

**THE WESTERN CONNECTICUT
MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION
PROUDLY
PRESENTS ITS
THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL
YOUNG AMERICAN AWARDS**



**SPONSORED IN PART BY
SIKORSKY AIRCRAFT**

JUNE 7, 2011

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

Western Connecticut Military Officers Association

WCMOA is a nonprofit affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America. Our chapter was founded in 1958 and serves Fairfield County. It is comprised of men and women who are or have been federally commissioned in one of the seven U.S. uniformed services (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Navy and Public Health Service). This includes retired officers, active duty officers, warrant officers and reserve component officers. New members are welcome and may call Lt Col John Simonetti at (203) 929-4085. Please visit our website: www.wcmoa.org.

2010 WCMOA Officers

President	Lt Col John Simonetti, USAF (Ret)
VP Membership	LT Thomas Gabrielson, USA
VP Secretary	CAPT William Glass, USNR (Ret)
VP Treasurer	CDR James Botten, USNR (Ret)
VP Chaplain	COL Serge Gabriel, USA (Ret)
VP Newsletter	LT Curt Noel, USA
VP Public Relations	LT Susan Monks, USNR
VP Programs	LT Donald Boyle, USA (Ret)
VP CT Council Liaison	CDR James Botten, USNR (Ret)
YAA Co-Chairpersons	LT Susan Monks, USNR CDR James Botten, USNR (Ret)

YAA Banquet Toasts

First ToastI propose a toast to our country and the flag that represents it!

Response: To the Colors!

Second Toast To the Commander in Chief!

Response: To the President!

Third Toast.....To the Chief of Staff of the Army!

Response: To the Chief of Staff of the Army!

Fourth ToastTo the Chief of Naval Operations!

Response: To the Chief of Naval Operations!

Fifth Toast.....To the COMDT of the Marine Corps

Response: To the COMDT of the Marine Corps

Sixth Toast.... To the Chief of Staff of the Air Force

Response: To the Chief of Staff of the Air Force

Seventh Toast ... To the COMDT of the Coast Guard

Response: To the COMDT of the Coast Guard!

Last and Solemn Toast (with water) To our Comrades in arms, currently in uniform serving our country, many in harm's way, and those killed in action, missing in action or prisoners of war.

Response: None

Executive Board Biographies

CAPT William O. Glass Jr., USNR (Ret) B.S. Journalism Northwestern University (Naval ROTC) 1976, M.S. in advertising 1981. Commanded midshipman battalion in senior year; US Navy 1976-1981, aboard USS Caron DD-970, as an engineering dept. officer and surface warfare officer; stationed in Norfolk, VA; made deployments to the Mediterranean, Black Sea, Caribbean, North Sea, United Kingdom. Served 21 years in the US Naval Reserve and held command of 5 reserve units. VP and Gen Mgr at Conn Marketing Assn, Wilton. Current project consists of the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, providing financial aid to wounded veterans.

LT Thomas C. Gabrielson, USA, B. S. Business Administration, Norwich University 1968. Active duty June 1969 to May 1970. Graduated from Armor Officer Basic Training in Ft. Knox, KY September 1969. Reassigned to 1st Armored Div., 123rd Maintenance Battalion, Ft. Hood, TX. Served in Vietnam from June 1970 to May 1971 with the 2nd of the 1st Armored Cavalry, and the 26 Combat Engineers. Received the **Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Achievement** in ground operations against hostile forces. Honorably discharge from active duty May 9, 1971. I worked for IBM in various marketing and technical jobs from 1968-1999 From 1999 until 2003, I held various management and executive positions with emerging technology companies in Fairfield County and Manhattan. From 2004-2009, I began working for Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County managing the Habitat ReStore in Stratford. Since then, I have been doing various part time jobs, and enjoying some welcomed downtime.

