

# The Hour

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Wes Anderson makes endings a trademark

SEE PAGE C1



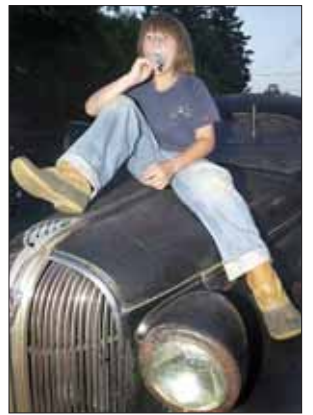
THE INDEPENDENT VOICE OF OUR COMMUNITY FOR 139 YEARS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2010 Vol. 139 No. 21 50¢

## DEFENSE RESPONDS TO PARISOT CIVIL LAWSUIT BY SAYING:

# Teen's death caused by his own 'negligence'

Nicholas Parisot was riding his motor bike when he struck a rope and was killed



Hour file photo / ALEX von KLEYDORFF  
Nicholas Parisot is shown at the 2004 Kiwanis Car Show in Wilton Center.

**WILTON**  
By KARA O CONNOR  
Hour Staff Writer

A Wilton family is claiming that the death of Nicholas Parisot was

likely caused by his own negligence and not by the "willful and malicious conduct" of a 12-year-old member of that family.

This past June, Wilton residents Rick Parisot

and Katherine Throckmorton, of 274 Nod Hill Road, filed a civil suit against Glenn and Barbara Knight and their 12-year-old son, all of 97 Hickory Hill Road, claiming the 12-year-old

caused the death of their son, Nicholas Parisot.

On the afternoon of June 13, 2008, 13-year-old Nicholas was riding his motorized bike on a trail in a wooded area near Hickory Hill and

Hillbrook roads and struck a rope strung across the trail. Nicholas suffered severe fatal injuries to his neck and body, resulting in his

see WILTON, A4

# Cranbury Park winery, garden plans dropped

Consulting firm responds to concerns by community

**NORWALK**  
By ROBERT KOCH  
Hour Staff Writer

Recommendations for a winery and community garden on the west side of Grumman Avenue have been yanked from the draft Master Plan for Cranbury Park.

On Wednesday night, Gary Sorge of Stantec, the consulting firm that prepared the draft plan, outlined to the Common Council's Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs Committee at City Hall revisions to the plan.

"This is the revised schematic plan. On the west side of Grumman Avenue, we're relying strictly on a trail network," Sorge said. "This is in response to the community concerns last week about the agricultural uses that were proposed, between the winery and the community garden."

The new "soft trails" west of Grumman Avenue would follow deer

see CRANBURY, A4

# NORWALK HAITIANS LOSE FAMILY IN DISASTER



Above, Stew Leonard's produce worker Marie Ruland said she has heard from her children in Haiti. Inset: Bakery worker Exana Rene, however, said she has lost four members of her immediate family in the Haitian earthquake.

Hour photos / ERIK TRAUTMANN

# Stew Leonard's pledges \$25,000 to help Haitian employees impacted by tragedy

**NORWALK**  
By CHASE WRIGHT  
Hour Staff Writer

Nearly one-sixth of Stew Leonard's staff in Norwalk is of Haitian descent, and the family-friendly grocer on Westport Avenue plans to take care of its own.

The Norwalk-based grocer has committed \$25,000 to helping its Haitian team members who have been adversely affected by the cataclysmic earthquake that struck the capitol of Port-au-Prince last week,

and according to the European Union, killed an estimated 200,000 people and left as many as 2 million homeless.

At Stew's, cashier Geraldine Boliere lost her husband's entire family and Exana Rene, who works in the bakery, lost four members of her immediate family.

"Stew's is doing something really beautiful to help the people of Haiti," said Salnave Gilles, a kitchen assistant manager at the grocery store.

Gilles was one of 12 employees appointed to The Stew Leonard's

Haitian Relief Team, which was assembled Monday and began collecting donations for its grocery employees with family in Haiti.

