



Helping and Teaching Youth for Over 100 Years

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NEWS RELEASE

16TH ANNUAL CJR INVITATIONAL TO BE HELD JUNE 20

The 16th annual **CJR Invitational** golf benefit will be held on Monday, June 20, at the Torrington Country Club. Event Chairman, Robert G. Phelan, Chairman and CEO of the Torrington-based Litchfield Insurance Group, announced today that officials from Union Savings Bank, the benefit's \$10,000 Diamond Sponsor, will present a check to help bring cumulative net proceeds raised through the benefit since it was established in 1996 by Founding Chairman, Gregory Oneglia, Vice Chairman of the Torrington-based O & G Industries, to more than \$1 million dollars. The check presentation will take place at 11:45 AM at the Torrington Country Club.

This year's event will also feature a Million Dollar Shoot-Out at the end of the day. Four golfers will have an opportunity to participate in a Hole-in-One Contest with a \$1 million award for the winning contestant.

The American Savings Foundation of New Britain, which has been the Premier Sponsor of the event since 2002, continues to support the benefit at the highest level of sponsorship. Funds from the American Savings Foundation's \$15,000 sponsorship will support the Connecticut Junior Republic's Waterbury Program.

The June 20 event begins with registration at 10 AM, and luncheon at 11 AM. The 11:45 AM check presentation and photo opportunity with Union Savings Bank and **CJR Invitational** leadership will include David Birkins, Union Savings Bank Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, and Joseph Greco, Executive Vice President and Corporate Development Officer. They will present a "check" of \$10,000 to Mr. Phelan, Mr. Oneglia and to CJR Executive Director, John F. Boyd. Mr. Greco, Mr. Oneglia and Mr. Phelan are all members of the Connecticut Junior Republic's Board of Directors. Mr. Oneglia also serves on the Board of Directors of Union Savings Bank.

"We are very grateful to Union Savings Bank for continuing its leadership this year as our Diamond Sponsor and appreciate the exceptional level of support the Bank has extended to this event and to the Connecticut Junior Republic," stated Mr. Phelan.

(continued)

The following individuals are also involved in the **CJR Invitational** as vice chairmen:

- Bill Dranginis of Litchfield, *Golf*
- Susan A. Levine of Litchfield, *Publicity and Media Production*
- Jennifer Parsons of Litchfield and Tina Posila of Wolcott, *Prizes*
- Susan Sweetman of Litchfield, *Volunteers*

Celebrity participants for the day include NBC-30 news anchor Gerry Brooks, meteorologist Bob Maxon, and political correspondent Tom Monahan.

American Airlines and Sanditz Travel Management are sponsoring the Grand Prize, which includes round-trip airfare for two to the Caribbean and a three-night, all-inclusive stay at Barceló Bavaro Palace Deluxe Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic. An additional special prize of a three night stay for two at the Oyster Bay Beach Resort on the Island of St. Maarten, as been donated by Aird & Wojcik Travel Marketing and Sanditz Travel.

Hole-in-One prizes include a BMW automobile, courtesy of Watertown BMW and a Volvo automobile, courtesy of Mitchell Auto Group, with dealerships in the Farmington Valley and Litchfield Hills.

Founded in 1904, the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) has provided residential and community-based care, treatment and education for at-risk, special needs and troubled young people for more than 100 years.

Proceeds from the event will ultimately benefit the more than 1,000 boys and girls who are served by the Junior Republic each year in nine locations throughout Connecticut, including Danbury, East Hartford, Litchfield, Meriden, New Britain, Torrington, Waterbury and Winchester.

“The **CJR Invitational** has a very loyal following, and this year we are very optimistic that cumulative net proceeds for this event will exceed \$1 million,” said Mr. Phelan. “Our volunteers and sponsors are very committed to the Junior Republic, and to reaching this goal,” he continued.

Founding Chairman Gregory Oneglia, who established the **CJR Invitational** in 1996, is pleased that the event has raised such substantial funds since that time. He expressed confidence that the 2011 event will do well despite the economy. “Our participants know that their involvement helps the Junior Republic provide services for some of Connecticut’s most disadvantaged boys, girls and families and that their continued support is very important,” he stated.

A private charitable organization, the Connecticut Junior Republic is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) and by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). CJR is supported by contributions from individuals, businesses and organizations, and through service contracts funded by the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Connecticut Judicial Branch, the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS), and by Connecticut’s public schools. For further information, please contact Hedy Barton, Director of Development and Public Relations (860) 567-9423, extension 252; or by email: hbarton@cjryouth.org.