services, Windsor Early Childhood Council and Windsor Family Resource Centers.

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A WORD FROM OUR PATIENTS

These Dentists Rock :) 
This is the coolest dentist office ever! I even moved 45 minutes away and still make the trip to Windsor for my appointments! Dr. Garceau and her staff are awesome, friendly and up to date with technology! I love the text reminders for appts! How many people look forward to their dentist visits every 6 months? If you have Dr. Garceau and her amazing team you will!

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UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN PLAN WILL PREPARE CHILDREN FOR LATER

Championing the cause to SUPPORT

DeCordova will provide her energy and expertise to the board representing all of the New England states, as well as Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, along with Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

She has served at MCC as associate dean since 2011. Prior to that, she was associate director, institutional advancement and community engagement. She joined MCC in late 2005 as a public relations associate.

Previously, she was director of public relations and marketing communications at The Salvation Army of Greater Hartford. DeCordova is a past president and board member of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), Connecticut Valley Chapter, and she serves on several additional councils and boards locally, including the Connecticut ACE (American Council on Education) Women’s Network, the East Hartford Chamber of Commerce and Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity. She served as host and producer of the public affairs program, “Black Perspective,” on NBC Connecticut (Channel 30).

DeCordova holds an MBA from the University of Hartford and a bachelor’s degree from Morgan State University.
The Windsor Discovery Center and Montessori School will be holding an Open House on Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Milo W. Peck Child Development Center, 114 Palisado Avenue in Windsor. Get a tour of the building, meet the teachers, check out the classrooms, and learn how Montessori will bring out the creativity and love of learning in your child. All the head teachers will be here to answer any questions you may have. For directions or more information, please contact Pat Pudelka at 860-285-1401.

Deep Sea Fishing with the Windsor Senior Center! Join the Windsor Senior Center on a Deep Sea Fishing Trip for ages 55+ on Friday, May 30, aboard "The Sunbeam" in Waterford, CT. Cost is $58.00 which includes fishing, transportation, rod and reel rental, and cleaning of fish (please tip the mate 15% if possible!). The bus leaves the Windsor Senior Center parking lot at 6:30 AM and returns at 2:45 PM. Space is very limited, so register with the Sr. Center office to sign up. Down payment of $150 is due no later than May 20.

Enjoy a mini-vacation on August 19-21 to Valley Forge Casino Resort. This is a new resort with great amenities. For $405 pp you will receive 2 nights in the Casino Hotel, $30 pp casino slot bonuses, 2 breakfasts pp, $25 pp cash towards dinner each evening, and Valley Forge tour and admissions. "Ride the Ducks," see Delaware, Penn’s Landing and the Battleship New Jersey. This should be an exciting trip, so join us if you can!

Call 860-285-1092 or stop in the Sr. Center office to sign up. For more information about the Sr. Center, 114 Palisado Avenue in Windsor. Get a tour of the building, meet the teachers, check out the classrooms, and learn how Montessori will bring out the creativity and love of learning in your child. All the head teachers will be here to answer any questions you may have. For directions or more information, please contact Pat Pudelka at 860-285-1401.

K-KIDS

scheduled to last approximately nine months. One of his primary responsibilities is to foster good relations with the people of Afghanistan. So, our K-Kids have not only

forces with us and with Send Hometown Windsor to the Troops.

Another Mrs. Roebelein, Mrs. Amy Roebelein, who coaches the Windsor High School Girls Tennis Team, will work with her team to collect and send tennis balls, among other things, to Brad. Both Mrs. Roebeleins, along with Mrs. Phelps, have been longtime supporters of Send Hometown Windsor to the Troops, but they have never before had a personal family member stationed overseas.

For more information about Send Hometown Windsor to the Troops, or to have a Windsor-related loved one placed on the donation list, please contact:

WINTV Troops Committee Chair, Ann Walsh, at: 860-688-5821
Or send donations to: WIN TV / Troops599 Matianuck ave Windsor CT 06095-680-688-2626

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By Paula Pierce

It was an elegant and fun evening at the Windsor Chamber Cares auction at Maneely's Banquet Facility last Friday. A special appearance by Senator Richard Blumenthal made it an especially memorable experience. The Senator graciously donated two Capitol tours, won by Charlene Goulet and Joe Bowman.