Gilles has lost several members of his extended family, and his sister's home was leveled in the quake.

"She's homeless, living in the street," he said. "People are afraid to go inside. There's no food, there's no water."

Gilles is not alone in his grief. Nearly one-sixth of Stew

see STEW, A6

# 57 Save the Children staff in Haiti OK

But two others did not fare well: One dead, one in critical condition

**WESTPORT**  
By CHASE WRIGHT  
Hour Staff Writer

Save the Children has accounted for all of its 59 staff members stationed in Haiti, and all but two are safe and in good health, a spokesperson for the organization

said Wednesday.

Save the Children confirmed the death of 24-year-old Similien Mackendey last week and said Wednesday that another staffer was still in critical condition from injuries sustained in the magnitude-7.0 earthquake that rocked the Haitian capitol of Port-au-Prince last

Tuesday.

"We've finally located the last of the missing, and we are still treating one who was seriously injured in the earthquake," said Eileen Burke, spokeswoman for Save the Children.

About a third of Save the

see SAVE, A6



Hour photo / ERIK TRAUTMANN

Annual BPE awards breakfast held Irene Dixon, left, receives the Norwalk Education Foundation Individual Partner in Education Award from Robin Guarnieri, NEF event co-chairwoman, while NEF Executive Director Lauren Rosato looks on during the 8th Annual Business Partners for Education Awards Breakfast at the Brewhouse restaurant Wednesday morning. — See D1

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## Today's Poll Question:

Should the Cranbury Park land west of Grumman Avenue be developed?

Vote & post your comments on the Hour Poll  
www.thehour.com

## Inside today, see B6

## Extended Outdoor Section

- > Birding columns
- > Fishing News
- > Boating information

www.thehour.com/sports/outdoors/

## Weather/A2



# 16

Saturday, January 16, 9:15 am

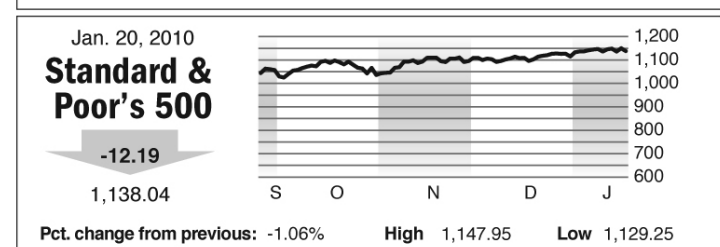
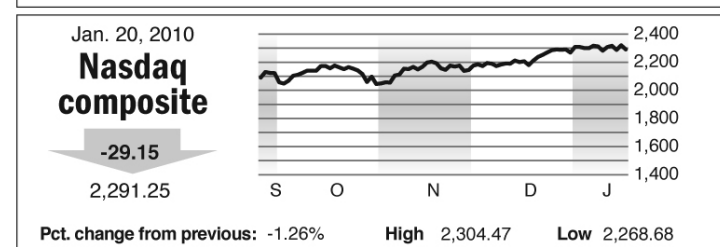
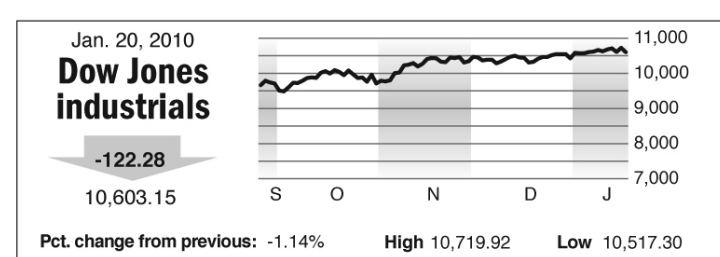
Perkin Auditorium, Norwalk Hospital, 34 Maple Street, Norwalk  
Attend a **free weight-loss seminar** and learn how the **Surgical Weight Loss Center** at Norwalk Hospital is transforming bodies and lives.  
Come and learn more about bariatric surgery and have your questions answered. Register online at [goodbyeBMI.org](http://goodbyeBMI.org) or call 203-852-3100.