LT Susan H. S. Monks, USNR, B.S. United States Merchant Marine Academy 1982; USCG Third Mate License, Motor/Steam, Unlimited Tonnage; J.D. Quinnipiac University School of Law 1990; Admitted to CT Bar, U.S. District Court, U.S. Court of Military Appeals; Atlantic Richfield Oil Co., 3rd Mate; USNR Naval Control of Shipping 601, New Haven, Training Off; USN Maritime Prepositioning Ships, Diego Garcia, BIOT, OpsOff/Navigator; USEPA, Regional Counsel; Adj Professor of Law WestConn State University and Naugatuck Valley Community College.

LT Donald Boyle, USAR (Ret), B.S. Biology, Norwich University 1968, MS Biology, Hofstra University. Vietnam Veteran, **Purple Heart Recipient**, 1/77 Armor, 5th Mechanized Infantry Brigade. Morgan Stanley securities broker. Bank of America, loan consultant. Now retired.

CDR James R. Botten, USNR (Ret) As a junior in high school enlisted in the USNR as a seaman recruit. B.S. United States Naval Academy 1953. MBA Sacred Heart University 1983; USS Bennington and USS Ticonderoga, signal officer; USS Newman K. Perry, navigator; USS Kretchmer, operations officer; USNR, Naval Reserve Surface Division, Bridgeport, CT, 1957-1977. Retired after 35 years as an engineer of military H-34 helicopters at Sikorsky Aircraft.

Lt Col John F. Simonetti, USAF (Ret) Fairfield Prep (1975), BS Physics, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (1979). Officer Training School Commission (1981), Pilot Training (1982), Squadron Officer's School (1985), Air Command and Staff College (1995), MAS Aeronautical Science Embry-Riddle (1997). T-38 Instructor Pilot, Vance AFB, OK (1983-86). F-16 Pilot/Instructor Pilot/Evaluator Pilot: Luke AFB AZ, Eielson AFB AK, Hahn AB, Germany, Spangdahlem AB Germany, Aviano AB Italy (1986-2001). Combat assignments: Saudi Arabia/Iraq (Operations Desert Shield/Storm), Bosnia (Deliberate Force), Turkey (Northern Watch), Kuwait (Southern Watch). Currently a 757/767 International Pilot with Delta Airlines.

LT Curtis Noel, USA, AB Harvard College 1957, commissioned 2nd Lt. at graduation after completing Army ROTC program. Completed Armor Officers Basic Course at Ft. Knox. Served 16 months in Korea as Assistant S4/S4, 2nd Recon. Sqdn., 10th Cav., 7th Inf. Div. MBA Harvard Business School 1961. Career as business consultant beginning with Booz, Allen & Hamilton and for many years as independent consultant. Director Military Museum of Southern New England.

COL Serge Gabriel, USAR (Ret) 1948 French Baccalaureat; 1949 French Armor OCS, Saumur, France; 1950 Tank Destroyer Platoon leader, Mainz, Germany; 1953 U.S. Infantry OCS, Ft. Benning, Georgia; 1954 Staff Officer, Eight Army Ordnance Depot, ASCOM City, Korea; 1955 Joined Army Reserve for 26 years service; 1957 Began 31 years with IBM World Trade Corp. (Market and Operation Planning manager: 5 years in Tokyo (monthly RTU attendance), for Japan, Korea and South East Asia; 3 years in Paris for Europe and Saudi Arabia (monthly NAVEUR attendance at Embassy, yearly active duty training in Germany); 1960 B.S. New York University; 1990 Master of Art in Religion (M.A.R.), Yale Divinity School, delivery of Bible seminars in Canada, France and West Africa; 1998 to date: participation in the development of the 1781 Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (W3R) from Newport RI to Yorktown VA.

Distinguished Speaker



Linda E. McMahon stepped down as the Chief Executive Officer of WWE in Stamford, Connecticut, in September, 2009, to run for the United States Senate.

Linda helped grow WWE from a modest 13-person operation to a publicly traded global enterprise with over 500 employees and offices in New York, Los Angeles, London, Shanghai, Singapore and Tokyo. McMahon has been widely recognized as one of the country's top female executives. In 2007, she was named one of Multichannel News' "Wonder Women," recognizing her accomplishments as a leader in the U.S. cable television industry.