Beneficiaries of this annual benefit auction were Send Hometown Windsor to the Troops, the Windsor Education Foundation, Windsor Art Center at the Freight House, and the chamber itself. The crowd also generously supported the chamber's Student Internship program through "Fund-a-Need" donations.

Besides the live and silent auctions, activities included the Heads and Tails game in which a 55" Flat Screen TV was the prize, and fifty Surprise Boxes priced at $25 that contained secret items valued between $25 and $100. One lucky winner found a pearl necklace inside worth $200.

"The annual Chamber auction is a great place to bring friends, neighbors, and business associates to share in the fun," says Bill Gombert Auction Committee Chair, "and to support our local non-profit organizations." The Chamber auction benefits not only the Chamber of Commerce but additional non-profit beneficiaries.

Next year's auction is set for April 12, 2015. For more information please call 860-688-5165 or go to www.WindsorCC.org.

RABBETT DONATION

From Page One

- Christine Ermenc with a check for $15,000 for the Strong-Howard House restoration and re-interpretation. The project is focused on stabilizing the house and equipping it with reproductions of furnishings and household items utilized by the Howard Family in 1810 that can be touched and used by today's visitors. The goal is for school children and visitors of all ages to be able to take a step back in time to touch, smell, explore, and relive what life was like for the Howard family 200 years ago.

Rabbett Insurance Agency's support provides an added boost as the Society completes the second third of this three phased campaign, scheduled for completion in the fall of 2015. The Howard family's parlor and store are complete and open to visitors; this summer, work continues on the dining room and the master bedroom which will open as hands-on spaces this fall.

"We have deep roots in Windsor and wanted to support the preservation of a significant Windsor landmark," said Mike Rabbett.

"The community has embraced our initiative; we have raised $700,000 of the $775,000 we need to stabilize and maintain this historic building," noted John Berky, Windsor Historical Society President.

Christine Ermenc, Society Director added, "Rabbett Insurance Agency is a model of a community-centered business. We are hoping that their generosity inspires others in Windsor's business community to step forward and join our campaign to keep the Strong-Howard House standing strong in future."
**HEALTH MATTERS**

**BE AWARE OF ORAL CANCER**

By Dr. Gregory A. Farber

Day Hill Dental

1060 Day Hill Road

Windsor, CT 06095

(860) 688-5595

April is Oral Cancer awareness month. At Day Hill Dental we want everyone to understand what oral cancer is all about and how important annual screening exams are in order to prevent or diagnose the disease early on.

This type of cancer doesn't receive the amount of media attention other cancers do even though the fatality rate for oral cancer is much higher due to delays in discovering the disease. Men are twice as likely to develop oral cancer as women and the most common risk factors include: smoking, smokeless tobacco use, alcohol use, a family history of oral cancer and the presence of HPV16 (Human Papilloma) virus. About 40,000 oral cancer diagnoses will be made this year and about 8000 people will die from it. That's about one death per hour for the entire year.

Oral cancer typically appears as a growth or sore in the mouth that doesn’t go away. It can be red, white or both and circular or irregularly shaped. It can also appear as unexplained mouth bleeding, numbness or discomfort when swallowing. Most often, the lips or tongue are involved but the cheeks, gums and floor of the mouth can also be affected.

If not screened for oral cancer, the early stages of the disease can go unnoticed without pain or discomfort. Screenings are performed by dentists or hygienists by evaluating the face, neck, lips, mouth and throat areas. X-rays are also checked. Modern screening devices, rings and lights are also helpful to illuminate any suspicious areas. These advanced tests are all painless, quick and typically done during a cleaning appointment. If needed, a referral can be made to a specialist for further testing. Even though the cost of a screening is minimal, insurance companies often have coverage for it.

Preventing oral cancer lies largely in avoiding tobacco use, particularly simultaneous use with alcohol. Although we cannot always explain why one person gets cancer and another doesn’t, maintaining a healthy lifestyle and a well balanced diet are important for good overall health.

Contact your dentist today for your oral cancer screening.

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On April 22, we celebrate Earth Day — a day devoted to educating and action on environmental issues. As a citizen of the world, you may have a keen interest in protecting your physical surroundings. And as someone trying to reach long-term financial goals, such as a comfortable retirement, you’re probably also interested in improving your investment environment.