# BUSINESS

The Hour

## A DAY ON WALL STREET



SOURCE: SunGard

AP

## STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Company		Yesterday's			Div.	Yield	52-week			
		High	Low	Close			Chng	PE	High	Low
AT&T Inc	N	26.03	25.70	25.83	-.37	1.68f	6.5	13	28.73	21.44
Aetna	N	33.65	32.05	32.48	-.18	.04	.1	12	34.91	18.66
ArchCh	N	31.49	30.32	30.68	-1.18	.80	2.6	30	32.41	15.00
AsburyA	N	13.14	12.75	12.94	-.22			dd	14.95	1.00
AvisBudg	N	12.75	12.28	12.37	-.44			dd	14.14	.34
Baldw	A	1.29	1.27	1.27	...			dd	2.10	.72
BoltTech	O	13.25	12.55	12.80	-.37			12	13.55	5.65
Borders	N	1.24	1.18	1.18	-.06			dd	4.48	.39
CablvsnNY	N	27.20	26.64	27.01	-.25	.40	1.5	dd	27.73	9.34
CampSp	N	32.90	32.50	32.87	-.18	1.10f	3.3	15	35.80	24.63
CompTch	A	1.68	1.62	1.67	...			dd	2.84	.54
Corning	N	19.83	19.34	19.77	-.02	.20	1.0	20	20.85	8.97
Crane	N	33.37	32.71	33.25	-.09	.80	2.4	25	34.32	12.46
Diageo	N	70.34	69.65	70.24	-.68	2.26e	3.2		70.94	40.93
DowChm	N	30.57	29.81	30.36	-.32	.60	2.0	dd	31.66	5.89
EMCOR	N	25.85	25.29	25.69	-.36			9	27.95	13.44
EdgarOnl	O	1.27	1.21	1.27	+.02			dd	2.20	.71
FactsetR	N	66.41	65.80	65.78	-1.25	.80	1.2	22	76.76	35.56
FstBcpPR	N	2.36	2.26	2.33	-.02			dd	9.01	1.47
FrontierCm	N	7.66	7.55	7.58	-.07	1.00	13.2	15	8.64	5.32
Gartner	N	22.02	21.34	21.70	-.44			24	22.59	8.33
GenElec	N	16.68	16.33	16.50	-.04	.40	2.4	15	17.52	5.73
IMS Hlth	N	21.57	21.42	21.49	-.03	.12	.6	14	21.68	11.12
InteractBrk	O	16.47	16.24	16.30	-.19			13	20.99	12.68
IntPap	N	26.79	25.95	26.28	-.68	.10	.4	36	28.61	3.93
MarshM	N	21.93	21.63	21.82	-.20	.80	3.7	42	25.46	17.18
MStewrt	N	5.58	5.44	5.48	-.08			dd	8.84	1.60
MeadWvco	N	28.64	27.84	28.17	-.80	.92	3.3	69	29.74	7.53
NoestUt	N	26.36	26.06	26.28	-.13	.95	3.6	14	26.57	19.01
NorthropG	N	58.71	57.51	58.29	-.65	1.72	3.0	cc	59.83	33.81
Olin	N	18.05	17.63	17.90	-.23	.80	4.5	9	18.40	8.97
PerkElm	N	21.38	20.92	21.16	-.21	.28	1.3	23	22.00	10.88
PitnyBw	N	21.99	21.75	21.93	-.14	1.44	6.6	11	26.41	17.62
Praxair	N	81.03	80.08	80.75	-.33	1.60	2.0	23	86.07	53.35
priceline	O	211.50	203.09	206.31	-2.39			20	231.49	64.95
StarGas	N	4.32	4.24	4.27	-.05	.27	6.3	7	4.51	2.11
SturmRug	N	11.40	10.80	11.09	-.33	.31e	2.8	8	15.20	5.98
Terex	N	23.11	22.35	22.81	-.51			dd	25.61	7.34
ThomsonR	N	32.83	32.34	32.77	-.24	1.12	3.4	14	35.88	21.89
TrnsLx	A	1.01	.87	1.01	+.18			dd	3.50	.20
UBS AG	N	15.26	15.02	15.22	-.47				23.80	7.04
UtdhlthGp	N	36.07	34.29	34.55	-.58	.03	.1	11	35.90	16.18
VerizonCm	N	31.34	30.60	30.71	-.52	1.90	6.2	15	34.13	26.10
WidW Ent	N	16.29	15.80	16.25	+.15	1.44	8.9	23	16.59	8.98
Xerox	N	8.95	8.73	8.89	-.13	.17	1.9	25	9.75	4.12