In addition to her work in the boardroom, McMahon has been instrumental in nurturing a wide variety of community and charitable programs. She spearheaded the creation of Get R.E.A.L. educational and literacy programs, including the company's nationwide Reading Challenge in partnership with the youth division of the American Library Association.

In 2004, the Make-A-Wish Foundation awarded WWE its highest honor and McMahon was appointed in 2005 to the organization's

National Advisory Council Under McMahon's leadership, the WWE was the recipient of the USO of Metropolitan Washington's first ever "Legacy of Hope" (in honor of Bob Hope) award for its extensive support of our troops, and in 2007 the company received the Secretary of Defense Exceptional Public Service Award for its support of deployed service members in Iraq and Afghanistan. She has served as the Honorary Corporate Chair of the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, running one of the organization's most successful fundraising efforts and serves on the Boards of Sacred Heart University of Fairfield, Connecticut and the Close Up Foundation, a nonprofit that exists to educate and inspire young people to participate in our democracy. In 2009, she was appointed by Governor M. Jodi Rell to serve on the Connecticut Board of Education.

Recently, McMahon has been active with her family foundation to support various Connecticut organizations and programs that can make a difference in the areas of entrepreneurship and education.

Born in New Bern, NC, Linda was a high school honor society student who went on to graduate from East Carolina University at Greenville, NC, with a Bachelor of Science in French and certified to teach. She resides in Greenwich with her husband of 45 years, Vince. They have two adult children, Shane and Stephanie, and six grandchildren.

**Young American Awardees
2011**

Presented by

Lt Col John Simonetti, USAF (Ret)

and

YAA Co-Chairpersons

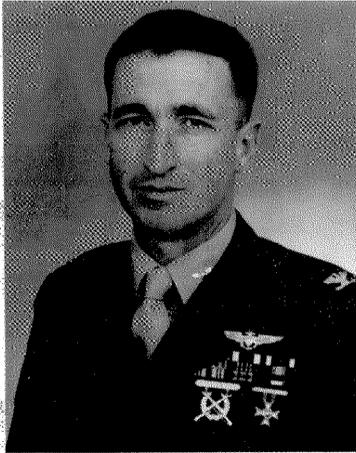
CDR James Botten, USNR (Ret)

LT Susan Monks, USNR

and the

COL William D. Tyra III, USMC (Ret)

Memorial Award



COL William D. Tyra III, USMC (Ret)

COL Tyra was born in Pasadena, Texas on December 20, 1951. Upon graduating from the University of Houston in Aug 1974, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. He completed flight training at NAS Pensacola, FL and was designated a Naval Aviator on Aug 27, 1976.

COL Tyra served 26 years in the United States Marine Corps retiring in 1999. His personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal and Navy Commendation Medal.

A former member of the WCMOA executive board and Young American Award Chairman, COL Tyra died on January 29 of this year. He was married to the former Barbara Ann Provenzano and father to two daughters, Katie and Ashley.

In his memory, this award is presented to the Young American Awardee who best exemplifies COL Tyra's spirit of dedication and leadership.

Bethel High School/Navy JROTC

Jacqueline M. Mancher

Jacqueline boasts an impressive record in sports and academic endeavors, maintaining a 3.9 GPA as well as playing on the varsity cross-country, varsity swimming, and varsity lacrosse teams. Her impressive leadership skills elected her captain of her cross-country team, awarded her places in the National Honor Society and Student Government, and allowed her to thrive as a Navy JROTC. Her hard work does not end there; she founded Operation Sweet Tooth, which provides candy to troops overseas as well as children affected by war and disaster, and participates in several other charitable organizations, proving her desire to help others and give back to her country.

Her family shares many ties to the military. Her father is a Navy Captain and veteran of the war in Afghanistan; her grandfather served in Vietnam as an air force pilot and as a member of the Air National Guard; and her brother is a Seabee in the Navy.

