## Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to visit frail, elderly people, to shop with or for an elder, to drive an elder to and from their medical appointment, and to provide respite care to family members caring for a loved one who needs constant care. All that is required is a warm, loving heart and one or two hours of your time each week. A two hour training event will provide you with information and basic skills to make a difference in someone's life. The next training dates sponsored by Interfaith Volunteer Care Givers of Greater New Haven are: May 4 West Haven Senior Center, 201 Noble St.1:00-3:00PM; May 11, 1:00-3:00PM, Wallingford Senior Center, 238 Washington ST.; May25, 7:00-9:00PM IVCG, 30 Gillies RD. Hamden. Please call IVCG at 203-230-8994 or email carenh@snet.net for more information and to register.

**To succeed in life, you need three things: a wishbone, a backbone and a funnybone. ~Reba McEntire**

The People's Press

## CELEBRATIONS

The eighth grade students at Saint Joseph School, Meriden, created their own Spanish games. They made Spanish versions of some of their favorite games, such as Spanish Twister, Capture the Flag, Memory, Old Maid and Trouble. The games were required to be written in Spanish, directions in Spanish, and the game boards themselves had to be in Spanish. They invited the sixth and seventh graders to join them, and they all played the games together. Special thanks to Senora Cannell for her help with this project.

The People's Press

## CELEBRATIONS

Wallingford Community Day Care Center Celebrates "Week of the Young Child"

Ice cream, hand art, puppets and crafts punctuated the celebration at this year's "Week of the Young Child" celebration at Wallingford Community Day Care Center.

On April 13, parents were invited to join their children for some ice cream and fun to help celebrate the event, which is sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), and helps focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and recognizes the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

Kathy Queen, the center's executive director, helped scoop out bowls of ice cream to eager children who were excited to eat their dessert before their dinner that evening. At one table, a little girl with a chocolate ice cream mustache finished off a bowl of ice cream. Close-by, three siblings of a child who attends the center made Dr. Seuss-inspired 'Cat in the Hat' hats. Across the room, a teacher at the center who has an artistic talent, painted a variety of characters on the hands of children - finishing each off with a little bit of glitter. A puppeteer sat nearby, entertaining the children with his squirrel puppet.

"Every week should be the 'Week of the Young Child,'" said Queen. "To those of us in the early learning world, it is."

Shown in photo are three older siblings of a child who attends Wallingford Community Day Care Center show off their painted hands and Dr. Seuss hats on April 13 during an ice cream social celebrating the "Week of the Young Child." Photo by Jessica Ciparelli, CT Early Childhood Alliance.

## Dear Housewives - Central Connecticut's Know It All Gals

Dear Readers,

Do you have a question regarding family life, budgeting, customer service issues, DVD or book reviews, or home organization? We will give you our candid advice from a family perspective. Contact The Peoples Press by e-mail at andy@peoplespressnews.com or phone with your confidential question and we will answer it in the next issue. The phone number is 203.235.9333. - June and Flora

**Why would the City of Meriden spend so much money on the Daffodil Festival when they can be using that money to help our kids and save teacher's jobs? - Shocked in Meriden**

**FLORA:** The City of Meriden spends money on the Daffodil Festival because it is important to have tradition and to celebrate. Can you imagine the complaints if it was canceled? Things are gloomy for many families right now with the down turned economy; families need to go to our beautiful park to celebrate spring, families and entertainment.

As for the school's budget.....that is a teacher union issue and better left for another month. Breaking up the teacher's union is like breaking open a piggy bank (but with a lot more than pennies...)

The Daffodil Festival helps our children. It helps build memories and family bonding.

**JUNE:** I am not a fan of the Daffodil festival but I agree it is nice for communities to have public activities. In times like these I think the city could have suspended the festival until things are a bit better. There are many memories families can make with their kids.

**Dear Housewives - my kids want to be on Facebook and I just can't let them do it. How can I explain to them the dangers of being on the internet without scaring them too much? - Someone from Wallingford**

**JUNE:** I think as everything technological, Facebook has gotten out of hand. I don't think children should be on Facebook until they are in high school. Unfortunately, it has become another vehicle for kids to bully and embarrass each other with and their isn't enough education about it. It isn't just the predators but their own peers they have to worry about. Facebook is pretty secure, you control who sees what but you can't control what others put on. Remember that when someone is taking your picture.

**FLORA:** Depending on the ages. If your children are under the age of 13, get some backbone, set some boundaries NOW and follow through. Don't give in. Decades ago it was "Ginny has a Barbie pool, can I get one too?" Now it is all about putting all your personal information (pictures, school locations, likes, dislikes) on the web for all to see (even the child predators). And please spare the line that "only those I invite to view can see." These are CHILDREN people. Children. Remember when you were young; you thought you had all the answers and that you were invincible. Keep your kids safe.

Oh and by the way, if you as the parent are on Facebook and your face is staring at your cell phone every moment--get off. You model behavior for your children. If you are Facebooking and enjoying it, why won't they want to join in the fun with their friends. Get off the Cell Phone, Log-off your computer (unless you are working from home) and engage with your precious children. Talk with them, walk with them. Get to know them before you hear "Cats in the Cradle".

Greater Meriden Chamber

**23rd Annual Golf Tournament**

**The Ray Parmentier Classic**

**Wednesday, June 9, 2010**

**Hunter Memorial Golf Course**

Rated as one of the top 10 public courses in Connecticut

Source: Connecticut Magazine.

*Westfield Road, Meriden, Connecticut*

Foursome Only $ 775

Individual Players Welcome $195 per player

Awards Ceremony Dinner Only $ 60

**Tournament Schedule:**

| | |
|---|---|
| 10:00 AM | Registration, Free Range Balls &Putting Contest |
| 10:30 AM | Barbecue Lunch |
| Noon | Shotgun Start / Scramble Format |
| 5:00 PM | Cocktail Reception / Cash Bar |
| 6:00 PM | Awards Dinner & Prizes |

**SPECTACULAR PRIZES:**

**Putting Contest Cash Prize**

**Over $5,000 In Raffle Prizes!!!**

***Proceeds Benefit The Sanford S. Shorr Education Awards***

*To date we've given over $67,000 to Meriden students!*

*RSVP by May 23 to allow time for printing! The Players: Please List Name, Company, Handicap:*

*PLAYERS' NAMES COMPANY EMAIL HCP*

*Team's Primary Contact:*

*1)* _____

*2)* _____

*3)* _____

*4)* _____

**Total Remittance Amount: $** _____

_____ Check payable to The Greater Meriden Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

_____ I authorize you to charge my Master Card, Visa, Discover or American Express Card:

Card #: _____ Card in Name of: _____

Card Expiration Date: _____/_____ Signature: _____

*Please forward this completed form to:* **The Greater Meriden Chamber of Commerce, Inc., 3 Colony St.; Suite 301, Meriden, CT 06451**

*Phone: 203-235-7901 Fax:203-686-0172*

*Email: info@meridenchamber.com Web: www.meridenchamber.com*