EXCHANGE KEY: N=New York, O=Nasdaq, A=American

## JILL FOSTER'S THURSDAY TIP

With the recent events in the world, you may want to make a charitable donation to help the cause. When disasters occur, they tend to go hand-in-hand with scammers. The best way for you to donate and help is to research the charities before you give. Some charities may want monetary donations, others may want specific items. Whatever you choose to do, make sure that your donation is being put to the best use for the cause and not lining someone's pockets.



JILL RUSSO FOSTER

First you need to choose a charitable organization. Even if you have a specific cause in mind, there could be many organizations claiming to support the same goals you do. Second, you will want more information about a charity, and how they use their funds, go to [www.give.org](http://www.give.org). Here's what you need to know:

- Find out how much of each dollar is used for the cause, versus how much is used for administrative expenses. The higher the amount used for the cause the better.
- Find out whether they have a 501(c)(3) tax status if you are planning to deduct this donation on your IRS tax return.

Now that you have selected the charity of your choice, you will need to decide whether you will be making a donation of money or specific items to the charity. Check to see what they suggest is best for what you want to accomplish. For monetary donations, you should always use a check/debit card or credit card so that there is a record of the transaction.

This is the easiest way so that you have proper documentation. If you are donating specific items, you will need to have a record of what you are donating. For non-cash items, you can use the purchase receipt, itemized list along with documentation from the charity. Please check with your tax preparer, so that you have the proper documentation.

Jill Russo Foster is the author of "Cash, Credit and Your Finances: The Teen Years" and a speaker. For more information [www.CashCreditandYourFinances.com](http://www.CashCreditandYourFinances.com). Submit your questions to [Book@CashCreditandYourFinances.com](mailto:Book@CashCreditandYourFinances.com).



Hour photos/ERIK TRAUTMANN  
 Greater Chamber of Commerce President Edward Musante Jr., NEF event co-chairman Robin Guarnieri, Xerox Foundation President Joseph Cahalan, Irene Dixon of Hilton Garden Inn, Tony Aitoro of Aitoro Appliances, and NEF Executive Director Lauren Rosato stand together at The Brewhouse following the NEF's annual Business Partners for Education Awards Breakfast on Wednesday.

# NEF honors business partners

**NORWALK**  
 By CHRIS BOSAK  
 Hour Staff Writer

The inextricable link between business and education was celebrated Wednesday at the Norwalk Education Foundation's eighth annual Business Partners for Education Breakfast held at The Brewhouse in South Norwalk.

NEF, an independent, non-profit organization that works to improve education in Norwalk, presented awards to Xerox (Corporate Partner Award), Tony Aitoro (Small Business Partner Award) and Irene Dixon (Individual Partner Award).

"Education is vital to the business community," Dixon said. "The kids are our future. If we want to keep moving forward we need to make sure the kids are prepared to carry the torch."

Dixon is the director of sales and marketing for Hilton Garden Inn. She is the first winner of the NEF Individual Partner in Education Award. NEF introduced the award this year in honor of all that Dixon does for the organization.

Dixon has two children in the Norwalk public school system.

"It's very gratifying to do this," she said of donating time to NEF. "It doesn't just affect me and my kids, but the community as well."