Jacqueline serves others selflessly in her community, joining an Appalachian service project, working at soup kitchens, among other events. She has received many awards, such as the Manne Athletic Award, for her many talents and abilities in sports, academics, and volunteer work. She will surely continue to actively participate in her community when she attends Georgia Tech to study aeronautical engineering in the fall.

Brien McMahon High School, Norwalk Navy JROTC

Kirsten M. Fahey

Active in her community's ROTC and Norwalk Veterans Memorial Committee, Kirsten has worked hard to fit in 240 individual volunteer hours as well as play on her school's sports teams and succeed in her studies. A member of Brien McMahon's cross country and indoor track teams, Kirsten stays involved in athletics while balancing academics to obtain a seat in her school's chapter of the National Honor Society.

For her academic accomplishments, she has been awarded the United States Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award and the Founders and Patriots of America Superior Achievement Award. Her work paid off with a notable GPA of 3.6.

Kirsten is very involved in her community's leadership and JROTC activities, taking part in Center for Youth Leadership and JROTC drill teams for the color guard, unarmed, and armed divisions. Within ROTC, she gained the positions of administrator, platoon commander, executive officer, and commanding officer.

Kirsten will attend the University of New Haven and says, "I strongly desire to continue my service to my country as a United States Army Officer in the field of psychology." Her impressive work with the ROTC and local veterans in regard to the Memorial and Veterans Day ceremonies further demonstrates her patriotism and devotion to serving her country.

Bunnell High School, Stratford

Patrick A. Furbush

Following the lead of his WWII veteran grandfathers and an uncle in the army, Patrick displays the interests and patriotic spirit of a strong future leader. He will attend George Washington University in the fall and, in his own words, “My goal is to work in politics so I too can be a part of the governing process.”

Patrick shares a great enthusiasm for all things political. He cites C-SPAN and presidential debates in his interests and puts his leadership skills into action in student government and other school organizations. He served as class president of his freshman, sophomore, and senior class! Additionally, he held offices in debate club and Model UN among others.

The Boy Scouts have allowed him to improve his community and headline service activities, such as registering citizens to vote, and he has been senior patrol leader of his troop for two years. Along with all of these accomplishments, Patrick obtained a 3.3 GPA, played on the soccer, track, and golf teams at Bunnell, and worked as an employee at Shoprite. His excellent balance of a busy schedule will serve him well in his political aspirations.

Danbury High School, Air Force JROTC

Tiffany H. Gomes

Ryan Tiffany clearly puts a focus on serving others, performing 1370 community service hours in her high school career. Her charitable work includes flag raising ceremonies, parades, Memorial and Veterans Day festivities, and 26 community service projects of which she headed. Her strong passion for patriotic and service work shines with these accomplishments.

Tiffany has amassed a large collection of awards and ribbons for her contributions to the ROTC, ranging from proper adherence to the dress code, loyalty to the program, drill competitions, and academic achievements. Her devotion to the program is obvious when one considers the nine ROTC ribbons and four ROTC awards alone.

Tiffany plans to continue her academic journey by attending Western Connecticut State University and then transferring to the University of Connecticut, where she will work towards a degree in dentistry. She plans to utilize these skills when she enters the Air Force after graduation.

Darien High School

Laura A. Byrne

Laura has participated in many opportunities in her school and town that designate her as a leader in her community. She is a two-year volunteer at the Noroton Heights Fire Department, an AP Art scholar, and has taken part in a US/CHINA Exchange Program through Darien High School. Her work helps save lives, as well as teaching her to learn and think globally.

Volunteering at Noroton Heights Fire Department helped Laura conquer her fears and take part in exciting and selfless work for her community. Although she will graduate, she plans to continue working with the fire department and apply her knowledge regarding safety precautions and life-saving techniques in her future endeavors.