So here are a few suggestions:
- Respond to environmental factors. Over the past few years, we’ve had a favorable investment climate, marked by low inflation, low interest rates and generally strong corporate profits. And investors who have taken advantage of this positive environment have, for the most part, been rewarded. But things can change, so it’s always a good idea to understand the current investment environment, as it may affect your investment choices. For example, if it seems likely that long-term interest rates are going to rise significantly, you might need to review your long-term bond holdings, as their price would be negatively affected by a rise in rates.
- Nurture your investments. One area of environmentalism involves planting seeds or saplings and nurturing them to maturity. You can do the same thing with investments — and a good way to nurture them is to give them time to grow in all investment climates. But how long should you hold these investments? You might heed the advice of Warren Buffett, one of the world’s most famous investors, who says this about his investment company: “Our favorite holding period is forever.” It takes patience to follow the buy-and-hold strategy favored by Mr. Buffett — and it also requires the discipline necessary to keep investing through the inevitable downturns you will encounter. But over the long term, your perseverence may well be rewarded.
- Avoid “toxic” investment strategies. Unfortunately, many human activities are bad for the environment. Similarly, some investment strategies are “toxic” for your prospects of success. Consider the pursuit of “hot” stocks. They sound inviting, but, by the time you hear about them, they may have lost their sizzle — and in any case, they might not be right for your needs. Here’s another “poisonous” investment strategy: trying to “time” the market. If you’re always jumping in and out of the market, looking for “low” points to buy and “high” points to sell, you’ll probably be wrong most of the time — because nobody can accurately predict highs and lows. Even more importantly, you may find yourself out of the market during the beginning of a rally, which is when the biggest gains tend to occur.
- Diversify your “species” of investments. Drawing inspiration from Earth Day, the United Nations has designated 2011–2020 as the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity. And, just as preserving the diversification of species is important for life on Earth, the diversification of your investment portfolio is essential for its health. By owning a variety of investments – stocks, bonds, government securities, certificates of deposit and so on – you can help protect yourself from downturns that primarily affect just one asset class. (Keep in mind, though, that while diversification can reduce the effects of volatility on your holdings, it can’t guaranteve profits or protect against loss.)

Earth Day happens just once a year — but the lessons of environmentalism can help you, as an investor, for all the days and years ahead.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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**POSITIONS**

We are looking for Advertising Sales People. If you are interested, email editor@TheWindsorJournal.com
Internationally known, Saskia Laroo, trumpet and Warren Bryd, piano will perform at 226 on Saturday, April 26th at 7 PM. Doors open at 6:30. Tickets are available at 230 Broad Street, Windsor or at the door. $15. Limited seating.

Saskia Laroo is a trumpet player who is known to pick up a base and sax as well from Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Her musical style varies from jazz to dance to world to pop. She has released six CD's

Saskia Laroo and Warren Bryd
Concert at 226 Jazz

By Christine Ermenec
Executive Director
Windsor Historical Society

What better way to spend a beautiful spring day than to tour six historic homes located in Connecticut's First Town? Reserve your spot now for Windsor Historical Society's special Hearth and Home self-guided house tour to take place on Saturday, April 26th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ticket will be just $20 if purchased before the day of the tour; $25 if purchased on tour date. The tour provides you with a wonderful opportunity to get the inside scoop on three centuries of life in Windsor.

The April 26th house tour is one of the Society's two major fundraisers this year, supporting public programs for schoolchildren and adults, and the operation of our historic houses, research library, exhibition galleries, and family learning center. Homes on the tour include:

- 1257 Poquonock Avenue (1776) and 1227 Poquonock Avenue (1806): These side-by-side homes contain a multitude of additions and updates but their owners have carefully preserved historic features that made them showpieces in their day.
- 1257 Poquonock Avenue features massive hearth fireplaces, beehive ovens, and a state-of-the-art woodworking shop in a barn attached to the rear of the house. The Niles family that owned this home managed large Poquonock farms, owned local silk and paper mills, and enjoyed successful careers in state and federal politics. 1227 Poquonock Avenue displays many works of art crafted by family and friends and creatively displayed throughout the home. The owners prize their antique quilts and bottle collection. Gardens and outbuildings surrounding both homes will round out a perfect spring visit.

OLD WINDSOR HOUSE TOUR, APRIL 24

• 1257 Poquonock Avenue (1776) and 1227 Poquonock Avenue (1806): These side-by-side homes contain a multitude of additions and updates but their owners have carefully preserved historic features that made them showpieces in their day.

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