The Greater Norwalk Chamber of Commerce co-sponsored the event. Edward Musante Jr., president of the Chamber, said having a well-educated work force is what separates Fairfield County from many struggling areas of the country.

"(Supporting NEF) is somewhat self-serving for the business community. Our future relies on having ready-to-work employees," Musante said. "We attract and retain the



Tony Aitoro receives the NEF Small Business Partner in Education Award on Wednesday at The Brewhouse.

highest quality and most productive workers in the United States. To maintain this we need well-educated employees. That starts with students who are taught to think critically."

NEF offers enrichment programs to teachers and students. It also offers after-school literacy programs for students, one of which that has doubled the number of participants over the last year.

Aitoro Appliances plays host to NEF's major fundraiser Fall Taste for Education, which attracts about 300 people and raises more than \$3,000 each year.

"They spend a lot of time and resources for that event," Lauren Rosato, executive director of NEF, said. "An amazing amount of effort goes into it and Aitoro doesn't charge us a thing."

Aitoro added: "I'm proud to be a part of NEF and involved with Norwalk's education system and community. There's nothing better than volunteering."

Joseph M. Cahalan represented Xerox. He has been involved with education for 39 years with Xerox. Cahalan

reminded those in attendance that Xerox was on the verge of bankruptcy about a decade ago.

The company, however, reversed its fortune and is now prospering again. Xerox relocated from Stamford to Norwalk in 2007.

The turnaround, he said, occurred because of two reasons: "The quality and caliber of our people, and the motivation of our people. The turnover rate during the crisis was lower than normal. People love the company and what we stand for. The quality of workers, that comes from two places: family and schools."

Cahalan added: "We'll take this recognition not so much as what we've done, but as a reminder of how much more needs to be done."

William Papallo, interim superintendent for Norwalk public schools, spoke to the crowd of about 50 people and recalled the early stages of NEF, of which he was part from the beginning.

"I'm so proud to see what it (NEF) has grown to and how important it is to the school system," he said.

## Home construction falls; wholesale prices edge up

**NEW YORK**  
 Associated Press

The stock market posted its biggest drop in a month on concerns that tighter lending in China could endanger an economic recovery. Disappointing earnings from IBM and Morgan Stanley added to investors' angst.

At the same time, a spike in the dollar pushed commodity prices sharply lower Wednesday, hurting stocks of energy companies and materials producers.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 122 points from a 15-month high but ended well off its lows for the day. Demand for safe havens like government debt rose, pushing yields lower in the Treasury market.

Stocks have posted sharp swings since last week as investors try to determine the overall direction of the market. The Dow fell 101 points Friday

and jumped 116 Tuesday.

The latest slide came as concern grew that China's efforts to cool its rapid growth could hurt a global recovery. A top banking regulator said Wednesday that China will increase monitoring of banks as it tries to prevent speculative bubbles in areas like real estate. Last week China took steps to restrict runaway lending.

Investors are also questioning whether a 68.2 percent gain in the benchmark Standard & Poor's 500 index in the past 10 months has been too much. Those doubts are intensifying as more companies report results from the final three months of 2009 this week. The early read is that cost-cutting has again helped boost profits, but revenues remain disappointingly weak.

IBM Corp. led the Dow lower. The company reported late Tuesday that its earnings

rose 9 percent from a year earlier, while sales rose less than 1 percent. The company's forecast was seen as cautious.

"We might see profitability out of companies this season but we're not really seeing revenue growth," said Dan Cook, senior market analyst at IG Markets in Chicago.

Banks posted mixed results. Bank of America Corp. reported better results and said credit conditions were improving, but also said the economic environment is "fragile." Wells Fargo & Co. sounded an optimistic note on consumer resilience, but Morgan Stanley fell short of expectations.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow fell 122.28, or 1.1 percent, to 10,603.15. The Dow had been down as much as 208 points.

The broader S&P 500 index fell 12.19, or 1.1 percent, to 1,138.04, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 29.15, or 1.3 percent, to 2,291.25.