She shares a passion for helping others; the Haiti disaster inspired her to depict the tragic and long-reaching effects of the earthquake on canvas to ensure that others do not forget the devastation suffered there and continue to help the country rebuild. Additionally, she will attend Manhattanville College and major in Special Education, inspired by her work with physically and mentally handicapped classmates and friends. Her work for others displays her desire to serve her community, and is further emphasized by her hope to help special needs children upon graduation.

Fairfield College Preparatory School

William M. Firisin, Jr.

A capable and talented young man, William excels in academics, holding a 3.98 GPA and earning the Summa Cum Laude Academic distinction every year at Fairfield College Preparatory Academy. He ranks in the top six percent of his class, is recognized as a National Merit Scholar, and is a two-year member of the National Honor Society among other achievements.

William actively takes part in Prep's athletic community, playing rugby and football, the latter of which he received a letter and was manager of the varsity team. He played rugby for all four years and now mentors the underclassmen players, helping them to improve their skill and technique.

Of the many organizations and commitments William partakes in, he aided in efforts to hold the Easton Memorial Day parade, he volunteers as a volunteer fireman in Easton, and has been a member of the Boy Scouts for seven years. He will attend the United States Military Academy and plans to spend twenty years as a Commissioned Officer in the US Army possibly as a combat engineer.

Fairfield Ludlowe High School

Brooke E. Mackno

Brooke is a superb athlete, acting as captain on Fairfield Ludlowe's soccer, skiing, and tennis teams. She has earned numerous awards for her accomplishments on these teams, as well as recognition from local newspapers and news stations for her accomplishments. Her hard work helped her gain varsity letters and praise for her prowess in all three sports.

Brooke cites her decision to bravely stand during the Pledge of Allegiance regardless of peer pressure as an example to molding her patriotism and leadership in her community. Although her classmates acted indifferently, Brooke proudly recited the pledge and inspired others to stand up and display their patriotism as well.

Her family holds an extensive history in military service, listing twelve relatives serving their country. Her grandfathers and their respective brothers served in WWII in the United States Army, Navy, and Marines, whereas her father and uncle are members of the Air Force. She will attend the United States Naval Academy and continue on to join the United States Navy, concentrating in medicine, aviation, or aeronautical engineering.

Fairfield Warde High School

Mackenzie M. Dancho

Mackenzie is a strong force in her community, organizing several large events to improve the world around her in Fairfield and abroad. She participated in a mission to Appalachia to help a West Virginian family, as well as working to aid women's health and third world countries in other projects. Her work makes a positive impact in her community, as she selflessly serves others.

Track is a large part of her high school career, as she participated in FCIACS and Warde's first place team in the 2007 International School Sports Tournament. Additionally, she is a part of her school's Mock Trial team, which boosted her interest in politics and law. Mackenzie will attend the University of Delaware and major in Political Science, with which she plans to play an active role on her community and government.

Fairfield is important to Mackenzie, as she worked hard to improve her community and make an international impact from her small town. She took part in Saferides, a program aimed at minimizing the risk of car crashes from drivers under the influence, aiding others in obtaining safe drivers in dangerous circumstances. She also helps to spread the message against bullying at her local middle school to reduce bullying incidents and raise awareness. Her devotion to her community is laudable and is a valuable trait in politics.

Greenwich High School

Patrick F. Robben

Patrick is a stellar example of a leader, proving his abilities as captain of his varsity, junior varsity, and freshman lacrosse team and participating in several charitable organizations. His work with his school's Key Club, Debate Club, and other extracurricular activities expand on his desire to serve his community.

His work with the Saferides program, of which he is program leader, helps to ensure safe rides in situations where one may be under the influence. Additionally, he acts as a peer mentor tutoring students and setting an example for classmates and underclassmen.

Patrick is the third generation to join the military, as his father belongs to the Army-Airborne Field Artillery and his grandfather achieved the position of Brigadier General. His family's commitment to their country inspired Patrick to his responsibility to his country and the value of helping others. He plans to attend West Point and aims to attend Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Norwalk High School

Taohid Chadhury

Taohid has worked hard to succeed, saying, “I try to do the best I can with the time I have.” He runs for Norwalk’s Track and Field Team as well as the Cross Country Team, gaining athletic prowess. In addition, Taohid participates in BuildOn, which provides events and opportunities for inner city children and services to urban areas. He works for this organization in his spare time through his school community.

Taohid balances a two-year job at T. J. Maxx in addition to his schoolwork and other activities. He has maintained a 3.8 GPA and performed over 1,000 service hours to his community, proving his commitment to helping others even with a busy schedule.

Taohid will attend the University of Connecticut to study mathematics in the fall.

Shelton High School

Kelli M. Freer

In her own words, Kelli “grew up as a Navy brat, the glory of the Navy blue and gold drew me in, and as I matured, I started to understand what it truly meant to serve...” Kelli displayed her proficiency in academic subjects, earning valedictorian of her class in addition to the Andy Brennan Memorial Award for Excellence in Spanish and the Wellesley College Book Award. Her hard work and devotion to her country paid off with acceptance into the United States Naval Academy class of 2015, at which she will grow in a fully military environment to achieve her aspirations in the Navy, much like her family members.

With varied activities, Kelli boasts an impressive resume of athletic, academic, and service achievements. She actively participated on the Shelton swim team, gaining the rank of captain in her senior year. Additionally, she has been a Girl Scout for thirteen years, taking part in various service projects and community outreach events. She has won accolades in mathematics, and is captain of her school’s Robotics Team as well. Her work prepares her for the Naval Academy’s motto: “Through Knowledge Sea Power!

St. Joseph High School, Trumbull

Timothy P. Cottell

Timothy comes from a family of military members, listing eleven relatives involved in the Navy, Air Force, Army, and Merchant Marines. Following in their footsteps, he will attend the New Mexico Military Institute in the subsequent school year, and then reapply to the USAFA, USMMA, and USCGA.

A Monroe volunteer firefighter, Timothy works to aid others by selflessly helping others in dangerous situations, preparing him for the challenges found in combat. In his own words, “I intend to enter into Active Duty upon graduation,” which expresses his wish to serve his country in the field.

Additionally, he is a Boy Scout, currently working toward an Eagle Scout rank by working to create a solar powered light on a flagpole to enable the flag to wave at all times. Timothy was no stranger to the athletic field either as he played on the St. Joe’s volleyball team for all four years.

Timothy, a 2010 Boy’s State candidate, garnered a congressional nomination from Congressmen Himes for the United States Merchant Marine Academy. It is his hope that he will join the ranks of Kings Pointers as a leader in the maritime industry. He already holds true to this academy’s motto of Acta Non Verba, which means “Deeds not Words.”

Stamford High School

Morgan S. Temple

Morgan shares a strong passion for caring for animals! She has worked for 200 hours with therapeutic horses to aid special needs children, as well as volunteering 144 more hours at Healing Hounds, which brings dogs to visit those suffering from physical and mental illness to improve their spirits. Her work brings joy to others by sharing the loving nature of pets and animals.

She is also an active player on her Varsity Tennis team, working hard to earn the title of “Most Improved Player” her junior year and acting as co-captain her senior year. While on the team, she participated in fundraisers for the team as well as playing #3 singles.

Her love of animals again surfaces in her pastime as an equestrian. She competed in several competitions for English riding and jumping, learning to take care of the horses and groom them properly. She also shared her skills with beginners in an equestrian summer camp, passing on her skills to others.

Morgan will attend Emory University and work toward a degree in chemistry and through the Pre-Veterinary track. Her hard work in high school with a weighted 4.7 GPA and numerous awards more than qualify her to achieve her aspirations.

Staples High School, Westport

Cole S. Manley

Cole touts a resume laden with accolades in academic excellence as well as sports and extracurricular activities. As a member of his National Honor Society chapter, the school newspaper *Inklings*, the Varsity Tennis Team, and the Westport Soccer Association, he keeps busy!

As a member of his tennis team, Cole joined the Grassroots program, which enables inner city children to hold positive influences in an environment where they can play tennis instead of engaging in mischief or debauchery. He participated in his school's jazz, concert, and pep band playing the Tenor Saxophone as well.

He will attend Stanford University in the fall to study either the humanities, or in writing with a concentration in journalism.

Trinity Catholic High School

Steven B. Kolenberg

Following the lead of his WWII veteran grandfathers, Stephen shares an interest in military endeavors to serve his country. He has demonstrated his political ambitions by volunteering for the Stamford Republican Party since 2003, acting as Youth Organizer since 2008. His work helps him to learn more about his interests and grow in knowledge regarding politics and his community government.

He stresses that leadership does not consist of gain, but sacrifice. Although leaders may achieve prestige and monetary promotions, those in power must give of themselves to others, instead of taking from those they serve. His time at Sea Cadet boot camp gave him a look into the hardship of army life, and the priceless reward of serving others. In his own community, Stephen volunteers at New Covenant House soup kitchen, Homes for Heroes services projects, among other events to benefit others. His giving spirit will serve him well at the Citadel, where he aims to join the United States Army and eventually work in the CIA, DIA, or NSA.

Trumbull High School

Jeffrey S. Liu

Jeffrey holds an impressive record in academic achievements, maintaining a 4.6 GPA and ranking in the 95% percentile of his class at Trumbull. His work in student government, the National Honor Society, and in various other organizations shows his commitment to his school and community.

He has won multiple awards for his academic success, such as the Harvard Alumni Club Book Award, the Departmental Award in Social Studies, and gaining a spot as a National Merit Scholarship Finalist. He continues to shine as a Student Council Representative in both his freshmen and senior years, as well as Class President in tenth grade. Musically, he is gifted as a Violinist for his school's orchestra, the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestra Group, and in several divisions in the state. Jeffrey, an accomplished martial artist finds time to tutor his peers and teach the Chinese language. Jeffrey also organized the Trumbull Veteran's Oral History project at his high school.

Jeffrey's patriotic commitment is expressed beautifully in his essay: "...it is an understanding of the grim realities of life without freedom that compels me to volunteer to defend our country." Jeffrey, a first generation American of Chinese descent, will report to the United States Military Academy to commence Army Cadet Basic Training on June 27.

Wilton High School

David J. Forsey

A thespian, David wears many hats in his community, tutoring in Algebra and performing as the lead dancer in *The Music Man*. He has honed his dancing skills at the Walter Schalk School of Dance for six years, as well as participating in the Madrigal Select Choir.

His school work also shows a balance of academics and activities, as David holds a 3.7 GPA, an AP Scholar Award, a PSAT Commended Scholar Award, a mixture of honor and high honor roll certificates, and a spot in the Wilton chapter of the National Honor Society. Additionally, he helped found the Socks for Soldiers Drive, which collects clothing for soldiers who lack the proper necessities for the climates they face while on Active Duty. He works on the Executive Council of Peervention, which mentors peers in social pressures and situations, as well.

David plans to attend Tufts University in the fall and join the Naval ROTC in order to become a naval officer upon graduation. Break a leg!

Westhill High School, Stamford

Army JROTC

Jaymi N. Jaworoski

An active member of her local ROTC, Jaymi has shown her desire to participate in the military and proudly display her strong sense of patriotism. A member of the JROTC Military Ball Committee, Color Guard, JLab Team, and Raider Team, Jaymi stays busy working in her community and honing the skills crucial to her success in the Army.

As well as her numerous ROTC commitments, she holds offices as executive officer of the battalion, unarmed drill team commander, tutors middle-school children in her community from Turn of River Middle School, and worked at Shoprite throughout the year.

Jaymi will enter Temple University to study Psychology while still staying active in the ROTC. She wishes to pursue a career in clinical psychology as an Army officer.